

# 45TH WORLD 2021 BRIDGE



## TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



### DAILY BULLETIN

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## CROSSING THE RUBICON



*The captains' meeting*

The last day of the initial phase in the 2021 World Team Championships was, by any stretch of the imagination, dramatic for the teams battling it out for the eighth and last qualifying spot. When the final round got under way, the only event which appeared clear-cut was the Venice Cup, where France had a cushion of 13.91 over USA1. In the Bermuda Bowl the race was between Norway, USA 1 and Israel. In the d'Orsi Trophy one needed eyes everywhere as Bulgaria, Argentina, England, Turkey, Italy & Iceland fought tooth and nail to secure a place in the quarterfinals. The Wuhan Cup was desperately close with Latvia, Denmark & Australia in the dogfight. While congratulating the winners of the four Round Robins, Switzerland, Poland, USA1 & France we must also praise all the teams for their magnificent fighting spirit, especially USA1, France, Bulgaria, & Germany the four who secured the remaining spot in their respective groups.

#### TIME SCHEDULE

From today to Thursday, the time schedule will be:  
First round of the day: 10.00  
Second round of the day: 14.00  
Third round of the day: 16.45

#### SHOPPING TRIP

On Tuesday, April 5, there will be a free transfer to the outlet Fidenza Village.  
The Bus will be leaving at 12.15 from the venue and return at 16.30.

SALONMAGGIORE TERME 2022  
MARCH 27TH APRIL 9TH





# QUARTERFINALS

## BERMUDA BOWL

|   |                        |                      |   |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 1 | SWITZERLAND<br>ENGLAND | USA2<br>NORWAY       | 3 |
| 2 | HUNGARY<br>USA1        | NETHERLANDS<br>ITALY | 4 |

## VENICE CUP

|   |                   |                   |   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | POLAND<br>DENMARK | USA2<br>TURKEY    | 3 |
| 2 | SWEDEN<br>ITALY   | ENGLAND<br>FRANCE | 4 |

## D'ORSI TROPHY

|   |                  |                    |   |
|---|------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1 | USA1<br>INDIA    | POLAND<br>BULGARIA | 3 |
| 2 | FRANCE<br>SWEDEN | DENMARK<br>USA2    | 4 |

## WUHAN CUP

|   |                    |                 |   |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|---|
| 1 | FRANCE<br>ROMANIA  | POLAND<br>ITALY | 3 |
| 2 | BELGIUM<br>GERMANY | USA1<br>LATVIA  | 4 |

**Barry Rigal**

## STEALING HOME

Are you a thief or a technician? The board below from R19 demonstrated that one could go for a swindle or a genuine line:

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Lauria declared 5♣ after South had shown a two-suiter and won the ♠K lead in hand to play the ♣K then

a sneaky ♦J. When South ducked, he could switch tack and play three rounds of hearts. That allowed him to ruff a heart and draw trumps with no further problems.

In the match between New Zealand and USA2 both declarers followed the legitimate line for the contract by playing three rounds of hearts after finding the bad break. Whibley as North returned a diamond; declarer took the ace, ruffed a heart and drew trumps, conceding a diamond.

Kranyak as North played back a spade; when declarer ruffed he could no longer succeed. The winning move is to pitch a diamond on the spade! South wins but is endplayed; a spade back lets declarer ruff in dummy and pitch a diamond. Now it is possible to ruff a heart in dummy and also catch North in a trump coup! He plays a diamond to the ace, ruffs a heart, ruffs a diamond, plays a club to the ace and a diamond, neutralizing North's remaining ♣J5.

**Barry Rigal**

## BASIC TECHNIQUE

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West      | North    | East      | South      |
|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Willenken | Ionita   | Campanile | Stegarioiu |
| Pass      | 1♦       | Dble      | Pass       |
| 2♣        | 2♦       | 2NT       | Pass       |
| 3NT       | All Pass |           |            |

Migri Campanile played this hand in 3NT on the logical diamond lead. It might look right to duck and try to prevent the establishment of the suit, but not today. Campanile won and led a club to the queen, a heart to the king, then cashed two clubs and exited in hearts. North won and cleared diamonds, and Campanile took at once, and cashed her club winner. This forced North to part with another diamond which allowed declarer to throw North in to lead spades for the ninth trick.

It would not help North to win the first heart and clear the diamonds as declarer can cash the ♥K then arrange the same endplay.

The Romanians were left regretting the departure of one of their top players .



**Jos Jacobs,  
D'Orsi Trophy, ROUND 19  
Venice Cup, ROUND 19**

**DENMARK vs ENGLAND**  
**ENGLAND vs DENMARK**

The late afternoon of the busy first Saturday had produced an interesting draw. In both the Venice Cup and the d'Orsi Trophy England and Denmark had to play each other. So, after the excitement of the spectacular early afternoon boards, we now got the opportunity to have a look at, and to compare (if we would be courageous enough to do so) the approaches to modern bridge by the women and the older players.

Not very much to write about, let alone to compare, over the first four boards. Denmark women had taken a 5-0 lead by bringing home a partscore in which her English counterpart had gone down. In the other match, the Danish seniors had had the better of the proceedings to create a 6-1 lead when they reached board 7. More about that board later on but let's first go back to the women.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                | North           | East           | South         |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Koch-Palmund</i> | <i>N Senior</i> | <i>T Bilde</i> | <i>Dhondy</i> |
| —                   | 1♠              | 2♣             | Pass          |
| 2♦                  | All Pass        |                |               |

A BBO commentator who knew the E/W system told us that this was a matter of agreement. A change of suit at the two-level opposite an overcall was not forcing but at the one- or three-level it would be forcing. So much for this missed game. Denmark +170 for 4 overtricks.

Closed Room

| West           | North            | East          | South          |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Fawcett</i> | <i>Rasmussen</i> | <i>Draper</i> | <i>L Bilde</i> |
| —              | 1♠               | Pass          | 1NT            |
| Dble           | 2♠               | 3♣            | 3♠             |
| 4♦             | Pass             | 5♦            | All Pass       |

Fawcett had an easy double over 1NT and from there, getting to game was no problem either. England +400 and 6 IMPs to them.

And the next board:

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                | North           | East           | South         |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Koch-Palmund</i> | <i>N Senior</i> | <i>T Bilde</i> | <i>Dhondy</i> |
| —                   | —               | Pass           | 2NT           |
| Pass                | 3♦*             | Pass           | 3♥            |
| Pass                | 3NT             | All Pass       |               |

After a slightly off-shape but fully justifiable 2NT opening, missing game was never an issue for the English. Just made on a diamond lead. England +400. The clubs could be established for two losers by virtue of the fall of the ♣9. Please note that the contract also makes on a spade lead because declarer can steal a heart trick before exploiting the clubs to her advantage.



Closed Room

| West           | North            | East          | South          |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Fawcett</i> | <i>Rasmussen</i> | <i>Draper</i> | <i>L Bilde</i> |
| —              | —                | Pass          | 1♣             |
| Pass           | 1♦               | Pass          | 3♣             |
| All Pass       |                  |               |                |

1♦ Transfer

Despite South's strong rebid, game was missed here when North elected to take a more pessimistic view. (If 3♣ was non-forcing maybe it was South who underbid. Editors) Just made, Denmark +110 but another 7 IMPs to England.

Over now to the seniors

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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



Open Room

| West          | North        | East            | South         |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Mossop</i> | <i>Schou</i> | <i>Hallberg</i> | <i>Hansen</i> |
| —             | —            | —               | Pass          |
| 1♥            | Pass         | 1♠              | Pass          |
| 2♦            | Pass         | 3♠              | Pass          |
| 4♠            | All Pass     |                 |               |

This board looks like an easy game in theory, but one that should be defeated as easily as it was bid without anyone doing anything foolish. Diamond lead, heart to the ace, diamond ruff, club to the ace and another diamond ruff. When declarer misguessed the remaining trumps as well, he even went down two. Denmark +200.

Closed Room

| West             | North           | East             | South          |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>P Schaltz</i> | <i>B Senior</i> | <i>D Schaltz</i> | <i>Hackett</i> |
| —                | —               | —                | Pass           |
| 1♥               | Pass            | 1♠               | Pass           |
| 3♦               | Pass            | 3♠               | Pass           |
| 4♠               | All Pass        |                  |                |

In the replay, we saw a variation that occurred at many tables elsewhere in the room, too. Diamond lead and heart to the closed hand on which the blank king made the trick. After that, it was plain sailing with the help of a successful trump finesse through North. One overtrick, Denmark +650 and 13 IMPs to them. At other tables, they even made 12 tricks by ruffing out all the hearts after playing a club up to the king.

Two boards later, the only really comparable board (IMHO) came along.



Jorgen Cilleborg Hansen



Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                | North           | East           | South         |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Koch-Palmund</i> | <i>N Senior</i> | <i>T Bilde</i> | <i>Dhondy</i> |
| —                   | 3♠              | All Pass       |               |

Nevena Senior shut out her opponents and partner by preempting at the right level. Just made, England +140.

Closed Room

| West           | North            | East          | South          |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Fawcett</i> | <i>Rasmussen</i> | <i>Draper</i> | <i>L Bilde</i> |
| —              | 2♦*              | 2♥            | Dble*          |
| 4♥             | All Pass         |               |                |

Over a Multi, East could just produce a heart noise, and this was more than enough to launch West. When the defence, after the spade lead to the ace, did not bother to prepare for a ruff, an overtrick was recorded. England +650 and 13 IMPs to them.

Over now to the other match.

Open Room

| West          | North        | East            | South         |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Mossop</i> | <i>Schou</i> | <i>Hallberg</i> | <i>Hansen</i> |
| —             | 2♠           | Dble            | 3♣            |
| 3♦            | 4♣           | Pass            | Pass          |
| 4♦            | All Pass     |                 |               |

When Steen Schou opened a natural weak two, Gunnar Hallberg doubled in spite of holding a five-card heart suit (not that he had much of an alternative...). As a result of it, the heart fit got lost. England thus scored only +130.

Closed Room

| West             | North           | East             | South          |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>P Schaltz</i> | <i>B Senior</i> | <i>D Schaltz</i> | <i>Hackett</i> |
| —                | 3♠              | All Pass         |                |

Brian Senior shut out all his opponents and partners by pre-empting at the right level. Just made, England +140. Where have we seen this before?

This double part score swing brought England 7 IMPs.

Back to the women again, for once.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                | North           | East           | South         |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Koch-Palmund</i> | <i>N Senior</i> | <i>T Bilde</i> | <i>Dhondy</i> |
| Pass                | Pass            | 2NT*           | Pass          |
| 3♣*                 | Pass            | 3♦*            | Pass          |
| 3NT                 | All Pass        |                |               |

When Bilde treated her hand as essentially balanced, the Danish never came anywhere near the slam. Not that it is a good slam (the ♦K has to be well placed, among other things) but on a good day, one never knows...

Just made, Denmark +400.

Closed Room

| West           | North            | East          | South          |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Fawcett</i> | <i>Rasmussen</i> | <i>Draper</i> | <i>L Bilde</i> |
| Pass           | Pass             | 2♣*           | Pass           |
| 2♦*            | Pass             | 3♣            | Pass           |
| 4♣             | Pass             | 4♦            | Pass           |
| 5♣             | Pass             | 6♣            | All Pass       |

Had West been able, or been given the chance, to show a doubleton heart, slam would have been much more OK than it was now. With the ♦K wrong for declarer and the trumps 4-0, albeit onside, coming to twelve tricks proved impossible; so in a sense, justice was done, as they say. Down two, Denmark +100 and 11 IMPs to them.

The last three deals I am going to show all belong to the seniors match.



Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West          | North        | East            | South         |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Mossop</i> | <i>Schou</i> | <i>Hallberg</i> | <i>Hansen</i> |
| —             | 1NT          | 2♠              | All Pass      |

When Steen Schou opened 1NT, Hallberg did not have the tools to launch partner's heart suit and had to languish in his unhappy contract. Down three, Denmark +300.

Closed Room

| West             | North           | East             | South          |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>P Scholtz</i> | <i>B Senior</i> | <i>D Scholtz</i> | <i>Hackett</i> |
| —                | 1♦              | 1♠               | Pass           |
| 2♦               | Dble            | Pass             | Pass           |
| 2♥               | All Pass        |                  |                |

2♦ Transfer

At the other table, North opened 1♦ which enabled E/W to introduce hearts at a safe level. Just made, Denmark another +110 and 9 IMPs.

Two boards later:

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

| West          | North        | East            | South         |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Mossop</i> | <i>Schou</i> | <i>Hallberg</i> | <i>Hansen</i> |
| —             | —            | —               | 1♦            |
| 1♠            | Pass         | Pass            | Dble          |
| All Pass      |              |                 |               |

When Mossop failed to put up the king after North led a club, he went three down in his contract. Still, this gained 3 IMPs when they reached game in the other room where the auction went:

Closed Room

| West             | North           | East             | South          |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>P Scholtz</i> | <i>B Senior</i> | <i>D Scholtz</i> | <i>Hackett</i> |
| —                | —               | —                | 1♦             |
| 1♠               | 2NT             | Pass             | 3NT            |
| All Pass         |                 |                  |                |

No visions of big penalties here. England +630 when the contract made with an overtrick.

And the final board:

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

| West          | North        | East            | South         |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Mossop</i> | <i>Schou</i> | <i>Hallberg</i> | <i>Hansen</i> |
| Pass          | Pass         | 1♦              | 1♥            |
| All Pass      |              |                 |               |

West's pass over 1♥ surprised me. A nice little partscore battle spoilt.

One overtrick, Denmark +110, when West led a diamond, exposing both partner's nine and queen to finesses.

Closed Room

| West             | North           | East             | South          |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>P Scholtz</i> | <i>B Senior</i> | <i>D Scholtz</i> | <i>Hackett</i> |
| Pass             | Pass            | 1♣               | 1♥             |
| 1NT              | Pass            | Pass             | 2♦             |
| Pass             | 2♥              | All Pass         |                |

When the defence led and continued clubs, declarer had to lose a diamond trick in addition to his five more obvious losers, so he had to go one down for another +50 and 4 IMPs to Denmark.

The final scores:

Denmark-England Seniors 30-16 or 13.75 – 6.25 VP.  
 England-Denmark Women 35-16 or 14.80 – 5.20 VP.


**Marc Smith, Bermuda Bowl, ROUND 15**

Today we catch up with another couple of teams on the cusp. With matches running out, Israel began Day 5 still just in touch with the top eight, in eleventh place, whilst Canada were in Last Gulch Saloon down in seventeenth. To have a chance of qualifying in two days' time, both teams would need to start putting together a string of good results.

Israel got off to a flying start when the Canadians missed a making game on Board 1, and then bid one that didn't make on Board 2, but they were both non-vulnerable so it was only 11-0. The Canadians were soon to slip further behind, though.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East              | South           |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Fergani</i> | <i>O.Herbst</i> | <i>Fourcaudot</i> | <i>I.Herbst</i> |
| —              | Pass            | 1♦                | Pass            |
| 1♠             | 2♦              | 4♠                | 5♣              |
| 6♠             | All Pass        |                   |                 |

Ophir Herbst passed as dealer on his 6-6 hand, then backed in with a take-out cue-bid after the Canadians had bid two suits. Marc-Andre Fourcaudot showed his good hand and his fit with a leap to 4♠, and Ilan Herbst competed to the five-level in clubs. That was good news for Kamel Fergani, who closed the brief auction by leaping to slam. Perhaps sacrificing in Seven Clubs would have saved a few IMPs, but the Israelis elected to take their chances on defense. (For the record, 5♣x went one, two and three down at various tables, although one E/W pair did make +710 in 4♣x)

The ♥K was far from the most threatening opening lead, as it set up a ruffing finesse against the queen.

Declarer won with the ♥A, drew two rounds of trumps, then cashed the ♦K to expose the position in that suit. Fergani could now cross to dummy as he drew the last trump, take the diamond finesse, unblock the ♦Q, and ruff out the ♥Q. Declarer's remaining heart loser went on the ♦A. E/W +1010.

Could the Israeli's possibly reach the grand slam?

Open Room

| West           | North           | East        | South            |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| <i>A.Levin</i> | <i>L'Ecuyer</i> | <i>Roll</i> | <i>Marcinski</i> |
| —              | 2♥              | Dble        | Pass             |
| 4♠             | Pass            | 5♥          | Pass             |
| 6♦             | Pass            | 6♠          | Dble             |
| Rdbl           | All Pass        |             |                  |

No, but they did the next best thing!

