

# 45TH WORLD 2021 BRIDGE



## TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



# DAILY BULLETIN

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Saturday, 9 April 2022 (evening). Issue No 14.

## THRILLS AND SPILLS IN THE RACE FOR GOLD



**BERMUDA BOWL** 1<sup>st</sup> place: SWITZERLAND  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: NETHERLANDS

In the Venice Cup Turkey regained some ground in the fourth set, but Sweden pulled away decisively in the next one to retain their crown (or should we say tiara).



**VENICE CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> place: SWEDEN  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: TURKEY



**D'ORSI TROPHY** 1<sup>st</sup> place: POLAND  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: INDIA

It was a similar story in the d'Orsi Trophy where India gained points in the first session of the day only to see Poland sweep them aside in the next one.



**WUHAN CUP** 1<sup>st</sup> place: FRANCE  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: USA1

The Wuhan Cup was a closer affair, but France picked up points in sets 4 & 5 and maintained their advantage in the last session. The centerpiece was the magnificent contest between the Netherlands and Switzerland, the lead changing hands several times. A thrilling final session saw both sides miss chances, but at the end it was Switzerland who emerged as the winners of one of the great Bermuda Bowl finals.

SALON MAGGIORE TERME 2022  
MARCH 27TH APRIL 9TH



# WBF PRESIDENT FAREWELL



Dear Friends,

we tried our best and we managed to get to the end despite the adversities we had to face. This is a success for all of us together.

You, the players. With your behaviour and understanding you have made all the difficult decisions we have had to make much easier, by sharing them and always giving us your support. The WBF and me personally, we all are infinitely grateful. Once again friendship, solidarity and the communion of intents have enhanced the essence of bridge which is not just competition, but the pleasure of being together, of rejoicing together. Thank you!

Our wonderful staff who did their utmost, without sparing efforts, with enthusiasm and dedication, to make the conduct of the championship comfortable, despite the restrictions and the events that have taken place. Our staff with its professionalism and competence has always been our flagship. Let me proudly say that the staff have outdone themselves this time and I am convinced that you share this thought with me.

Of course the City of Salsomaggiore, which has worked with all its strength to accommodate us in the most worthy way, at the height of its great tradition. And this is even more admirable, if you only think that the city has not yet completely emerged from the serious crisis that has gripped it for more than two years, due to the cursed pandemic that does not seem to want to stop haunting us. Thank you Salsomaggiore, thank you Mister Mayor, a big hug from all of us.

I want to express my gratitude to my friends and colleagues