Nicolas L'Ecuyer decided that the North hand qualified as a weak two, although I strongly suspect that trading standards in the U.K. would class that as false advertising. Not that the Israelis were particularly hindered by having their bidding space stolen. Josef Roll made a takeout double and Amir Levin leapt to game in spades. Roll now advanced with a 5♥ cue-bid, which encouraged Levin to make a grand slam try with 6♦. Roll declined but Zygmunt Marcinski still emerged with a double, clearly expecting his ♣AK to be worth at least one trick. Levin, who had worked out exactly why his RHO had doubled, promptly applied the purple card. (It's not like he was afraid they might have a cheap save in 7♥. Indeed, one declarer who played in hearts went for 1400 at the four-level!)

Here, too, North opened the ♥K. With even more reason than usual to guarantee at least twelve tricks, declarer drew three rounds of trumps before touching diamonds. He was therefore unable to both take the finesse and get back to dummy to score the ♦A. He settled for ruffing his low heart and conceding a trick to North's ♥Q. Twelve tricks: E/W +1620 and 12 IMPs to Israel.

At the 24 Bermuda Bowl tables, only one pair bid and made 7♠, Angel Vanchev and Zahari Zahariev of Bulgaria against Denmark. Two declarers managed to go minus, one in 6♠ and one in 5♠, although neither suffered a diamond ruff at trick one.

The very next deal extracted more Canadian bacon...





Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East              | South           |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Fergani</i> | <i>O.Herbst</i> | <i>Fourcaudot</i> | <i>I.Herbst</i> |
| —              | —               | 3♦                | Dble            |
| Pass           | 3♥              | All Pass          |                 |

There is no good answer as to what to bid on this South hand over East's 3♦ opening: sometimes it will be right to bid your spades, and sometimes a double will work better. Indeed, a pass may also be the best option. Ilan Herbst opted to double, and Ophir bid a disciplined 3♥.

Had Fourcaudot read David Bird's excellent book, "Opening Leads against Suit Contracts", he would have known that his singleton spade was a stand-out choice. It was the winning selection on this occasion, not only because it would lead to a ruff, but because it would have stopped him giving declarer a trick with the ♦K.

After the opening lead of the ♦A, declarer was in control. Fourcaudot switched to his spade at trick two, but it was too late. Fergani won with the ♠A and delivered his partner's ruff, but that ruff was effectively at the expense of the defenders' natural club trick. Declarer duly picked up trumps for no loser, leaving dummy high: N/S +170.

Open Room

| West           | North           | East        | South            |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| <i>A.Levin</i> | <i>L'Ecuyer</i> | <i>Roll</i> | <i>Marcinski</i> |
| —              | —               | 3♦          | 3♠               |
| Pass           | 3NT             | All Pass    |                  |

Once Marcinski had chosen to overcall in spades, it was just about impossible for L'Ecuyer to steer the Canadians to a making contract. Having said that, even though the opening lead will be coming through the ♦K at trick one, hoping that partner can make ten tricks in spades is surely better odds than expecting to have nine top tricks to cash in no-trumps once your single diamond stopper is removed.

Roll led the ♦J to queen and king, and L'Ecuyer immediately played a spade to the king. Levin won and returned a diamond, and I think Roll is still cashing the suit even as we speak. Declarer claimed five more tricks at the end: N/S -150 and another 8 IMPs to Israel, already 31-0 ahead after just six deals.

The Canadians mounted something of a recovery in the middle stages of the match, first gaining a partscore swing and then bidding a moderate 6♦ slam (via an incomprehensible auction without explanations) whilst the Israelis stopped in game. That made it 31-17, but then a wrong part score and an over-ambitious game restored most of the Israeli advantage. It was 43-17 when Board 12 arrived at the tables.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

| West           | North           | East        | South            |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| <i>A.Levin</i> | <i>L'Ecuyer</i> | <i>Roll</i> | <i>Marcinski</i> |
| 2♥             | 2NT             | Pass        | 3NT              |
| All Pass       |                 |             |                  |

What range does a 2NT overcall of a weak two opening show? Specifically, what is the upper limit for 2NT? Logic suggests that it should be a bit higher than for a 1NT overcall, if only because the alternative is to double and, if partner responds with a Lebensohl 2NT, to raise to 3NT. Do you really want to be bidding 3NT facing a potential Yarborough with an 18-count? This North hand is probably about a maximum for 2NT. The South hand is not that far from a quantitative raise to 4NT, but not quite good enough. As is often the case when both players have a bit to spare, the Canadians found themselves in game rather than a good slam. Both 6♦ and 6NT (or 6♣ for that matter) all simply need the club suit to play for three tricks – pretty good odds.

Quite why L'Ecuyer thought he should cash all of his major-suit winners before knocking out the defenders' club stopper, I have no idea. The result, though, was that he ended up with just the 11 top tricks with which he began: N/S +660.



## Closed Room


| West           | North           | East              | South           |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Fergani</i> | <i>O.Herbst</i> | <i>Fourcaudot</i> | <i>I.Herbst</i> |
| 2♦*            | Dbl             | 2♥*               | 3NT             |
| Pass           | 6NT             | All Pass          |                 |

For the Canadians, Fergani had to start with a Multi rather than a natural weak two. This gives the defenders a major advantage, as they have a number of additional sequences, and thus more defined point ranges. Over a Multi, North can afford to double on this 19-21 range, because the odds are that either East or South will bid a major, allowing him to then bid 2NT to show a hand a bit too strong for a direct 2NT overcall, which is exactly what he had here. Fourcaudot bid a 'pass-or-correct-2♥ on the East cards and Ilan Herbst jumped to 3NT. Ophir now had an easy raise to slam, although he might perhaps have investigated alternative fits on the way. As it happened, there was no need, as no-trumps was as playable as any other slam.

Declarer had no problem picking up the clubs and, indeed, declarer might even have made an overtrick as the cards lay. He settled for 12 tricks, though: N/S +1440 and 13 IMPs to Israel, pulling away now,

Our final deal did not produce a big swing and there were no sexy contracts. How often does a soccer player meet a volley just perfectly, so that it flies into the top corner, unstoppable? If he is lucky, it will occur on a Saturday afternoon in front of 60,000 with millions watching on "Match of the Day", and he wins "Goal of the Season". It is equally likely, though, that he will do it on a cold Wednesday morning on a training ground on the outskirts of Nottingham, and no one other than he and the goalkeeper the ball flies past will know just how well he connected. Similarly, exceptional declarer play does not always happen in 6NTxx. Sometimes, as occurred in this match, declarer is in a lowly 3♣ contract that my good friend David Bird would refuse to write up just on principle. However, I felt that Zygmunt Marcinski's play deserves to be recognized for what it was – excellent!

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

## Closed Room

| West           | North           | East              | South           |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Fergani</i> | <i>O.Herbst</i> | <i>Fourcaudot</i> | <i>I.Herbst</i> |
| —              | Pass            | 1♣                | Pass            |
| 1♥             | 1♠              | All Pass          |                 |

Declarer made seven tricks for N/S +80.

## Open Room

| West           | North           | East        | South            |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| <i>A.Levin</i> | <i>L'Ecuyer</i> | <i>Roll</i> | <i>Marcinski</i> |
| —              | Pass            | 1♣          | Pass             |
| 2♦*            | Pass            | 2♥*         | 3♣               |
| All Pass       |                 |             |                  |

South had no natural club bid available on the first round. West's 2♦ was a weak jump shift in one of the majors, and East's 2♥ was pass-or-correct. Now, South could bid clubs naturally, and Marcinski duly did so.

Had Levin led a spade, or a diamond to his partner, who could then switch to spades while the hearts were still blocked, there would be no story: declarer would have stood no chance (one spade, two diamonds, and at least two trumps to lose). Fortunately for those watching on BBO VuGraph and the rest of us, West kicked off with a heart. Declarer won with the ♥A, laid down the ♣A to get the bad news, then crossed to the ♠A and pitched his losing spade on the ♥K. He then set about reducing his trump length by ruffing a spade. Now Marcinski made the key play of the ♦Q from his hand. What could East do?

Roll won with the ♦K and played the ♣Q, but declarer allowed him to hold that trick. Now Roll is legitimately endplayed. If he plays another trump, declarer wins with the ♣10, cashes the ♣K, and exits with a trump, forcing East to concede a trick to the ♦J. At the table, Roll exited with king and another diamond after the ♣Q had won. That did not get him off the hook, though. Declarer now played another spade, ruffing low as East shed his remaining diamond. Now Marcinski exited with a low trump, leaving East to lead away from ♣J-9 into his K-10 at trick 12. Nicely played, however lowly the contract: N/S +110 and 1 IMP to Canada.

The match finished as a resounding win for the Israelis, and moved them up a place to tenth, just 4 VPs behind 8th-placed USA 1. With eight rounds left, the Israelis must play half of their matches against teams ahead of them, but they are still in there fighting for a place in the knockout stage. For Canada, this loss leaves them more than 50 VPs off the pace, and surely any hope they had of playing late into the competition has now gone.

**Marc Smith, Bermuda Bowl, ROUND 18****NETHERLANDS vs USA2**

With the knockout stage fast approaching, this Round 18 match gave us a chance to see two teams at the top of the table battle it out, in what may easily be a preview of a meeting next week. And if this was a preview of what is to come, then fasten your seatbelts, ladies and gentlemen, it's going to be a bumpy ride.

The teams came into this match with the Americans leading the field after an incredibly dull 13-4 victory over the second-placed Swiss in the morning match, and the Dutch just 3 VPs behind in third place. After a couple of days when The Great Dealer seems to have been on a go-slow, he pulled out all the stops by producing a magnificent set of boards for this match. You will all remember the 'Thriller in Manilla' and the 'Rumble in the Jungle', well this was the 'Glory in Salsomaggiore'. (Sorry, that's the best I could do – I seem to recall the Editor running a contest at a previous championship for Limericks that included the host city's name, and I can tell you that finding rhymes for this location is not easy.) (They started with the line: A young lady from Montecatini. Editor)

Suffice it to say that I could have filled the whole Bulletin with a report on this match, so the five deals I have selected are just the crème de la crème. First, though, some problems for you to consider. With just your side vulnerable, you are North holding:

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

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| —    | —     | 2♥   | Pass  |
| 4♥   | ?     |      |       |

Next, again with just your side vulnerable, you hold in the East seat:

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| —    | —     | —    | 2♥    |
| 3♣   | 5♥    | 6♣   | 6♥    |
| Pass | Pass  | ?    |       |

Finally, a lead problem for you. With your side only vulnerable, you are North and hear this auction:

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

| West           | North          | East                | South        |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| <i>Verhees</i> | <i>Kranyak</i> | <i>Van Prooijen</i> | <i>Demuy</i> |
| 4♣             | Pass           | 4♦*                 | Pass         |
| 4NT*           | Pass           | 6♣                  | All Pass     |

4♦ Trump ask  
4NT Two top honours

What do you lead?

While you contemplate those, join the more than 3000-strong crowd watching live just in the Open Room on BBO VuGraph, many of whom were still getting coffee and settling into their seats as the second deal of the encounter provided a taster of what was to come.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

| West            | North          | East        | South         |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| <i>Bathurst</i> | <i>De Wijs</i> | <i>Hurd</i> | <i>Muller</i> |
| —               | —              | Pass        | 3♦            |
| Pass            | 5♣             | All Pass    |               |

Simon de Wijs found himself with a tough judgement call when his partner opened a vulnerable 3♦ in second seat. Could partner hold as little as the ♦A, the ♠QJ and a couple of low clubs? Of course, but, remembering Hamman's Second Law of Bidding (if

you need me to hold a specific hand, assume I don't have it), he chose to take the low road and jumped only to 5♣.

John Hurd led the ♣10, and Bauke Muller displayed a hand that gave slam play. Once the trumps had broken 3-2, De Wijs exited with his heart, setting up a discard for his fourth spade on dummy's ♥Q. Winning the diamond switch in dummy, De Wijs took his discard and then ran the ♠J. East produced the queen, rewarding De Wijs's caution: N/S +600.

If the Americans at the other table thought they might be in for an easy ride, this early deal soon disabused them of that notion:

#### Closed Room

| West    | North   | East         | South |
|---------|---------|--------------|-------|
| Verhees | Kranyak | Van Prooijen | Demuy |
| —       | —       | 2♥           | Pass  |
| 4♥      | Dble    | Pass         | 5♦    |
| Pass    | 6♣      | All Pass     |       |

Ricco van Prooijen opened what, much to the amusement of my fellow scribe David Bird, I have long-referred to as an 'automatic' weak two. At the last Bermuda Bowl in Wuhan three years ago, though, it was clear that many of the world's top players have come around to that same view, and now such bids

have become also de rigueur. Louk Verhees piled in with a raise to game, presenting John Kranyak with the first of the problems detailed earlier.


Of course, Kranyak could have settled for a simple 5♣. Facing something like

♠Qxxxx ♥xx ♦xxxxx ♣x,

though, would you not rather play in 4♠ than go down in 5♣ on the 1-time-in-3 that clubs split 4-1? Perhaps, even, 4♥x is your last plus score. Kranyak eventually talked himself into a double and was, no doubt, not delighted to hear Demuy bidding diamonds. He retreated to 6♣ and was greeted with ace and another heart. The good news was that the trumps broke, but he still needed to find the spade finesse working. When it did not, he was one down: N/S -100 and 12 IMPs to Netherlands.

Seconds out: Round 2. This was the very next deal:

#### Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

#### Closed Room

| West    | North    | East         | South |
|---------|----------|--------------|-------|
| Verhees | Kranyak  | Van Prooijen | Demuy |
| —       | —        | —            | Pass  |
| 2♣*     | 2♥       | 2NT*         | 4♥    |
| 4NT     | Pass     | 5NT          | Pass  |
| 6♣      | All Pass |              |       |

Louk Verhees opened a Precision-style 2♣ (11-15 HCP, 6+♣ or 5+♣/4-Major). Kranyak overcalled in hearts and Van Prooijen asked for more information with 2NT. Now Vincent Demuy came alive with a jump to 4♥, and Verhees bid 4NT, presumably showing a second suit and a non-minimum. Van Prooijen committed the partnership to slam with 5NT and Verhees settled for 6♣. There was nothing to the play, declarer claiming twelve tricks after Kranyak had cashed his ace: E/W +1370.

That looked like a normal result, but it was quickly becoming apparent that 'normal results' would rarely be found at both tables in this match,



Vincent Demuy



## Open Room

| West     | North   | East     | South  |
|----------|---------|----------|--------|
| Bathurst | De Wijs | Hurd     | Muller |
| —        | —       | —        | 2♥     |
| 3♣       | 5♥      | 6♣       | 6♥     |
| Pass     | Pass    | 7♣       | Pass   |
| Pass     | Dbl     | All Pass |        |

Of course, no self-respecting Dutchman could risk being seen to pass that South hand in first seat non-vulnerable, so it was only really a question of how many hearts Bauke Muller would open. He opted for two but, as events would reveal, obviously felt he still had something in reserve. Kevin Bathurst overcalled in his six-card suit and De Wijs immediately upped the ante to the five-level, but Hurd brushed the job aside and bid a confident 6♣. At this stage, Muller recalled the bit in reserve he had for his opening bid and waded in with a vicious left hook.

Although not alerted, Bathurst's pass of 6♥ probably confirmed first-round heart control, which Hurd obviously knew had to be a void. So, his ace was wasted on offense, but his partner had overcalled at the three-level at red on what he knew was only a moderate suit. It was certainly possible that he would hold both of the side-suit aces, in which case the grand



John Hurd

slam would surely be cold, as the ♥A would provide a discard for a losing third-round spade. With no guarantee of a club trick in defense, was the penalty from 6♥x likely to be any more than a paltry +500? If the Dutch at the other table had been allowed to play 6♣, that was already 13 IMPs out, so bidding a seventh club would cost very little even if it was wrong.

Whatever the reasoning, Hurd talked himself into taking the plunge, and Simon de Wijs added insult to injury by doubling before cashing his ace: E/W -200 and 17 IMPs to the Netherlands. To make matters worse, a check of the full deal revealed that declarer probably had six losers in a heart contract, so a double would have netted 1100 and held the loss to 8 IMPs.

The Americans had been on the canvas in both rooms, but they managed to get on the board with a part-score swing before the next great firecracker arrived.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

## Open Room

| West     | North   | East | South  |
|----------|---------|------|--------|
| Bathurst | De Wijs | Hurd | Muller |
| —        | —       | Pass | 1♣     |
| Pass     | 1♥*     | Pass | 1♠     |
| Pass     | 3♣      | Pass | 3♦     |
| Pass     | 3♥      | Pass | 3♠     |
| Pass     | 3NT     | Pass | 4♣     |
| Pass     | 4NT     | Pass | 5♣     |
| Pass     | 5♦      | Pass | 5♥     |
| Pass     | 5♠      | Pass | 5NT    |
| Pass     | 6♣      | Pass | 7♦     |
| All Pass |         |      |        |

1♠ spades

The auction began with a Strong Club and a transfer response showing a positive with spades. My best attempt to interpret the relay auction was that North showed a one-suiter in spades then 6322 and then a minimum + 0-2 controls. After that a series of asks

located the spade honors. Suffice it to say that Muller could just about have written down his partner's hand by the time he jumped to the final contract.

Bathurst led a diamond and declarer drew four rounds of trumps. He then cashed the ♠A and a fifth trump. I wish I could report that he then played his last trump, catching West in a three-suit repeating squeeze. (Whichever king West bares, declarer then cashes the ace of that suit, dropping the king, and then the queen, squeezing West in the remaining two side suits.) Playing as they were, though, in what Zia once described as Heat 3, when whatever you do works, Muller simply led a spade at trick seven and finessed dummy's ten. East could not find the ♠J amongst his remaining cards, so that was 13 tricks: N/S +1440.

I assume that the VuGraph operator got lost trying to follow the auction at the other table, as the hand records just show the auction as:

#### Closed Room

| West     | North   | East         | South |
|----------|---------|--------------|-------|
| Verhees  | Kranyak | Van Prooijen | Demuy |
| —        | —       | Pass         | 2♣*   |
| Pass     | 2♦*     | Pass         | 7NT   |
| All Pass |         |              |       |


Suffice it to say that the contract was correct, however they might have reached it.

Verhees opened the defense with the ♠2, covered by the ten, eight and ace. It would seem right to start by cashing six rounds of diamonds and trying to get some idea of the defenders' hands, and declarer could then have made the no-trump grand via the same squeeze described above. However, so confident was he that Verhees would not have led a spade from four to the jack against a grand slam, that Demuy cashed the ♦A at trick two and then played a spade to the king.

Of course, when Van Prooijen discarded, the contract was on the canvas. N/S -100 and another 17 IMPs to the Netherlands.. After just six boards, the Dutch led 46-5 and, had this been a championship bout, the referee would have ended the contest already.

Every deal became a true battle. Both N/S pairs got to 5♣ on a misfitting combined 21-count: both finesses worked for declarer so that was a flat board at +600. The Dutch went down in 3NT and got caught in 2♠x for 300 at the other table. Then the Dutch stopped in 1NT, but the Americans climbed to game, which was doubled and went down. This was no namby-pamby Olympic-style amateur bout with padding and helmets, this was a true heavyweight slugfest. Then came what looked like a brief respite, a routine, dull +650 for North/South:

Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

#### Open Room

| West     | North   | East     | South  |
|----------|---------|----------|--------|
| Bathurst | De Wijs | Hurd     | Muller |
| —        | —       | Pass     | 1NT    |
| Pass     | 2♣      | Pass     | 2♠     |
| Pass     | 4♠      | All Pass |        |

Yes, indeed. Nothing to be seen here: N/S +650.

Did I not mention earlier that sanity at both tables on the same board seemed to be a rarity in this match?

#### Closed Room

| West     | North   | East         | South |
|----------|---------|--------------|-------|
| Verhees  | Kranyak | Van Prooijen | Demuy |
| —        | —       | Pass         | 1NT   |
| Pass     | 2♣*     | Pass         | 2♠    |
| Pass     | 2NT*    | Pass         | 3♣    |
| Pass     | 4♠      | Pass         | 4NT   |
| Pass     | 5♣      | Pass         | 6♠    |
| All Pass |         |              |       |

The auction started in perfectly normal fashion, but Kranyak then bid 2NT over the 2♠ Stayman response, which was alerted as 'asking'. We were not told what the 3♣ response showed, but there seemed to be nothing untoward as North then jumped to 4♠. Ah, okay, so it's a flat board – indeed, it would have been the third of the match!

No, no... Demuy, having opened 1NT, now launched into Blackwood. Shortly thereafter, he had installed himself in slam. Despite the apparently bizarre method by which it had been reached, the slam turned out to be a straight 50-50 proposition, depending on the location of the ♦A. Of course, the thousands watching live on VuGraph could see that the finesse was failing, and that the Americans were going to lose yet another double-digit swing. N/S -100 and 13 IMPs to the Netherlands.



If they weren't all sitting calmly at a bridge table, you would surely swear that the American team was punch-drunk. Could they really take another half a dozen rounds of this merciless punishment being meted out by the Dutch, who still clearly had their foot firmly on the throttle? (Apologies for the mixed metaphor – I've just been told in my earpiece that the NASCAR references aren't due until tomorrow's report.)

They were a couple of boards ahead in the Closed Room now, and you could imagine the groan from the American contingent in the VuGraph audience as the next deal appeared on the screen with the information that the USA pair gone down in yet another slam. This one also had some play and, indeed, could always be made, as declarer needed to play a diamond side-suit of Qxx opposite A108xx for one loser. And, yes, of course, both sides had participated in the auction, so there was some information available.

As the Dutch pair in our room bid slowly (very slowly) towards the same contract, Al Graves (who was doing commentary on BBO for this match) and I debated whether the Dutch declarer would bring home the contract for yet another big gain. I said he wouldn't, and Al offered to bet me a whole dollar that he would. I think I was on firm ground here, with the defender sitting over the queen holding KJ9.

The board was duly flattened, proving at last that the Dutch did not always walk on water, so if anyone knows where I can spend my winnings, do please let me know. But, I digress - these flat boards are so dull that it's easy to lose concentration and that's now three of them in a row. Not that it must have seemed like much of a respite to the American N/S pair, who had gone down in a slam and three down in game in a 4-3 fit (teammates made 140 in the other major), Then came just what they wanted – yet another potential slam deal:

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

#### Closed Room

| West           | North          | East                | South        |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| <i>Verhees</i> | <i>Kranyak</i> | <i>Van Prooijen</i> | <i>Demuy</i> |
| 4♣             | Pass           | 4♦*                 | Pass         |
| 4NT*           | Pass           | 6♣                  | All Pass     |

Van Prooijen's 4♦ response was a trump ask and 4NT showed two top honours. Thus John Kranyak was left with the lead problem posed at the top of this article.

After this auction, a trump lead is certainly safe. A diamond is also possible. But neither will beat the contract. Declarer wins, draws trumps ending in his hand, and plays a spade to the king. South wins with his singleton ♠A and is then endplayed to give declarer his twelfth trick whichever red suit he returns.

As it happens, the only lead that gives you a chance is a spade, preferably one that looks like it is from three of four low cards, so the ♠8 or ♠7. Declarer would, presumably, play the king from dummy, but South wins with the ace and exits safely with a trump. Declarer now has one spade discard on the ♥A and a choice of three finesses for his twelfth trick. The diamond finesse and the ruffing heart finesse both lose. Trying to ruff down the ♥K in three rounds works and so does taking a spade finesse against the jack, but it is possible that declarer will go down on a spade lead.

For the American North, who led the ♥3 at trick one, all I can recommend (other than counselling) is a copy of David Bird's excellent book, "Opening Leads against Suit Contracts". E/W +920.

And so, to the other room, to see if the USA team could finally get one slam hand in this match right:

#### Open Room

| West            | North          | East        | South         |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| <i>Bathurst</i> | <i>De Wijs</i> | <i>Hurd</i> | <i>Muller</i> |
| 3♣              | Pass           | 3NT         | All Pass      |

Nope, apparently not. South's heart lead conceded the twelfth trick, but that was of little solace to the American declarer: E/W +490 and yet another 10 IMPs to the Netherlands.

The Dutch score a resounding victory by 76-22, which carries them to the top of the leaderboard with five matches left in the round robin. USA 2 slip down only to third, though. And, if you think this was a hammering, spare a thought for the Singapore team, who played this same set of boards against USA 1 and were beaten 125-12. And they call the next stage the knockouts!!


**Barry Rigal, Venice Cup, ROUND 20**
**FRANCE vs POLAND**

France was trying to retain their position, holding on to the last qualifying spot in the Venice Cup, Poland were taking a stroll in the park, more than a match clear at the top of the table.

The first board out saw no swing but came as a severe shock to the system for me. I have always been used to see the French play 'majeur cinquième' with precious few frills. Hugon-Avon bid 1♣-2♣ to show both majors and weak, and I could almost hear Pierre Albarran turning over in his grave. The next board saw a less uncommon variation; again an indication that the French were bringing their own pert conventions to the table just as much as the Polish-clubbers.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                 | North        | East                 | South       |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Cathy Baldysz</i> | <i>Hugon</i> | <i>Sofia Baldysz</i> | <i>Avon</i> |
| —                    | —            | Pass                 | 2NT         |
| Pass                 | 3NT          | All Pass             |             |

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East          | South          |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Gombert</i> | <i>Kazmucha</i> | <i>Halfon</i> | <i>Sarniak</i> |
| —              | —               | Pass          | 1♣*            |
| 2♦*            | Pass            | 4♥            | Dble           |
| All Pass       |                 |               |                |

- 1♣ Polish; maybe weak maybe strong
- 2♦ Majors

Danielle Avon's 2NT opening kept the opponents out nicely. Declarer wrapped up her 11 tricks after a heart lead. By contrast the 2♦ call from Sylvie Gombert (Willard) - whom we should congratulate on her recent marriage - led to a fast arrival in 4♥. Anna

Sarniak doubled to show the strong hand, but neither North nor South had any idea they had a 10-card fit. +100 was a meagre return against the vulnerable game and France led 11-0.

On the next deal the Easts at both tables brought home a delicate 3NT against an unfavorable side-suit break, for no swing. Then Donatella Halfon's light third-seat opener allowed her side to steal a partscore for +140 with less than half the deck, on a very favorable lie of the cards. That was the good news; the bad news was that left to their own devices in the other room the French played 1NT. Here the same unfavorable lie of the cards for them meant they had to concede 200. Poland had 2 IMPs to trail 11-2.

Another delicate 3NT negotiated by both Easts, followed by a less complex 3NT brought home from the same quarter, left the score 11-2 after seven deals.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                 | North        | East                 | South       |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Cathy Baldysz</i> | <i>Hugon</i> | <i>Sofia Baldysz</i> | <i>Avon</i> |
| —                    | —            | —                    | 1♠          |
| Pass                 | 1NT          | 2♦                   | 2♥          |
| Pass                 | 2♠           | Pass                 | Pass        |
| 3♦                   | All Pass     |                      |             |

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East          | South          |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Gombert</i> | <i>Kazmucha</i> | <i>Halfon</i> | <i>Sarniak</i> |
| —              | —               | —             | 1♠             |
| Pass           | 1NT             | 2♦            | 2♥             |
| 3♦             | 3♠              | Pass          | 4♠             |
| All Pass       |                 |               |                |

Would you consider delaying your diamond support





for a round as West? I would not; but see how well it worked! Both the final contracts played like a dream. In 3♦ on a top heart lead declarer knocked out the trump ace and had a home for her spade loser. In 4♠ Sarniak won the diamond lead and led a trump to her king and played a second spade. Then she led the ♥Q from hand round to the king and ruffed the diamond return, took the ruffing finesse against the ♥10 and with the club finesse succeeding the game came home for 13 impressive (if ever-so-slightly fortunate) IMPs to Poland. They led 15-11 as we came to the halfway board of the set.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                 | North        | East                 | South       |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Cathy Baldysz</i> | <i>Hugon</i> | <i>Sofia Baldysz</i> | <i>Avon</i> |
| 1NT                  | Pass         | 2♣                   | Pass        |
| 2♦                   | Pass         | 2NT                  | All Pass    |

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East          | South          |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Gombert</i> | <i>Kazmucha</i> | <i>Halfon</i> | <i>Sarniak</i> |
| 1NT            | Pass            | 3♠*           | Pass           |
| 3NT            | All Pass        |               |                |

3♠ Short spades, three suiter

Against 2NT Elizabeth Hugon led the ♥Q, Avon signalling count, and Hugon took the first diamond and cashed out hearts from the top. Danuta Kazmucha led the ♥Q and Sarniak (I believe) signalled reverse attitude with the two. (The Polish coaches disagreed as to 'standard Polish' on A/Q leads as opposed to the king). Kazmucha took the first diamond and led a low heart, and that was declarer's ninth trick. That made the score 18-15 to France.

On the next deal Avon-Hugon pushed their opponents to the five level on a hand where their counterparts had not bid at all. Sofia Baldysz brought her contract home on friendly defence (the contract

was always fated to need what would have been a winning finesse) so again, no swing.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

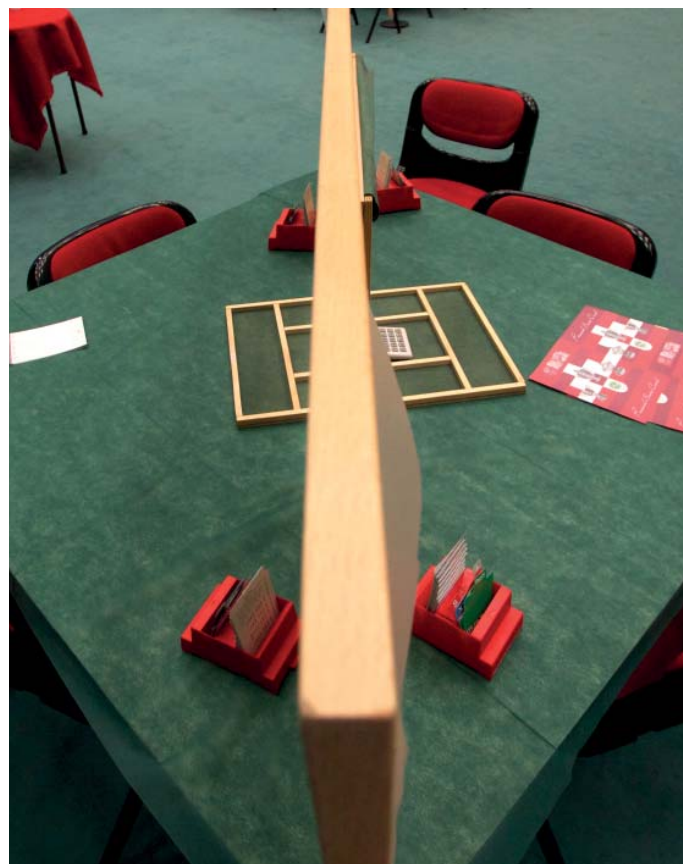
|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| ♠ 9<br>♥ A K J 8 7 6 4<br>♦ 10 5 3<br>♣ 5 4 |  | ♠ A K J 2<br>♥ —<br>♦ A K Q J 7<br>♣ J 10 7 3 | ♠ 10 6 4 3<br>♥ Q 5 3 2<br>♦ 6<br>♣ A K 9 2 |
|   |  |   | ♠ Q 8 7 5<br>♥ 10 9<br>♦ 9 8 4 2<br>♣ Q 8 6 |

Open Room

| West                 | North        | East                 | South       |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Cathy Baldysz</i> | <i>Hugon</i> | <i>Sofia Baldysz</i> | <i>Avon</i> |
| —                    | —            | 1♦                   | Pass        |
| 4♥                   | All Pass     |                      |             |

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East          | South          |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Gombert</i> | <i>Kazmucha</i> | <i>Halfon</i> | <i>Sarniak</i> |
| —              | —               | 1♦            | Pass           |
| 1♥             | Pass            | 1♠            | Pass           |
| 2♣*            | Pass            | 3♣            | Pass           |
| 4♥             | Pass            | 5♦            | All Pass       |





4♥ seems to need to play hearts for one loser and nothing too unpleasant in clubs. The fall of the ♥109 brought it home. Meanwhile in 5♦ Halfon received the defence of two rounds of clubs (the ♣8 then ♣6 suggesting three in standard Polish 2/4th style) and a spade shift. A club ruff now would have simplified things. Declarer instead ruffed a spade and cashed the top hearts pitching clubs, crossed to a trump to ruff another spade high, and had now successfully created a trump promotion against herself when trumps were 4-1. 12 IMPs to Poland, back in front 27-18. Another 2 IMPs to France on a non-vulnerable undertrick made it 27-20.

Board 28. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                 | North        | East                 | South       |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Cathy Baldysz</i> | <i>Hugon</i> | <i>Sofia Baldysz</i> | <i>Avon</i> |
| 1♣*                  | Pass         | 1♦*                  | 1♥          |
| 2♠                   | All Pass     |                      |             |

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East          | South          |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Gombert</i> | <i>Kazmucha</i> | <i>Halfon</i> | <i>Sarniak</i> |
| 2♣             | Pass            | 2♦            | 2♥             |
| 2♠             | Pass            | 2NT           | Pass           |
| 3♦             | Dble            | Pass          | Pass           |
| 3NT            | All Pass        |               |                |

In 3NT Halfon received the friendly heart lead that gave a trick and put her in hand to pass the ♠9. With spades 3-3 and both honours outside she settled for 9 tricks, when she might have brought home 10. That was just fine though, given the partscore played in the other room. (Again consultation with my Polish experts suggested that 2♠ was strong but non-forcing, double followed by spades a more flexible action and maybe available here?).

After a heart lead and club shift the defenders were able to score a club and diamond trick and three ruffs against 2♠, but declarer scrambled home with +110 and a loss of 7 IMPs. The match was tied at 27-27.

The next deal saw some startlingly contrasting views. One could justifiably raise questions about no fewer than four decisions as to whether to bid or pass; it might be considered unchivalrous for me to rank them, but I have assigned numbers to the calls in question and leave it to the discerning viewer to arrange those actions in order of preference! Ladies and gentlemen, les jeux sont faits.



Sofia Baldysz



Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                 | North        | East                 | South       |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Cathy Baldysz</i> | <i>Hugon</i> | <i>Sofia Baldysz</i> | <i>Avon</i> |
| Pass                 | Pass         | 1♥                   |             |
| Pass                 | Pass         | Dble                 | Pass(1)     |
| Pass(2)              | Pass         |                      |             |

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East          | South          |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Gombert</i> | <i>Kazmucha</i> | <i>Halfon</i> | <i>Sarniak</i> |
|                | Pass            | Pass          | 1♥             |
| Pass           | 2♥(3)           | Pass          | 2♠             |
| Pass           | 3♥              | Pass          | 4♥(4)          |
| Dble           | All Pass        |               |                |

4♥x lost the obvious five tricks. In the other room EW conceded 360 in similar fashion defending 1♥x. That was 13 IMPs and a 40-27 lead for France.

Poland clawed back 4 IMPs with a much more



Cathy Baldysz

accurate defence to a partscore (one level lower than their teammates had climbed to), to leave the score 40-31 with two deals to go.

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

|  |
|--|
| ♠ A 9<br>♥ K 10 8 6 3<br>♦ 10 8 6<br>♣ A 7 5 |
|--|

Open Room

| West                 | North        | East                 | South       |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>Cathy Baldysz</i> | <i>Hugon</i> | <i>Sofia Baldysz</i> | <i>Avon</i> |
| —                    | —            | —                    | Pass        |
| 2♣                   | Pass         | 2♦*                  | Pass        |
| 2♠                   | All Pass     |                      |             |

2♦ Relay

Closed Room

| West           | North           | East          | South          |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Gombert</i> | <i>Kazmucha</i> | <i>Halfon</i> | <i>Sarniak</i> |
| —              | —               | —             | 1♥             |
| Dble           | 2♣*             | 2♠            | All Pass       |

2♣ Diamonds

It was easy for Sarniak to lead a diamond against 2♠. Declarer flew up with the ♦A to play the ♠Q. South won and crossed on a diamond for the heart shift. Again declarer flew with an ace but when she led a second trump North won and crossed to her partner's ♣A. The ♥K and a third heart promoted the ♠8. In the other room Sofia had done well to keep the auction low. Avon won the first heart lead against 2♠ from the West seat to play back the ♥3 for the ruff (yes, a diamond shift is theoretically better but easier to find in the postmortem. The fact that Avon had returned the ♥3 makes Hugon's decision to shift to a diamond very dubious. From here on in, 2♠ could not be defeated - and curiously a club return is no better. North needs to play a trump. To quote Dana Carvey as GHW Bush: 'Not gonna happen; wouldn't be prudent.'". The 4 IMPs made it 40-37 to France with one deal to go, and a push at 90 in 1NT left the margin the same. France had fallen to ninth place, Poland still led the group, by 33 VPs.


**David Stern, D'ORSI TROPHY, ROUND 21**

**ICELAND vs USA1**


It's With three rounds to go USA1(Lair - Passell, Meckstroth - Mahmood, Wold - Levine), currently leading the qualifying competition, are locked into qualifying being 60+ ahead of 9th place. The interest in this match, however, is in their opponents, Iceland (Ingason - Jonsson, Eysteinnsson - Hermannsson, Jörgensen - Ásbjörnsson) who are running tenth, just 7 VPs behind the eighth qualifying position for the quarter finals.

|    |          |        |
|----|----------|--------|
| 6  | SWEDEN   | 231.94 |
| 7  | ENGLAND  | 229.04 |
| 8  | USA 2    | 222.76 |
| 9  | BULGARIA | 217.98 |
| 10 | ICELAND  | 215.77 |

Iceland have Brazil, running twenty-second in the penultimate match and France currently fourth in the last match. This is their chance to make some progress towards qualifying. Interestingly Thorlakur Jonsson and Adalsteinn Jörgensen were both members of the 1991 Bermuda Bowl World Champion Team in Yokohama, Japan. That, however, is unlikely to intimidate the USA1 Team who hold around thirty World and European Titles and more ACBL titles than I can readily count.

All three USA1 pairs are playing natural two over one game force while the Icelanders are all playing Precision.



Mark Lair

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West    | North        | East | South       |
|---------|--------------|------|-------------|
| Passell | Eysteinnsson | Lair | Hermannsson |
| —       | 2♦*          | Pass | 2♥          |
| 2NT     | All Pass     |      |             |

Closed Room

| West    | North      | East    | South    |
|---------|------------|---------|----------|
| Jonsson | Meckstroth | Ingason | Zia      |
| —       | Pass       | Pass    | 1♣       |
| Dble    | 1♠         | Pass    | 2♠       |
| 3♥      | 3♠         | 4♥      | All Pass |

In the open room, Passell heard an unspecified weak two major opening on his left, pass from partner, a pass or correct 2♥ on his right. He simply bid a modest 2NT on his full eighteen count with a good five card suit. He bought the hand there and cashed his eight tricks on a low spade lead from North. USA1 +120.

Zia, South in the closed room for USA1, decided his flat nine count was worthy of a third in hand opening, double by West, spades bid by Meckstroth and raised by Zia after which West showed his strength and suit by bidding 3♥, raised to 4♥ by partner over Meckstroth's 3♠.

The defence started with the ♣10 to the ace and a trump switch. Declarer had the smallest of chances of making the contract by running the heart to dummy, playing a club to the king and playing a spade. The interplay of the heart pips would give declarer a heart and a spade ruff entry to dummy to establish clubs and thereby make one spade ruff, two clubs, five trumps and two diamonds for 10 tricks. The only legitimate defence to beat the hand is to lead trumps at every opportunity. Declarer went two down for USA1 +100 and 6 IMPs.

Iceland 0 — USA1 6



Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

| West           | North               | East        | South              |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <i>Passell</i> | <i>Eysteinnsson</i> | <i>Lair</i> | <i>Hermannsson</i> |
| —              | —                   | 2♥          | Pass               |
| 4♥             | Dble                | Pass        | 5♦                 |
| All Pass       |                     |             |                    |

Closed Room

| West           | North             | East           | South      |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| <i>Jonsson</i> | <i>Meckstroth</i> | <i>Ingason</i> | <i>Zia</i> |
| —              | —                 | 1♥             | Pass       |
| 2NT            | Pass              | 3♦             | Pass       |
| 3NT            | Pass              | 4♥             | All Pass   |

After Lair's 2♥ opening in the open room, Passell knew that his side had an extensive heart fit and the possibility that the opponents could make something, so he had no trouble jumping to game and testing them. Vulnerable against not, North decided action



Zia Mahmood

was necessary and made a takeout double getting a 5♦ response. With hearts 1-1 the defence had four tricks and USA1 +200.

In the closed room it was East's turn to open his nine-point hand although he could have opened 2♦ to show a weak major with 3-10 HCPs. After that the train was unstoppable and, after reaching 4♥, declarer lost a spade, a diamond and two clubs for USA1 +50 and six more IMPs.

Iceland 0 — USA1 12

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

| West           | North               | East        | South              |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <i>Passell</i> | <i>Eysteinnsson</i> | <i>Lair</i> | <i>Hermannsson</i> |
| —              | —                   | —           | 3♦                 |
| Pass           | 4♦                  | 4♠          | All Pass           |

Closed Room

| West           | North             | East           | South      |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| <i>Jonsson</i> | <i>Meckstroth</i> | <i>Ingason</i> | <i>Zia</i> |
| —              | —                 | —              | Pass       |
| 2♣             | Pass              | 2♠             | 3♦         |
| Pass           | Pass              | 4♦             | Pass       |
| 4♥             | Pass              | 4NT            | Pass       |
| 5♦             | Pass              | 5♠             | Pass       |
| 6♥             | Pass              | 6♠             | All Pass   |

The open room bid the routine 4♠ and made eleven tricks losing a spade and a diamond for USA1 +650.

In the closed room, Jonsson's 2♣ opening was precision style, in this case showing a four-card major and five card club suit. After that, E/W seemed to be on a roller coaster heading towards slam. Had declarer been able to pick up the spade suit without loss, we would be singing his praises, but in this case that was not to be, and declarer went one down for USA1 +100 and 13 IMPs.


Iceland 0 — USA1 25



The next two boards saw one IMP to Iceland when they played 1NT making +120 in one room and their teammates going two down -100 in 3♦ in the other room.

Finally, some positive news for the Icelanders – albeit fortunate news as it could have easily been more unwelcome news.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West           | North               | East        | South              |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <i>Passell</i> | <i>Eysteinnsson</i> | <i>Lair</i> | <i>Hermannsson</i> |
| —              | —                   | —           | 1♣                 |
| Pass           | 2♣                  | Pass        | 2♥                 |
| Pass           | 2♠                  | Pass        | 3♥                 |
| Pass           | 4♣                  | Pass        | 4♥                 |
| All Pass       |                     |             |                    |

Closed Room

| West           | North             | East           | South      |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| <i>Jonsson</i> | <i>Meckstroth</i> | <i>Ingason</i> | <i>Zia</i> |
| —              | —                 | —              | 2♣*        |
| Pass           | 2♦*               | Pass           | 3♥         |
| Pass           | 6♥                | All Pass       |            |

In the open room, Hermannsson opened a Precision strong club and heard his partner show clubs and 8+ HCPs and thereafter insisted on hearts with 3♥ followed by 4♥ likely suggesting a better than minimum hand.

In the closed room, the auction was short and to the point. Zia opened a strong 2♣ after which he showed a self-supporting suit and better than minimum hand. With a long suit and two aces Meckstroth readily jumped to 6♥.

Six Hearts is not the worst contract. On a diamond lead you would have no chance even if the finesse is right – after you lose a club a second diamond would cut you off from dummy's possibly established clubs. Assuming you can avoid a diamond lead you would need trumps to break 3-2 and clubs 3-3. OK, I retract,

it comes close to a bad contract. West led the ♦3 and declarer put in the queen and played a spade to the jack West winning and exiting with a diamond. Only the Rabbi would like his chances from here. The failing slam against game was worth 12 IMPs to Iceland.


Iceland 13 — USA1 25

Both tables did well to bid the 'routine' grand slam on the next hand:

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

The less than routine slam on the next hand tested both tables.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

| West           | North               | East        | South              |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <i>Passell</i> | <i>Eysteinnsson</i> | <i>Lair</i> | <i>Hermannsson</i> |
| —              | Pass                | 2♣          | Pass               |
| 2♦             | Pass                | 2NT         | Pass               |
| 3♠             | Pass                | 3NT         | Pass               |
| 6NT            | All Pass            |             |                    |

Closed Room

| West           | North             | East           | South      |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| <i>Jonsson</i> | <i>Meckstroth</i> | <i>Ingason</i> | <i>Zia</i> |
| —              | Pass              | 1♣             | 1♦         |
| Dble           | Pass              | 1♠             | Pass       |
| 1NT            | Pass              | 2♥             | Pass       |
| 2NT            | Pass              | 4NT            | Pass       |
| 6♥             | All Pass          |                |            |

The auction in the open room was simply based on the combined thirty-three points and ending up in the best contract.

You can't keep Zia quiet for too long. He was at



favourable vulnerability and heard a strong club on his right so bid what his system card indicates was a natural 1♦ (maybe it showed ♦/♥). This One Diamond bid may have planted some seed of doubt in the opponents that led them to play 6♥ in their 4-3 fit. No problem, that was cold on the favourable heart and spade layout.

A 3-3 spade break makes 6NT easy of course. Failing that one would need a squeeze involving the spades/diamonds/clubs after losing a diamond. 6♥ also has the added risks of bad heart breaks.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West           | North               | East        | South              |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <i>Passell</i> | <i>Eysteinnsson</i> | <i>Lair</i> | <i>Hermannsson</i> |
| —              | —                   | Pass        | Pass               |
| 2♦             | All Pass            |             |                    |

Closed Room

| West           | North             | East           | South      |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| <i>Jonsson</i> | <i>Meckstroth</i> | <i>Ingason</i> | <i>Zia</i> |
| —              | —                 | Pass           | Pass       |
| 1♣             | Pass              | 1♦             | 1♠         |
| Dble           | 2NT               | 4♥             | All Pass   |

Passell, West for USA1 in the open room, opened 2♦ showing 18-19 balanced. Lair correctly thought that game would be a stretch and passed. North's club lead saw dummy's spade losers disappear and eleven tricks for USA1 +150.

In the closed room. Jonsson opened a precision 1♣ and got a negative from his partner. He then doubled Zia's spade bid interpose. A 2NT spade raise on his left and partner's 4♥ ended the auction. The contract was poor and duly went down four tricks USA1 +400 and 11 IMPs.

Iceland 13 — USA1 36

Iceland struck back on the next deal:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West           | North               | East        | South              |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <i>Passell</i> | <i>Eysteinnsson</i> | <i>Lair</i> | <i>Hermannsson</i> |
| —              | —                   | —           | 2♥                 |
| Dble           | 4♥                  | 4NT         | Pass               |
| 5♣             | All Pass            |             |                    |

Closed Room

| West           | North             | East           | South      |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| <i>Jonsson</i> | <i>Meckstroth</i> | <i>Ingason</i> | <i>Zia</i> |
| —              | —                 | —              | Pass       |
| 1NT            | 4♠                | 4NT            | Pass       |
| 5♣             | All Pass          |                |            |

Hermannsson's 2♥ opening showed a five-card suit, 8-10 HCPs and two or three spades. Both East's managed to show two places to play by bidding 4NT and both tables reached 5♣.

The swing of 10 IMPs to Iceland came when Eysteinnsson, North, led the ♥A which, together with the ♦K and ♣A saw the contract one down. In the other room Meckstroth chose to lead a spade which saw the heart loser disappear on declarer's second high spade and 11 tricks.

Iceland 23 — USA1 36

The last boards saw the USA1 add another 7 IMPs to make the final score 23-43. Iceland are now running 12th, 10VPs from qualifying and USA1 are leading the event by one full match.

**Mark Horton**

## The Noble Art of Self-Defence

This deal from Round 19 presented a tough defensive problem for NS – South in particular.

Board 9 Dealer North. EW Vul.

♠ 9 2  
♥ A 7 3  
♦ J 4 2  
♣ A J 10 9 5

|             |              |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>West</b> | <b>North</b> | <b>East</b> | <b>South</b> |
| —           | 3♠           | Dble        | Pass         |
| 5♦          | All Pass     |             |              |

Your partner leads the ♠A and this is what you can see:

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

Declarer follows with the eight after you have contributed a spade that is in accordance with your signaling methods. One of three things will happen:

If partner continues with the ♠Q declarer ruffs with dummy's ♦10 and plays the ♣K. What do you do?

If partner switches to the ♥10 declarer plays dummy's king and it's your move.

Lastly partner switches to the ♣7 (playing 2nd and 4th) and declarer plays dummy's king – what do you do?

Let's deal with the second of these first.

Your instinct might be to take the ace and return the three, hoping that partner will ruff, but are you sure that partner started with a singleton? Would he not have led it to trick one – and if declarer has four hearts then why did West bid 5♦ as opposed to 4♥? If you agree with that then you will allow the ♥K to hold and declarer will continue with the ♣K. Over to you.

It's time to look at the full deal...

Board 9 Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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



♠ K  
♥ K Q 8 4 2  
♦ 10 9 7  
♣ K Q 3 2

♠ 9 2  
♥ A 7 3  
♦ J 4 2  
♣ A J 10 9 5

If partner plays a second spade and you cover the ♣K declarer will ruff, and can then draw trumps and play on hearts. Your ♥A will be the last trick for the defence.

In variation number two if you duck the ♥10 and then cover the ♣K declarer will ruff, cash two trumps, ruff a spade and then play on hearts.

Finally on a club switch at trick two if you play the ♣A declarer will ruff, cash two top trumps, ruff a spade and then play on hearts.

I suspect by now you will have realized that the winning defence is to refuse to play the ♣A! Declarer can discard a spade, come to hand with a trump and ruff a spade, but if he then draws trumps and plays on hearts you win the third round and can exit with the ♣A. Declarer ruffs, but is left with a losing spade.

In variation 2, having ducked the first heart and then ducked the ♣K if declarer takes two rounds of trumps and then plays the ♥J you must duck for a third time. You will win the third heart and exit with the ♣A and in due course declarer loses a spade.

In the last scenario, having ducked the ♣K, if declarer takes two rounds of trumps, ruffs a spade and then plays on hearts, the strongest defence is to take the second round and exit with your remaining heart – now the contract is two down!

Looking at the records, many declarers made 5♦ (some with an overtrick). It was only defeated three times, in the match between Singapore and Argentina in the Bermuda Bowl, and twice in the Wuhan Cup, in the matches between Guatemala and Argentina and Portugal and Turkey.

If you were involved in one of those matches and found a defence which involved ducking the ♣K, do come and give me the details!

### Proofreader's note:

This makes two articles using pugilism as a background – and yet neither features an uppercut!





## David Bird, BERMUDA BOWL, ROUND 21


**+ ENGLAND vs NETHERLANDS** 

All bridge commentators are impartial when their home country is playing, it goes without saying. But some are less impartial than others. England start in 4th place and the Netherlands in 2nd place.

I had already taken my heart pills. Not because of this match but because I watched all 90 minutes of the Leeds-Southampton football game at 6am on SKY Sports (having avoided knowing the result, of course.)

Time for some bridge, I hear you cry. We will start with a lead problem. You hold ♠AQ1083 ♥942 ♦J84 ♣107. RHO opens 1♥, you overcall 1♠, responder says 2♥, your partner 3♠ and the opener 4♥. What will you lead?

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                | North           | East               | South          |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <i>Van Lankveld</i> | <i>Townsend</i> | <i>Van den Bos</i> | <i>Bakhshi</i> |
| —                   | Pass            | Pass               | Pass           |
| 1♥                  | 1♠              | 2♥                 | 3♠             |
| 4♥                  | All Pass        |                    |                |

The only winning lead is a trump, followed by another trump when declarer wins with the ♥J and leads a spade to the king. Tom Townsend found this lead and the game was one down. Since I would have led an unsuccessful ♣10 myself (I must email Taf Anthias to run a computer simulation on the deal), I had some hopes that this might be an early swing England's way.

Closed Room

| West        | North               | East          | South          |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Bell</i> | <i>Van Prooijen</i> | <i>Norton</i> | <i>Verhees</i> |
| —           | Pass                | Pass          | Pass           |
| 1♥          | 1♠                  | 2♥            | 3♥*            |
| 4♥          | All Pass            |               |                |

Ricco van Prooijen also found a trump lead to flatten the board. It's time to look at the leads made on the other tables. 9 Norths out of 20 led a trump against 4♥; 7 followed the advice of the learned commentator and led a club, 3 led a spade and 1 a diamond. The contract was made 11 times, whenever a trump was not led.

*Joris Van Lankveld*

*David Bakhshi*

*Tom Townsend*

*Berend Van den Bos*



Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                | North           | East               | South          |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <i>Van Lankveld</i> | <i>Townsend</i> | <i>Van den Bos</i> | <i>Bakhshi</i> |
| —                   | —               | —                  | 2♣             |
| Pass                | 2♦*             | Pass               | 2♥             |
| Pass                | 3♣              | Pass               | 3♥             |
| Pass                | 4♣*             | Pass               | 4♥             |
| Pass                | 4NT*            | Pass               | 5♦*            |
| Pass                | 5♠*             | Pass               | 5NT*           |
| Pass                | 6♥              | All Pass           |                |

So, the England North/South reach 6♥ with potential losers in all four suits. I simply do not understand the 2♣ opening (described as game-forcing on their card). Will you not need a response to 1♥ to fill in some of the gaps? If partner happens to be strong, you may get too high after opening 2♣.

David Bakhshi won the trump lead (I was praying for a spade) and played a second trump, getting the bad news. He continued with two more rounds of trumps, East switching to the ♠4. The ♠J lost to the queen and a club switch followed. Declarer rose with the ace, later taking a successful diamond finesse and discarding a club on the 13th spade. That was one down.

Closed Room

| West        | North               | East          | South          |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Bell</i> | <i>Van Prooijen</i> | <i>Norton</i> | <i>Verhees</i> |
| —           | —                   | —             | 1♣*            |
| Pass        | 1♥*                 | Pass          | 1♠*            |
| Pass        | 2♣*                 | Pass          | 2♦*            |
| Pass        | 2♥*                 | Pass          | 2♠*            |
| Pass        | 3♣*                 | Pass          | 3♦*            |
| Pass        | 3NT                 | Pass          | 4♣*            |
| Pass        | 4♥                  | Pass          | 4♠*            |
| Pass        | 4NT*                | Pass          | 5♣*            |
| Pass        | 5♥*                 | All Pass      |                |

Louk Verhees's 1♣ launched a Tarzan Club auction. (You will be familiar with the system.) 1♥ showed spades and possibly a longer second suit. The editor informs me that there will not be space for the full explanation that I submitted of the other bids.

(David's breathless prose was read with interest here. Editor)

Declarer won the ♣J lead with the queen, played three top trumps followed by the ace, king and jack of spades. The diamond finesse succeeded, and the 13th spade provided a club discard. That was +650 for 13 IMPs.

I am going to look to see if other South's opened 2♣. Twenty tables stopped in game, suggesting a 1♥ opening. One reached 5♥ (in this match, as we saw), and only three reached 6♥.

Board 8 was a big slam deal and we waited to see if the England North-South would be affected by the drama on the previous board.

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

Open Room

| West                | North           | East               | South          |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <i>Van Lankveld</i> | <i>Townsend</i> | <i>Van den Bos</i> | <i>Bakhshi</i> |
| Pass                | 1♠              | Pass               | 2NT*           |
| Pass                | 4♦*             | Pass               | 4♥             |
| Pass                | 4NT             | Pass               | 5♥*            |
| Pass                | 5NT             | Pass               | 7♠             |

Bakhshi's 2NT was Jacoby and Townsend's 4♣ showed a diamond void. 4♥ was a control bid, and 4NT Exclusion Blackwood. South showed two keycards outside diamonds and North's 5NT informed partner that all keycards were present outside diamonds. South then had plenty to leap to 7♠. Well done.

Were we going to see another endless relay sequence from the Closed Room, the somewhat grumpy commentator wondered.



## Closed Room

| West        | North               | East          | South          |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Bell</i> | <i>Van Prooijen</i> | <i>Norton</i> | <i>Verhees</i> |
| Pass        | 1♠                  | Pass          | 1NT*           |
| Pass        | 2NT*                | Pass          | 3♣*            |
| Pass        | 4♦*                 | Pass          | 7♠             |
| All Pass    |                     |               |                |

South's 1NT was a game-forcing relay. The meanings of 2NT and 3♣ are not on their convention card (excuses, excuses). 4♣ doubtless showed a diamond void, and 7♠ was reached in quick time. Impressive!

I write up part score deals only around three times a year, in dire emergencies. A kibitzer informed me yesterday that he found part scores endlessly fascinating; so many different lines of play were possible. I advised him that such views should be restricted to the psychiatrist's couch, not discussed in public at a world championship.

Anyway, I will try the novel experience (for me) of describing a part score.

## Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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



Tom Townsend

## Open Room

| West                | North           | East               | South          |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <i>Van Lankveld</i> | <i>Townsend</i> | <i>Van den Bos</i> | <i>Bakhshi</i> |
| 1NT                 | Pass            | Pass               | 2♥*            |
| Pass                | Pass            | 2♠*                | Dble           |
| 3♠                  | All Pass        |                    |                |

Pressing on the BBO double-dummy button informed me that a trump lead from the South hand would put the contract two down; any other lead would allow a possible make. Bakhshi was faced with four horrible leads, and I don't blame him at all for leading a heart.

Declarer ran this to his 10 and led a diamond, South's queen winning. A second heart went to the dummy's queen, and declarer ruffed a diamond. When a club was led, Bakhshi rose with the ace and gave his partner a heart ruff. Yes, but this was with a trump winner. Declarer won the trump return, ruffed his last diamond and made the contract for +140.

The stakes were higher at the other table:

## Closed Room

| West        | North               | East          | South          |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Bell</i> | <i>Van Prooijen</i> | <i>Norton</i> | <i>Verhees</i> |
| Pass        | Pass                | Pass          | 1♥             |
| 1♠          | 1NT                 | 3♠            | Dble           |
| All Pass    |                     |               |                |

Played by West, the ♥9 did not surrender the contract. It was covered by the 10, jack and queen. Declarer conceded a diamond trick to North's 10, and he played another heart to declarer's ace. A diamond ruff and a club to the ace were followed by the ♥K and the ♣A, ruffed in the dummy.

The defenders had taken three tricks and North still held his ♠KQ10. It was one down for 200 and 6 more IMPs to the Netherlands. They were good value for their 30-11 win, which was 14.80 to 5.20 in VPs.

## 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](mailto:anna@jannersten.com)





# RESULTS

## BERMUDA BOWL

| Round    | Rank | Country 1       | Country 2       | Score 1 | Score 2 | Score 1-2 | Score 2-1 |
|----------|------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Round 21 | 1    | SINGAPORE       | UAE             | 31      | 64      | 2.83      | 17.17     |
|          | 2    | URUGUAY         | EGYPT           | 27      | 45      | 5.40      | 14.60     |
|          | 3    | GUADELOUPE      | ARGENTINA       | 37      | 2       | 16.95     | 2.55      |
|          | 4    | NEW ZEALAND     | DENMARK         | 27      | 26      | 10.31     | 9.69      |
|          | 5    | SOUTH AFRICA    | HUNGARY         | 8       | 35      | 3.74      | 16.26     |
|          | 6    | SWITZERLAND     | CHINA HONG KONG | 30      | 13      | 14.39     | 5.61      |
|          | 7    | INDIA           | AUSTRALIA       | 20      | 29      | 7.45      | 12.55     |
|          | 8    | USA 2           | ITALY           | 30      | 7       | 15.56     | 4.44      |
|          | 9    | USA 1           | NORWAY          | 20      | 43      | 4.44      | 15.56     |
|          | 10   | CANADA          | SWEDEN          | 16      | 34      | 5.40      | 14.60     |
|          | 11   | ENGLAND         | NETHERLANDS     | 11      | 30      | 5.20      | 14.80     |
|          | 12   | BULGARIA        | ISRAEL          | 52      | 47      | 11.48     | 8.52      |
| Round 22 | 1    | URUGUAY         | SINGAPORE       | 66      | 40      | 16.09     | 3.91      |
|          | 2    | GUADELOUPE      | UAE             | 40      | 21      | 14.80     | 5.20      |
|          | 3    | ARGENTINA       | EGYPT           | 29      | 40      | 6.96      | 13.04     |
|          | 4    | ITALY           | NEW ZEALAND     | 65      | 2       | 20.00     | 0.00      |
|          | 5    | HUNGARY         | CHINA HONG KONG | 37      | 23      | 13.75     | 6.25      |
|          | 6    | NETHERLANDS     | BULGARIA        | 14      | 34      | 5.00      | 15.00     |
|          | 7    | SWEDEN          | DENMARK         | 38      | 21      | 14.39     | 5.61      |
|          | 8    | NORWAY          | SWITZERLAND     | 32      | 42      | 7.20      | 12.80     |
|          | 9    | AUSTRALIA       | ISRAEL          | 36      | 45      | 7.45      | 12.55     |
|          | 10   | USA 2           | CANADA          | 21      | 38      | 5.61      | 14.39     |
|          | 11   | INDIA           | ENGLAND         | 12      | 42      | 3.27      | 16.73     |
|          | 12   | USA 1           | SOUTH AFRICA    | 27      | 42      | 6.03      | 13.97     |
| Round 23 | 1    | SINGAPORE       | GUADELOUPE      | 27      | 35      | 7.71      | 12.29     |
|          | 2    | ARGENTINA       | URUGUAY         | 31      | 31      | 10.00     | 10.00     |
|          | 3    | EGYPT           | UAE             | 54      | 36      | 14.60     | 5.40      |
|          | 4    | NEW ZEALAND     | SWEDEN          | 30      | 47      | 5.61      | 14.39     |
|          | 5    | BULGARIA        | INDIA           | 37      | 65      | 3.58      | 16.42     |
|          | 6    | CHINA HONG KONG | USA 1           | 32      | 24      | 12.29     | 7.71      |
|          | 7    | ITALY           | CANADA          | 40      | 39      | 10.31     | 9.69      |
|          | 8    | ISRAEL          | NETHERLANDS     | 21      | 57      | 2.41      | 17.59     |
|          | 9    | SWITZERLAND     | HUNGARY         | 41      | 51      | 7.20      | 12.80     |
|          | 10   | DENMARK         | USA 2           | 28      | 36      | 7.51      | 11.69     |
|          | 11   | AUSTRALIA       | ENGLAND         | 57      | 61      | 8.80      | 11.20     |
|          | 12   | NORWAY          | SOUTH AFRICA    | 56      | 22      | 17.31     | 2.69      |

### Ranking after Round 23

|    |  |                 |        |
|----|--|-----------------|--------|
| 1  |  | SWITZERLAND     | 312.24 |
| 2  |  | NETHERLANDS     | 307.38 |
| 3  |  | USA 2           | 301.13 |
| 4  |  | HUNGARY         | 290.11 |
| 5  |  | ENGLAND         | 287.30 |
| 6  |  | ITALY           | 286.03 |
| 7  |  | NORWAY          | 284.53 |
| 8  |  | USA 1           | 272.29 |
| 9  |  | DENMARK         | 263.00 |
| 10 |  | ISRAEL          | 262.49 |
| 11 |  | SWEDEN          | 258.10 |
| 12 |  | AUSTRALIA       | 254.40 |
| 13 |  | INDIA           | 245.39 |
| 14 |  | BULGARIA        | 225.11 |
| 15 |  | NEW ZEALAND     | 220.44 |
| 16 |  | EGYPT           | 214.33 |
| 17 |  | CHINA HONG KONG | 211.23 |
| 18 |  | SOUTH AFRICA    | 191.55 |
| 19 |  | CANADA          | 191.06 |
| 20 |  | GUADELOUPE      | 164.90 |
| 21 |  | UAE             | 141.68 |
| 22 |  | SINGAPORE       | 119.65 |
| 23 |  | URUGUAY         | 106.90 |
| 24 |  | ARGENTINA       | 97.16  |

## VENICE CUP

| Round    | Rank | Country 1 | Country 2 | Score 1 | Score 2 | Score 1-2 | Score 2-1 |
|----------|------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Round 21 | 21   | PORTUGAL  | MOROCCO   | 61      | 26      | 17.45     | 2.55      |
|          | 22   | UAE       | EGYPT     | 35      | 29      | 11.76     | 8.24      |
|          | 23   | HUNGARY   | POLAND    | 28      | 58      | 3.27      | 16.73     |
|          | 24   | SPAIN     | USA 2     | 16      | 40      | 4.26      | 15.74     |
|          | 25   | NORWAY    | BRAZIL    | 24      | 26      | 9.39      | 10.61     |
|          | 26   | CANADA    | SCOTLAND  | 32      | 5       | 16.26     | 3.74      |
|          | 27   | FRANCE    | ITALY     | 38      | 20      | 14.60     | 5.40      |
|          | 28   | BELGIUM   | TURKEY    | 8       | 41      | 2.83      | 17.17     |
|          | 29   | AUSTRALIA | USA 1     | 22      | 49      | 3.74      | 16.26     |
|          | 30   | GERMANY   | ARGENTINA | 10      | 33      | 4.44      | 15.56     |
|          | 31   | ENGLAND   | INDIA     | 25      | 16      | 12.55     | 7.45      |
|          | 32   | DENMARK   | SWEDEN    | 26      | 36      | 7.20      | 12.80     |
| Round 22 | 21   | UAE       | PORTUGAL  | 27      | 28      | 9.69      | 10.31     |
|          | 22   | EGYPT     | MOROCCO   | 19      | 32      | 6.28      | 11.72     |
|          | 23   | HUNGARY   | SPAIN     | 28      | 19      | 12.55     | 7.45      |
|          | 24   | SWEDEN    | INDIA     | 58      | 11      | 18.87     | 1.13      |
|          | 25   | USA 2     | CANADA    | 35      | 20      | 13.97     | 6.03      |
|          | 26   | BRAZIL    | FRANCE    | 17      | 51      | 2.69      | 17.31     |
|          | 27   | SCOTLAND  | BELGIUM   | 27      | 47      | 5.00      | 15.00     |
|          | 28   | ITALY     | AUSTRALIA | 41      | 29      | 13.28     | 6.72      |
|          | 29   | TURKEY    | GERMANY   | 23      | 20      | 10.91     | 9.09      |
|          | 30   | USA 1     | DENMARK   | 45      | 25      | 15.00     | 5.00      |
|          | 31   | ARGENTINA | ENGLAND   | 23      | 34      | 6.96      | 13.04     |
|          | 32   | POLAND    | NORWAY    | 56      | 30      | 16.09     | 3.91      |
| Round 23 | 21   | PORTUGAL  | EGYPT     | 38      | 50      | 6.72      | 13.28     |
|          | 22   | MOROCCO   | UAE       | 71      | 13      | 19.85     | 0.15      |
|          | 23   | INDIA     | HUNGARY   | 38      | 64      | 3.91      | 16.09     |
|          | 24   | GERMANY   | BRAZIL    | 19      | 21      | 9.39      | 10.61     |
|          | 25   | AUSTRALIA | SCOTLAND  | 101     | 23      | 20.00     | 0.00      |
|          | 26   | SPAIN     | SWEDEN    | 27      | 55      | 3.58      | 16.42     |
|          | 27   | ARGENTINA | NORWAY    | 19      | 58      | 2.03      | 17.97     |
|          | 28   | ITALY     | BELGIUM   | 50      | 10      | 18.09     | 1.91      |
|          | 29   | USA 2     | DENMARK   | 61      | 22      | 17.97     | 2.03      |
|          | 30   | ENGLAND   | POLAND    | 41      | 55      | 6.25      | 13.75     |
|          | 31   | CANADA    | USA 1     | 18      | 56      | 2.15      | 17.85     |
|          | 32   | FRANCE    | TURKEY    | 25      | 35      | 7.20      | 12.80     |

### Ranking after Round 23

|    |  |           |        |
|----|--|-----------|--------|
| 1  |  | POLAND    | 352.04 |
| 2  |  | ENGLAND   | 304.29 |
| 3  |  | SWEDEN    | 294.70 |
| 4  |  | USA 2     | 294.65 |
| 5  |  | TURKEY    | 279.27 |
| 6  |  | ITALY     | 276.58 |
| 7  |  | DENMARK   | 261.10 |
| 8  |  | FRANCE    | 260.14 |
| 9  |  | NORWAY    | 258.94 |
| 10 |  | USA 1     | 256.88 |
| 11 |  | CANADA    | 240.42 |
| 12 |  | SCOTLAND  | 222.37 |
| 13 |  | PORTUGAL  | 215.25 |
| 14 |  | HUNGARY   | 214.82 |
| 15 |  | BELGIUM   | 212.19 |
| 16 |  | AUSTRALIA | 208.55 |
| 17 |  | SPAIN     | 202.76 |
| 18 |  | GERMANY   | 193.97 |
| 19 |  | EGYPT     | 189.49 |
| 20 |  | ARGENTINA | 182.27 |
| 21 |  | BRAZIL    | 175.63 |
| 22 |  | MOROCCO   | 166.89 |
| 23 |  | UAE       | 125.37 |
| 24 |  | INDIA     | 114.23 |



# RESULTS

## D'ORSI TROPHY

|                 |    |             |           |    |    |       |       |
|-----------------|----|-------------|-----------|----|----|-------|-------|
| <b>Round 21</b> | 41 | GUADELOUPE  | EGYPT     | 14 | 50 | 2.41  | 17.59 |
|                 | 42 | PAKISTAN    | MOROCCO   | 47 | 24 | 15.56 | 4.44  |
|                 | 43 | BRAZIL      | USA 2     | 11 | 48 | 2.28  | 17.72 |
|                 | 44 | ICELAND     | USA 1     | 23 | 42 | 5.20  | 14.80 |
|                 | 45 | BULGARIA    | INDIA     | 37 | 37 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
|                 | 46 | NETHERLANDS | TURKEY    | 15 | 52 | 2.28  | 17.72 |
|                 | 47 | POLAND      | ARGENTINA | 32 | 65 | 2.83  | 17.17 |
|                 | 48 | SWEDEN      | ITALY     | 49 | 51 | 9.39  | 10.61 |
|                 | 49 | GERMANY     | CANADA    | 48 | 25 | 15.56 | 4.44  |
|                 | 50 | NORWAY      | AUSTRALIA | 15 | 37 | 4.62  | 14.88 |
|                 | 51 | ENGLAND     | FRANCE    | 10 | 50 | 1.91  | 18.09 |
|                 | 52 | DENMARK     | BELGIUM   | 27 | 16 | 13.04 | 6.96  |

|                 |    |           |             |    |    |       |       |
|-----------------|----|-----------|-------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| <b>Round 22</b> | 41 | PAKISTAN  | GUADELOUPE  | 50 | 35 | 13.97 | 6.03  |
|                 | 42 | MOROCCO   | EGYPT       | 41 | 18 | 15.56 | 3.94  |
|                 | 43 | BRAZIL    | ICELAND     | 21 | 38 | 5.61  | 14.39 |
|                 | 44 | USA 2     | BULGARIA    | 31 | 42 | 6.96  | 13.04 |
|                 | 45 | USA 1     | NETHERLANDS | 55 | 16 | 17.97 | 2.03  |
|                 | 46 | INDIA     | POLAND      | 27 | 34 | 7.97  | 12.03 |
|                 | 47 | TURKEY    | SWEDEN      | 23 | 35 | 6.72  | 13.28 |
|                 | 48 | ARGENTINA | GERMANY     | 37 | 16 | 15.19 | 4.81  |
|                 | 49 | ITALY     | NORWAY      | 46 | 8  | 17.75 | 2.05  |
|                 | 50 | CANADA    | ENGLAND     | 55 | 26 | 16.58 | 3.42  |
|                 | 51 | AUSTRALIA | DENMARK     | 41 | 45 | 8.80  | 11.20 |
|                 | 52 | FRANCE    | BELGIUM     | 38 | 22 | 14.18 | 5.22  |

|                 |    |             |          |    |    |       |       |
|-----------------|----|-------------|----------|----|----|-------|-------|
| <b>Round 23</b> | 41 | GUADELOUPE  | MOROCCO  | 0  | 0  | 13.37 | 0.00  |
|                 | 42 | EGYPT       | PAKISTAN | 29 | 46 | 4.61  | 14.39 |
|                 | 43 | BELGIUM     | BRAZIL   | 40 | 43 | 9.09  | 10.91 |
|                 | 44 | NORWAY      | INDIA    | 28 | 55 | 3.74  | 16.26 |
|                 | 45 | GERMANY     | TURKEY   | 19 | 51 | 2.97  | 17.03 |
|                 | 46 | ICELAND     | FRANCE   | 60 | 20 | 18.09 | 1.91  |
|                 | 47 | AUSTRALIA   | BULGARIA | 6  | 53 | 1.13  | 18.87 |
|                 | 48 | ARGENTINA   | SWEDEN   | 25 | 37 | 6.72  | 13.28 |
|                 | 49 | USA 1       | ENGLAND  | 50 | 39 | 13.04 | 6.96  |
|                 | 50 | DENMARK     | USA 2    | 35 | 60 | 4.08  | 15.92 |
|                 | 51 | POLAND      | ITALY    | 31 | 32 | 9.69  | 10.31 |
|                 | 52 | NETHERLANDS | CANADA   | 31 | 17 | 13.75 | 6.25  |

### Ranking after Round 23

|    |  |             |        |
|----|--|-------------|--------|
| 1  |  | USA 1       | 324.09 |
| 2  |  | DENMARK     | 287.64 |
| 3  |  | POLAND      | 279.94 |
| 4  |  | FRANCE      | 275.74 |
| 5  |  | INDIA       | 268.35 |
| 6  |  | SWEDEN      | 267.89 |
| 7  |  | USA 2       | 263.36 |
| 8  |  | BULGARIA    | 259.89 |
| 9  |  | ICELAND     | 253.45 |
| 10 |  | TURKEY      | 250.78 |
| 11 |  | ITALY       | 245.57 |
| 12 |  | ARGENTINA   | 245.44 |
| 13 |  | ENGLAND     | 241.80 |
| 14 |  | CANADA      | 237.40 |
| 15 |  | NETHERLANDS | 223.81 |
| 16 |  | BELGIUM     | 222.87 |
| 17 |  | AUSTRALIA   | 220.34 |
| 18 |  | GERMANY     | 214.99 |
| 19 |  | NORWAY      | 213.58 |
| 20 |  | PAKISTAN    | 212.46 |
| 21 |  | MOROCCO     | 145.93 |
| 22 |  | BRAZIL      | 124.59 |
| 23 |  | EGYPT       | 120.49 |
| 24 |  | GUADELOUPE  | 84.47  |

## WUHAN CUP

|                 |    |             |           |    |    |       |       |
|-----------------|----|-------------|-----------|----|----|-------|-------|
| <b>Round 21</b> | 61 | GUATEMALA   | TUNISIA   | 42 | 25 | 14.39 | 5.61  |
|                 | 62 | JORDAN      | EGYPT     | 43 | 42 | 10.31 | 9.69  |
|                 | 63 | PORTUGAL    | USA 1     | 1  | 42 | 1.79  | 18.21 |
|                 | 64 | INDIA       | USA 2     | 21 | 39 | 5.40  | 14.60 |
|                 | 65 | NETHERLANDS | POLAND    | 8  | 65 | 0.23  | 19.77 |
|                 | 66 | BELGIUM     | ISRAEL    | 60 | 11 | 19.07 | 0.93  |
|                 | 67 | DENMARK     | ITALY     | 38 | 39 | 9.69  | 10.31 |
|                 | 68 | CROATIA     | ARGENTINA | 39 | 14 | 15.92 | 4.08  |
|                 | 69 | FRANCE      | CHILE     | 59 | 23 | 17.59 | 2.41  |
|                 | 70 | TURKEY      | GERMANY   | 48 | 42 | 11.76 | 8.24  |
|                 | 71 | ROMANIA     | SINGAPORE | 60 | 26 | 17.31 | 2.69  |
|                 | 72 | LATVIA      | AUSTRALIA | 35 | 31 | 11.20 | 8.80  |

|                 |    |           |             |    |    |       |       |
|-----------------|----|-----------|-------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| <b>Round 22</b> | 61 | JORDAN    | GUATEMALA   | 51 | 32 | 14.70 | 5.10  |
|                 | 62 | EGYPT     | TUNISIA     | 43 | 26 | 14.39 | 5.61  |
|                 | 63 | PORTUGAL  | INDIA       | 37 | 64 | 3.74  | 16.26 |
|                 | 64 | USA 1     | NETHERLANDS | 39 | 41 | 9.39  | 10.61 |
|                 | 65 | USA 2     | BELGIUM     | 23 | 65 | 1.67  | 18.33 |
|                 | 66 | POLAND    | DENMARK     | 10 | 36 | 3.91  | 16.09 |
|                 | 67 | ISRAEL    | CROATIA     | 31 | 30 | 10.31 | 9.69  |
|                 | 68 | ITALY     | LATVIA      | 36 | 15 | 15.19 | 4.81  |
|                 | 69 | ARGENTINA | TURKEY      | 33 | 25 | 12.29 | 7.71  |
|                 | 70 | SINGAPORE | CHILE       | 41 | 36 | 11.48 | 8.52  |
|                 | 71 | GERMANY   | FRANCE      | 22 | 17 | 11.48 | 8.52  |
|                 | 72 | AUSTRALIA | ROMANIA     | 46 | 34 | 13.28 | 6.72  |

|                 |    |           |             |    |    |       |       |
|-----------------|----|-----------|-------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| <b>Round 23</b> | 61 | GUATEMALA | EGYPT       | 27 | 54 | 3.74  | 16.26 |
|                 | 62 | TUNISIA   | JORDAN      | 23 | 53 | 3.27  | 16.73 |
|                 | 63 | CHILE     | PORTUGAL    | 39 | 55 | 5.82  | 14.18 |
|                 | 64 | TURKEY    | POLAND      | 10 | 88 | 0.00  | 20.00 |
|                 | 65 | LATVIA    | ISRAEL      | 48 | 29 | 14.80 | 5.20  |
|                 | 66 | INDIA     | SINGAPORE   | 47 | 44 | 10.91 | 9.09  |
|                 | 67 | GERMANY   | NETHERLANDS | 25 | 36 | 6.96  | 13.04 |
|                 | 68 | ITALY     | CROATIA     | 42 | 47 | 8.52  | 11.48 |
|                 | 69 | USA 2     | ROMANIA     | 35 | 27 | 12.29 | 7.71  |
|                 | 70 | FRANCE    | USA 1       | 28 | 61 | 2.83  | 17.17 |
|                 | 71 | DENMARK   | ARGENTINA   | 40 | 28 | 13.28 | 6.72  |
|                 | 72 | BELGIUM   | AUSTRALIA   | 49 | 28 | 15.19 | 4.81  |

### Ranking after Round 23

|    |  |             |        |
|----|--|-------------|--------|
| 1  |  | FRANCE      | 304.85 |
| 2  |  | USA 1       | 303.58 |
| 3  |  | BELGIUM     | 296.71 |
| 4  |  | POLAND      | 292.77 |
| 5  |  | ITALY       | 291.89 |
| 6  |  | ROMANIA     | 289.80 |
| 7  |  | LATVIA      | 270.61 |
| 8  |  | GERMANY     | 270.36 |
| 9  |  | DENMARK     | 267.08 |
| 10 |  | AUSTRALIA   | 259.19 |
| 11 |  | NETHERLANDS | 251.56 |
| 12 |  | ISRAEL      | 236.24 |
| 13 |  | USA 2       | 235.62 |
| 14 |  | CROATIA     | 235.12 |
| 15 |  | PORTUGAL    | 227.11 |
| 16 |  | ARGENTINA   | 218.53 |
| 17 |  | TURKEY      | 217.07 |
| 18 |  | INDIA       | 212.69 |
| 19 |  | JORDAN      | 196.13 |
| 20 |  | SINGAPORE   | 183.11 |
| 21 |  | EGYPT       | 152.84 |
| 22 |  | CHILE       | 127.65 |
| 23 |  | GUATEMALA   | 89.19  |
| 24 |  | TUNISIA     | 76.40  |



# BUTLER RANKING

## BERMUDA BOWL

|                          |                          |       |     |    |                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------|-----|----|----------------------|
| BRINK Sjoert             | DRIJVER Bas              | 0.92  | 320 | BB | Switzerland          |
| HELNESS Tor              | HELGEMO Geir             | 0.90  | 288 | BB | Norway               |
| SZABO Csaba              | WINKLER Gabor            | 0.85  | 112 | BB | Hungary              |
| BELL Michael             | NORTON Ben               | 0.84  | 256 | BB | England              |
| MULLER Bauke             | DE WIJS Simon            | 0.83  | 240 | BB | Netherlands          |
| MEHILBA Abdelrahim       | ATTEF Hesham             | 0.81  | 32  | BB | United Arab Emirates |
| VERSACE Alfredo          | MADALA Agustin           | 0.81  | 16  | BB | Italy                |
| NICKELL Nick             | KATZ Ralph               | 0.77  | 128 | BB | U.S.A.               |
| VAN LANKVELD Joris       | VAN DEN BOS Berend       | 0.75  | 256 | BB | Netherlands          |
| LEVIN Amir               | ROLL Josef               | 0.74  | 272 | BB | Israel               |
| GAWRYS Piotr             | KLUKOWSKI Michal         | 0.62  | 288 | BB | Switzerland          |
| GRECO Eric               | HAMPSON Geoff            | 0.61  | 320 | BB | U.S.A.               |
| HEGEDUS Gal              | SZEGEDI Balazs           | 0.57  | 368 | BB | Hungary              |
| WOLPERT Gavin            | SPECTOR Warren           | 0.56  | 144 | BB | U.S.A.               |
| VERHEES Jr Louk          | VAN PROOIJEN Ricco       | 0.55  | 240 | BB | Netherlands          |
| VERSACE Alfredo          | LAURIA Lorenzo           | 0.55  | 288 | BB | Italy                |
| KONOW Kasper             | ASKGAARD Michael         | 0.50  | 256 | BB | Denmark              |
| GILL Peter               | HANS Sartaj              | 0.47  | 272 | BB | Australia            |
| KRANYAK John             | DEMUY Vincent            | 0.45  | 288 | BB | U.S.A.               |
| BATHURST Kevin           | HURD John                | 0.44  | 304 | BB | U.S.A.               |
| BILDE Dennis             | JEPSEN Emil              | 0.43  | 288 | BB | Denmark              |
| DUBOIN Giorgio           | MADALA Agustin           | 0.43  | 320 | BB | Italy                |
| MUKHERJEE Sumit          | MAJUMDER Debabrata       | 0.42  | 253 | BB | India                |
| DANAILOV Diyan           | DRAGANOV Zhivko          | 0.40  | 240 | BB | Bulgaria             |
| WINKLER Gabor            | DUMBOVICH Miklos         | 0.36  | 256 | BB | Hungary              |
| HUGONY Fabrizio          | VINCI Francesco Saverio  | 0.35  | 112 | BB | Italy                |
| ZIMMERMANN Pierre        | PIEDRA Fernando          | 0.34  | 128 | BB | Switzerland          |
| EDGTON Nabil             | HUNG Andy Pei-en         | 0.33  | 272 | BB | Australia            |
| BIRMAN Alon              | PADON Dror               | 0.33  | 288 | BB | Israel               |
| BERTHEAU Peter           | HULT Simon               | 0.32  | 208 | BB | Sweden               |
| NYSTROM Fredrik          | WRANG Frederic           | 0.31  | 256 | BB | Sweden               |
| BAKHSI David             | TOWNSEND Tom             | 0.29  | 255 | BB | England              |
| LEE Nok Yin              | WAI Cf                   | 0.28  | 272 | BB | China Hong Kong      |
| BYRNE Michael            | DYKE Kieran              | 0.24  | 224 | BB | England              |
| EL AHMADY Waleed         | AMIRY Reda               | 0.20  | 224 | BB | Egypt                |
| RIMSTEDT Mikael          | RIMSTEDT Ola             | 0.19  | 272 | BB | Sweden               |
| BROGELAND Boye           | BAKKE Christian          | 0.18  | 239 | BB | Norway               |
| LEVIN Bobby              | WEINSTEIN Steve          | 0.16  | 288 | BB | U.S.A.               |
| AA Terje                 | LIVGARD Allan            | 0.16  | 208 | BB | Norway               |
| CORNELL Michael          | BACH Ashley              | 0.07  | 272 | BB | New Zealand          |
| MARTINEZ Roberto         | MINUTTI Guillermo        | 0.07  | 144 | BB | Uruguay              |
| GOWER Craig              | APTEKER Alon             | 0.04  | 256 | BB | South Africa         |
| L'ECUYER Nicolas         | MARCINSKI Zygmunt        | 0.04  | 304 | BB | Canada               |
| EBER Neville             | FICK Hennie              | -0.03 | 272 | BB | South Africa         |
| GERIN Dominique          | PELLETIER Jean-Claude    | -0.03 | 272 | BB | Guadeloupe           |
| EL-SELEHDAR Aly          | NAYER Ahmed              | -0.04 | 256 | BB | Egypt                |
| TISLEVOLL Geir-Olav      | JACOB Nick               | -0.05 | 224 | BB | New Zealand          |
| ANKLESARIA Keyzad        | TEWARI Rajeshwar         | -0.08 | 240 | BB | India                |
| COUTTS James             | MILNE Liam               | -0.11 | 192 | BB | Australia            |
| TSONCHEV Ivan            | MARASHEV Vladimir        | -0.13 | 256 | BB | Bulgaria             |
| THAKRAL Sandeep          | SHIVDASANI Jaggy         | -0.16 | 237 | BB | India                |
| SZE Shun Sum Alan        | CHIU Wai-Lap Abby        | -0.20 | 240 | BB | China Hong Kong      |
| GRAVERSEN Hans Christian | CASPERSEN Henrik         | -0.21 | 192 | BB | Denmark              |
| VANCHEV Angel            | ZAHARIEV Zahari          | -0.23 | 240 | BB | Bulgaria             |
| SAMIR Ahmed              | RAMADAN Baher            | -0.25 | 256 | BB | Egypt                |
| FOURCAUDOT Marc-Andre    | FERGANI Kamel            | -0.26 | 160 | BB | Canada               |
| MINUTTI Guillermo        | GRANA Elena Maria        | -0.28 | 64  | BB | Uruguay              |
| TAN Gideon               | TAN Sock Ngin            | -0.32 | 256 | BB | Singapore            |
| HERBST Ilan              | HERBST Ophir             | -0.42 | 176 | BB | Israel               |
| WHIBLEY Michael          | BROWN Matthew            | -0.49 | 240 | BB | New Zealand          |
| MATHIEU Philippe         | SOUDAN Luc               | -0.53 | 320 | BB | Guadeloupe           |
| IP Yu-Cheung             | MO Yee Sum               | -0.58 | 224 | BB | China Hong Kong      |
| ATTEF Hesham             | MOUSA Mohamed            | -0.59 | 80  | BB | United Arab Emirates |
| LAVEE Daniel             | FREEMAN Jacob            | -0.68 | 272 | BB | Canada               |
| GRANT James              | CHEMALY Larry            | -0.70 | 208 | BB | South Africa         |
| MEHILBA Abdelrahim       | GHONEIM Hazem            | -0.74 | 272 | BB | United Arab Emirates |
| ZONCA Martin Ignacio     | TISCORNIA Fernando       | -0.77 | 256 | BB | Argentina            |
| MARTINEZ Roberto         | ROSSOLINO Jorge Daniel   | -0.85 | 189 | BB | Uruguay              |
| EISSA TAMER              | MOUSA Mohamed            | -1.03 | 208 | BB | United Arab Emirates |
| MINUTTI Guillermo        | ROSSOLINO Jorge Daniel   | -1.09 | 32  | BB | Uruguay              |
| SUGIHARTO Sugiharto      | GREGORY Christopher      | -1.16 | 240 | BB | Singapore            |
| ALMADI Akeil             | ATTEF Hesham             | -1.19 | 128 | BB | United Arab Emirates |
| ZUMEL Gerardo Enrique    | GRINBERG Martin Bernardo | -1.24 | 224 | BB | Argentina            |
| NUNEZ Ramiro             | SEMBEROIZ Santiago       | -1.48 | 240 | BB | Argentina            |
| MAGGS Derek              | NG Chun Tat              | -1.51 | 240 | BB | Singapore            |
| JACUBOVSKI Vivian        | GRANA Elena Maria        | -1.58 | 189 | BB | Uruguay              |
| TISCORNIA Fernando       | ZUMEL Gerardo Enrique    | -1.94 | 16  | BB | Argentina            |
| ARAGONES Rene            | GUSTAVE Eugene           | -2.13 | 144 | BB | Guadeloupe           |
| JACUBOVSKI Vivian        | MINUTTI Guillermo        | -2.14 | 112 | BB | Uruguay              |
| EISSA TAMER              | ATTEF Hesham             | -2.31 | 16  | BB | United Arab Emirates |



# BUTLER RANKING

## VENICE CUP

|                            |                            |       |     |    |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------|-----|----|----------------------|
| GUERRAOUI Farida           | LAHLOU Fatim               | 1.50  | 16  | VC | Morocco              |
| BALDYSZ Cathy              | BALDYSZ Sophia             | 1.22  | 240 | VC | Poland               |
| PAOLUZI Simonetta          | CHAVARRIA Margherita       | 0.88  | 304 | VC | Italy                |
| SARNIAK Anna               | KAZMUCHA Danuta            | 0.86  | 240 | VC | Poland               |
| OZBAY Irem                 | OZGUR Hatice               | 0.83  | 256 | VC | Turkey               |
| DUFRAT Katarzyna           | ZALEWSKA Joanna            | 0.78  | 256 | VC | Poland               |
| BAKER Lynn                 | McCALLUM Karen             | 0.70  | 224 | VC | U.S.A.               |
| DRAPER Catherine           | FAWCETT Gillian            | 0.69  | 240 | VC | England              |
| VIST Gunn Tove             | HESKJE Torild              | 0.67  | 256 | VC | Norway               |
| LARSSON Jessica            | BERTHEAU Kathrine          | 0.63  | 256 | VC | Sweden               |
| HALLQVIST Louise           | JOHANSSON Ylva             | 0.61  | 208 | VC | Sweden               |
| BILDE Lone                 | RASMUSSEN Helle            | 0.57  | 320 | VC | Denmark              |
| BROCK Sally                | BROWN Fiona                | 0.52  | 256 | VC | England              |
| POLLACK Rozanne            | BJERKAN Cheri              | 0.50  | 256 | VC | U.S.A.               |
| SEAMON-MOLSON Janice       | RIMSTEDT Sandra            | 0.48  | 256 | VC | U.S.A.               |
| HEGEDUS Orsolya            | FISCHER Brigitta           | 0.46  | 256 | VC | Hungary              |
| DHONDY Heather             | SENIOR Nevena              | 0.45  | 240 | VC | England              |
| LIN Amber                  | KOLESNIK Emma              | 0.40  | 221 | VC | U.S.A.               |
| HUGON Elisabeth            | AVON Danielle              | 0.31  | 256 | VC | France               |
| GROMANN Ingrid             | WENNING Karin              | 0.29  | 224 | VC | Germany              |
| PISCITELLI Francesca       | SACCAVINI Ilaria           | 0.29  | 176 | VC | Italy                |
| CUMPSTONE Karen            | EATON Joan                 | 0.24  | 224 | VC | Canada               |
| GUERRAOUI Farida           | HACHIMI Hayet              | 0.21  | 270 | VC | Morocco              |
| SMITH Julie                | HARRIS Judy                | 0.20  | 256 | VC | Canada               |
| BILDE Dorte Cilleborg      | BUUS THOMSEN Anita         | 0.20  | 288 | VC | Denmark              |
| GOMBERT Sylvie             | HALFON Donatella           | 0.19  | 272 | VC | France               |
| OVELIUS Emma               | CLEMENTSSON Sanna          | 0.18  | 272 | VC | Sweden               |
| MOSKOVSKY Ellena           | JACOB Ella                 | 0.17  | 224 | VC | Australia            |
| MEYERS Jill                | SANBORN Kerri              | 0.14  | 256 | VC | U.S.A.               |
| BILDE Trine                | KOCH-PALMUND Charlotte     | 0.14  | 128 | VC | Denmark              |
| WENNEVOLD Ida              | HELNESS Gunn               | 0.14  | 208 | VC | Norway               |
| OZAN Eren                  | KANDOLU Ozlem              | 0.13  | 224 | VC | Turkey               |
| HARDING Marianne           | FUGLESTAD Ann Karin        | 0.13  | 272 | VC | Norway               |
| BURATTI Monica             | AGHEMO Monica              | 0.07  | 255 | VC | Italy                |
| CLEMENT Muriel             | LEVY Anne-Frederique       | 0.04  | 208 | VC | France               |
| SYMONS Anne                | PUNCH Sam                  | 0.03  | 288 | VC | Scotland             |
| PREVIDE Maria Cecilia      | ESPINOSA-PAZ Maria Jose    | 0.01  | 256 | VC | Argentina            |
| CAUWELS Sylvie             | USKUP Burcu                | -0.01 | 240 | VC | Belgium              |
| DORIA Lucia                | PONCIONI Graca             | -0.02 | 256 | VC | Brazil               |
| HOMSY Marguerite           | WATTAR Nada                | -0.04 | 237 | VC | Egypt                |
| OLIVEIRA Anabela           | DE MAGALHAES PEREIRA Ana   | -0.06 | 368 | VC | Portugal             |
| McGOWAN Elizabeth (Liz)    | McQUAKER Fiona             | -0.06 | 256 | VC | Scotland             |
| YAVAS Dilek                | KURANOGLU Serap            | -0.06 | 255 | VC | Turkey               |
| NISBET Pamela              | BRYANT Brenda              | -0.08 | 256 | VC | Canada               |
| LAJOS Hanka                | SZUCS Villo                | -0.11 | 256 | VC | Hungary              |
| CASTELLS Laura             | CASTELLS Marina            | -0.11 | 240 | VC | Spain                |
| VANDEBOSSCHE Caroline      | STAS Marie-Francoise       | -0.14 | 269 | VC | Belgium              |
| COUTEAUX Antonella         | TOPIOL Yael                | -0.15 | 221 | VC | Belgium              |
| GREENWOOD Fiona            | PALMER Julia               | -0.16 | 192 | VC | Scotland             |
| KRIFTNER Susanne           | PLATH Mieke                | -0.17 | 240 | VC | Germany              |
| DE MELLO Sylvia Figueira   | VARGAS DE ANDRADE Isabella | -0.22 | 240 | VC | Brazil               |
| HERRERA Florencia          | ALEGRE Eleonora            | -0.32 | 256 | VC | Argentina            |
| KAPLAN Rena                | MUNDELL Giselle            | -0.32 | 256 | VC | Australia            |
| QUINN Shawn                | WITTES Pam                 | -0.33 | 253 | VC | U.S.A.               |
| HUMPHRIES Susan            | BRAKE Jessica              | -0.34 | 256 | VC | Australia            |
| FERNANDEZ Margarita        | DE LORENZO Paula           | -0.34 | 240 | VC | Spain                |
| LEITAO Mariana             | RUSSO Rita                 | -0.34 | 368 | VC | Portugal             |
| HAMDY Nessrine             | TAYMOUR ARABI Nadia        | -0.35 | 240 | VC | Egypt                |
| HERNANDEZ Maria Eugenia    | MESTRES Montserrat         | -0.36 | 255 | VC | Spain                |
| SHAH Vasanti               | DEY Bharati                | -0.51 | 256 | VC | India                |
| KABBAJ Leila               | MARRAKCHI Khadija          | -0.51 | 254 | VC | Morocco              |
| SOLIMAN Hoda               | ELAWADY Dina               | -0.57 | 254 | VC | Egypt                |
| TICHY Eszter               | ZALAI Agnes                | -0.67 | 224 | VC | Hungary              |
| SMYKALLA Gisela            | DELLA MONTA Annaig         | -0.72 | 272 | VC | Germany              |
| KOCHAR Rubinder Kaur       | LAW Manju                  | -0.74 | 272 | VC | United Arab Emirates |
| MENEZES Lucia              | VIDIGAL Ana Carolina       | -0.82 | 240 | VC | Brazil               |
| AGGARWAL Anshu             | VALRANI Vandana            | -0.84 | 208 | VC | United Arab Emirates |
| BATRA Puja                 | SHARMA Asha                | -0.90 | 240 | VC | India                |
| PAILHE Maria Celia         | FOSSATI Susana Mirta       | -0.93 | 224 | VC | Argentina            |
| WALIA Rupinder Kaur        | KUMAR Kumkum               | -1.08 | 256 | VC | United Arab Emirates |
| T'KINT DE ROODENBEKE Cathy | LAHLOU Fatim               | -1.18 | 176 | VC | Morocco              |
| CHOTHIA Feroza             | SAIN Apama                 | -1.20 | 240 | VC | India                |
| MARRAKCHI Khadija          | LAHLOU Fatim               | -1.88 | 16  | VC | Morocco              |

**BUTLER RANKING****D'ORSI TROPHY**

|                          |                              |       |     |     |             |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-------------|
| RERHAYE Abdelkamal       | EL GHRARI Abdellah           | 1.75  | 16  | DOT | Morocco     |
| CAMBEROS Hector          | LUCENA Carlos                | 1.03  | 112 | DOT | Argentina   |
| WOLD Eddie               | LEVINE Mike                  | 0.91  | 127 | DOT | U.S.A.      |
| INCE Mehmet Ali          | KOKTEN Namik                 | 0.78  | 160 | DOT | Turkey      |
| MAHMOOD Zia              | MECKSTROTH Jeff              | 0.77  | 320 | DOT | U.S.A.      |
| KWIECIEN Michal          | STARKOWSKI Wlodzimierz       | 0.65  | 320 | DOT | Poland      |
| WOOLSEY Kit              | BRAMLEY Bart                 | 0.59  | 256 | DOT | U.S.A.      |
| PASSELL Mike             | LAIR Mark                    | 0.55  | 288 | DOT | U.S.A.      |
| WENNEBERG Bjorn          | SELLDEN Goran                | 0.53  | 240 | DOT | Sweden      |
| SCHOU Steen              | HANSEN Jorgen Cilleborg      | 0.52  | 240 | DOT | Denmark     |
| KARADENIZ Mesut          | INCE Mehmet Ali              | 0.48  | 48  | DOT | Turkey      |
| SAHA Subrata             | DAS Sukamal                  | 0.47  | 272 | DOT | India       |
| KOCH-PALMUND Dennis      | ADAMSEN Klaus                | 0.47  | 240 | DOT | Denmark     |
| MARKOWICZ Victor         | MOSZCZYNSKI Krzysztof        | 0.45  | 144 | DOT | Poland      |
| NEDELICHEV Zlatko        | SIMEONOV Krasimir            | 0.44  | 240 | DOT | Bulgaria    |
| SOULET Philippe          | BOMPIS Marc                  | 0.41  | 272 | DOT | France      |
| MARILL Philippe          | PILON Dominique              | 0.40  | 192 | DOT | France      |
| LUCENA Carlos            | FORNASARI Walter             | 0.39  | 192 | DOT | Argentina   |
| LORENTZ Gabi             | BURGESS Stephen              | 0.36  | 256 | DOT | Australia   |
| FRYDENBERG Odd A.        | EIDE Lars                    | 0.36  | 256 | DOT | Norway      |
| ELMROTH Gunnar           | ELIASSON Per Gunnar          | 0.35  | 256 | DOT | Sweden      |
| FAILLA Giuseppe          | BURATTI Andrea               | 0.35  | 240 | DOT | Italy       |
| DALAL Rajesh             | PADHYE Anil                  | 0.35  | 272 | DOT | India       |
| HUSSAIN Mirza Shauq      | IBRAHIM Kamran               | 0.34  | 128 | DOT | Pakistan    |
| HACKETT Paul D           | SENIOR Brian                 | 0.31  | 256 | DOT | England     |
| ABECASSIS Michel         | LEVY Alain                   | 0.29  | 272 | DOT | France      |
| HARGREAVES Mike          | McORMOND Gordon              | 0.28  | 256 | DOT | Canada      |
| JORGENSEN Adalsteinn     | ASBJORNSSON Asgeir           | 0.27  | 256 | DOT | Iceland     |
| SCHALTZ Dorte            | SCHALTZ Peter                | 0.25  | 256 | DOT | Denmark     |
| HRISTOV Hristo           | STOYANOV Alexandar           | 0.24  | 256 | DOT | Bulgaria    |
| POPOV Ilko               | BARANTIEV Nikola             | 0.22  | 240 | DOT | Bulgaria    |
| INCE Mehmet Ali          | EKINCI Orhan                 | 0.21  | 112 | DOT | Turkey      |
| SCHILHART Norbert        | BUCHLEV Nedju                | 0.18  | 272 | DOT | Germany     |
| HASSETT John             | HOLLAND John                 | 0.16  | 240 | DOT | England     |
| JONSSON Thorlakur        | INGASON Haukur               | 0.16  | 256 | DOT | Iceland     |
| JOHNSON David            | STAS Jacques                 | 0.16  | 208 | DOT | Belgium     |
| KOWALSKI Apolinary       | ROMANSKI Jacek               | 0.15  | 272 | DOT | Poland      |
| HANNA Nader              | RAYNER John                  | 0.15  | 256 | DOT | Canada      |
| MORATH Anders            | OSTBERG Johnny               | 0.14  | 240 | DOT | Sweden      |
| MIKKELSEN Jan            | FARSTAD Arve                 | 0.11  | 240 | DOT | Norway      |
| MORSE Dan                | RAJADHYAKSHA Pratap          | 0.11  | 224 | DOT | U.S.A.      |
| KOZAKOS George           | SMOLANKO George              | 0.09  | 224 | DOT | Australia   |
| BAXTER Doug              | LINDOP David                 | 0.08  | 224 | DOT | Canada      |
| VAN ELJCK Willem         | GOSSCHALK Willem             | 0.06  | 256 | DOT | Netherlands |
| CAMBEROS Hector          | FORNASARI Walter             | 0.05  | 63  | DOT | Argentina   |
| MULDER Andre             | KOLEN Jan                    | 0.02  | 256 | DOT | Netherlands |
| HAMMAN Bob               | WEICHSEL Peter               | -0.01 | 256 | DOT | U.S.A.      |
| KAPLAN Alain             | POLET Guy                    | -0.02 | 256 | DOT | Belgium     |
| PULGA Ruggero            | MINA Aldo                    | -0.02 | 256 | DOT | Italy       |
| AVCIOGLU Huseyin Kerem   | ZORLU Nafiz                  | -0.03 | 320 | DOT | Turkey      |
| HERMANNSSON Gudmundur S. | EYSTEINSSON Bjorn            | -0.03 | 224 | DOT | Iceland     |
| CAMBEROS Hector          | LAMBARDI Pablo               | -0.03 | 144 | DOT | Argentina   |
| MAZHAR Masood            | BANDESHA Muhammad Ghalib Ali | -0.06 | 176 | DOT | Pakistan    |
| SABBATINI Stefano        | COMELLA Amedeo               | -0.08 | 240 | DOT | Italy       |
| COENRAETS Philippe       | BIGDELI Faramarz             | -0.08 | 272 | DOT | Belgium     |
| KRISHNAN Ramratnam       | GOEL Ashok Kumar             | -0.11 | 192 | DOT | India       |
| IBRAHIM Kamran           | BANDESHA Muhammad Ghalib Ali | -0.13 | 32  | DOT | Pakistan    |
| HUSSAIN Mirza Shauq      | MAHMOOD Zakir                | -0.16 | 208 | DOT | Pakistan    |
| WENNING Ulrich           | FRERICHS Hans                | -0.20 | 224 | DOT | Germany     |
| MAZHAR Masood            | IBRAHIM Kamran               | -0.22 | 96  | DOT | Pakistan    |
| MOSSOP David             | HALLBERG Gunnar              | -0.28 | 239 | DOT | England     |
| BERRADA Mohammed Said    | BENSOUA Khalil               | -0.31 | 32  | DOT | Morocco     |
| MAHMOOD Zakir            | IBRAHIM Kamran               | -0.38 | 32  | DOT | Pakistan    |
| LAMBARDI Pablo           | MACRI Mauricio               | -0.38 | 224 | DOT | Argentina   |
| MARSAL Reiner            | KLUMPP Herbert               | -0.41 | 240 | DOT | Germany     |
| TUWANAKOTTA Tjali        | VERHEES Jan                  | -0.42 | 224 | DOT | Netherlands |
| METWALLI Tarek           | ALI EL-BASSUNI Mokhtar       | -0.48 | 223 | DOT | Egypt       |
| JOHNSEN Sverre           | STOKKELAND Aasmund           | -0.51 | 240 | DOT | Norway      |
| RERHAYE Abdelkamal       | BERRADA Mohammed Said        | -0.51 | 224 | DOT | Morocco     |
| LAVINGS Paul             | KROCHMALIK Robert            | -0.53 | 256 | DOT | Australia   |
| KARADENIZ Mesut          | EKINCI Orhan                 | -0.66 | 96  | DOT | Turkey      |
| PROTO Luis Carlos        | OLIVEIRA Horacio             | -0.68 | 240 | DOT | Brazil      |
| BELKOUCH Abdellatif      | EL GHRARI Abdellah           | -0.69 | 253 | DOT | Morocco     |
| AZZAM Ayman              | FARRAG Amr                   | -0.70 | 272 | DOT | Egypt       |
| MELLO Gustavo            | LA ROVERE Emilio             | -0.86 | 256 | DOT | Brazil      |
| CORREA Orlando           | DE ASSIS Francisco           | -0.87 | 240 | DOT | Brazil      |
| SALIB Samir              | AKL Rawya                    | -0.94 | 224 | DOT | Egypt       |
| CAMBOURNAC Guy           | BENSOUA Khalil               | -0.94 | 208 | DOT | Morocco     |
| METWALLI Tarek           | AKL Rawya                    | -1.06 | 16  | DOT | Egypt       |
| GILLIOCQ Philippe        | MONDOR Françoise             | -1.20 | 256 | DOT | Guadeloupe  |
| THIRION Christiane       | GARCIA Anne                  | -1.20 | 256 | DOT | Guadeloupe  |
| MAZHAR Masood            | MAHMOOD Zakir                | -1.22 | 64  | DOT | Pakistan    |
| ARAGONES Michele         | BAERT Christine              | -1.28 | 221 | DOT | Guadeloupe  |





# BUTLER RANKING

## WUHAN CUP

|                             |                         |       |     |    |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-----|----|-------------|
| SOBOLEWSKA Ewa              | NOWAK Kamil             | 1.02  | 256 | WC | Poland      |
| DEWASME Isabelle            | DEHAYE Bernard          | 0.90  | 272 | WC | Belgium     |
| REESS Vanessa               | SEBBANE Lionel          | 0.84  | 240 | WC | France      |
| CARCASSONNE-LABAERE Valerie | LABAERE Alain           | 0.80  | 288 | WC | Belgium     |
| GROMOELLER Michael          | GLADIATOR Anne          | 0.70  | 176 | WC | Germany     |
| ROSENBERG Debbie            | ROSENTHAL Andrew        | 0.69  | 192 | WC | U.S.A.      |
| CIMA Leonardo               | DESSI Barbara           | 0.68  | 240 | WC | Italy       |
| RUBINS Karlis               | ALFEJEVA Jelena         | 0.68  | 336 | WC | Latvia      |
| IONITA Marius               | STEGAROIU Marina        | 0.67  | 303 | WC | Romania     |
| EYTHORSDDOTTIR Hjordis      | ITABASHI Mark           | 0.64  | 272 | WC | U.S.A.      |
| RANKIN Pele                 | FISCHER Stephen         | 0.63  | 272 | WC | Australia   |
| CRONIER Philippe            | CRONIER Benedicte       | 0.62  | 240 | WC | France      |
| SAKOWSKA Natalia            | BUTRYN Piotr            | 0.61  | 240 | WC | Poland      |
| ZOCHOWSKA Joanna            | SCHMIDT Pierre          | 0.59  | 256 | WC | France      |
| GONCALVES PEREIRA Paulo     | ROSADO Alexandra        | 0.57  | 239 | WC | Portugal    |
| GINOSSAR Eldad              | BERKOWITZ Dana          | 0.57  | 272 | WC | U.S.A.      |
| ZUR-CAMPANILE Migry         | WILLENKEN Chris         | 0.55  | 272 | WC | U.S.A.      |
| BUUS THOMSEN Signe          | JEPSEN Peter            | 0.53  | 303 | WC | Denmark     |
| ATTANASIO Dario             | MANARA Gabriella        | 0.43  | 239 | WC | Italy       |
| HENNEBERG Marlene           | HENNEBERG Jens Ove      | 0.33  | 144 | WC | Denmark     |
| MIHAI Geta                  | MIHAI Radu              | 0.31  | 224 | WC | Romania     |
| VERDEGAAL Renee             | THIELE Mark             | 0.29  | 256 | WC | Netherlands |
| ZORIC Vedran                | SVER Nikica             | 0.26  | 288 | WC | Croatia     |
| EGGELING Marie              | GRUENKE Paul            | 0.26  | 288 | WC | Germany     |
| MORARU Dan                  | BALINT Mihaela          | 0.25  | 206 | WC | Romania     |
| VAN CLEEFF Jan              | WITVLIET Marina         | 0.23  | 256 | WC | Netherlands |
| BARONI Irene                | GANDOGLIA Alessandro    | 0.19  | 255 | WC | Italy       |
| GRZEJZIAK Igor              | GRZEJZIAK Sabina        | 0.17  | 240 | WC | Poland      |
| ROMANOVSKA Maija            | ILZINS Janis            | 0.17  | 272 | WC | Latvia      |
| STAMERE Zita                | LORENCS Martins         | 0.16  | 128 | WC | Latvia      |
| TAL Noga                    | PACHTMAN Ron            | 0.15  | 256 | WC | Israel      |
| PILIPOVIC Marina            | STANICIC Ognjen         | 0.09  | 256 | WC | Croatia     |
| GHANEM Marwan               | BARAKAT Sireen          | 0.07  | 367 | WC | Jordan      |
| HAEUSLER Helmut             | VON ARNIM Daniela       | 0.06  | 272 | WC | Germany     |
| BASARAN Berk                | ELMAS Tuna              | 0.06  | 256 | WC | Turkey      |
| ZACK Yaniv                  | BENIN-BARR Ronnie       | 0.05  | 224 | WC | Israel      |
| KOLATA Suleyman             | AKDAS Selen Buke        | 0.02  | 240 | WC | Turkey      |
| BAREKET Ilan                | SAADA Nathalie          | 0.00  | 240 | WC | Israel      |
| SCHIPPERS-BOSKLOPPER Elly   | STIENEN Rene            | 0.00  | 224 | WC | Netherlands |
| PELLEGRINI Carlos           | ROCCA Silvina           | -0.02 | 304 | WC | Argentina   |
| KREFELD Camilla Bo          | HAMMELEV Johan          | -0.02 | 287 | WC | Denmark     |
| BARBOSA Juliano             | PESSOA Sofia            | -0.02 | 302 | WC | Portugal    |
| BEAUCHAMP David             | TUTTY Jodi              | -0.04 | 256 | WC | Australia   |
| FULLER Leone                | FULLER Trevor           | -0.04 | 208 | WC | Australia   |
| LOW Siok Hui                | LIM Ee Xian Kennneth    | -0.05 | 254 | WC | Singapore   |
| HISHMAT Mohamed             | ABU-GHAZALEH Amina      | -0.05 | 272 | WC | Egypt       |
| KHANDELWAL Rajeev           | KHANDELWAL Himani       | -0.06 | 256 | WC | India       |
| POLESCHI Ricardo            | FERRERO Laura Margarita | -0.07 | 224 | WC | Argentina   |
| LEWIS Linda                 | LEWIS Paul              | -0.09 | 224 | WC | U.S.A.      |
| ANGELERI Ricardo            | ELKIN Irene             | -0.19 | 208 | WC | Argentina   |
| SATYANARAYANA Bachiraju     | NADAR Kiran             | -0.23 | 256 | WC | India       |
| SALLAM Manal                | HAMMAM Moaz             | -0.26 | 256 | WC | Egypt       |
| KARMARKAR Marianne          | KARMARKAR Sandeep       | -0.29 | 224 | WC | India       |
| VALDES Juan Pablo           | YANEZ Camila            | -0.30 | 302 | WC | Chile       |
| DAUWE Gunther               | DOBBELS Tine            | -0.36 | 176 | WC | Belgium     |
| SMITH Ron                   | KAMENOVA Ljudmila       | -0.39 | 240 | WC | U.S.A.      |
| ONG Yisheng Kelvin          | YEO Hui Teng            | -0.42 | 208 | WC | Singapore   |
| DE CARVALHO Joao Paes       | BRITO Ana               | -0.50 | 191 | WC | Portugal    |
| ALRAWASHDEH Samer           | TAMBULAT Farah          | -0.53 | 368 | WC | Jordan      |
| ATES Ebru                   | OZBAY Tolga             | -0.53 | 240 | WC | Turkey      |
| BRKJLJACIC Tihana           | MESTRIC Mate            | -0.56 | 192 | WC | Croatia     |
| ONG Jazlene                 | TEO Sean                | -0.60 | 270 | WC | Singapore   |
| BEN ABDELMALAK Hassouna     | TRABELSI Ferdaous       | -0.76 | 80  | WC | Tunisia     |
| SMITH Jack                  | MOLINA Diana            | -0.81 | 350 | WC | Chile       |
| DALDOUL DORAI Meriem        | TRABELSI Abdeljelil     | -1.03 | 80  | WC | Tunisia     |
| GUIROLA Maria Lily          | SPINOLA Sergio          | -1.12 | 222 | WC | Guatemala   |
| MOHAMED AHMED Ahmed         | MANDILI Fatima          | -1.14 | 208 | WC | Egypt       |
| SPINOLA ASTURIAS Andres     | BRAUN Carolyn           | -1.25 | 253 | WC | Guatemala   |
| TEPEDINO Fernando           | RUEFENACHT Marianne     | -1.39 | 255 | WC | Guatemala   |
| TRABELSI Ferdaous           | TRABELSI Abdeljelil     | -1.45 | 190 | WC | Tunisia     |
| BACCAR Hedia                | DAGHMOURI Moncef        | -1.53 | 206 | WC | Tunisia     |
| CARACCI Marcelo             | CUEVAS Loreto           | -1.63 | 80  | WC | Chile       |
| BEN ABDELMALAK Hassouna     | DALDOUL DORAI Meriem    | -1.68 | 176 | WC | Tunisia     |
| ZACK Yaniv                  | SAADA Nathalie          | -3.69 | 16  | WC | Israel      |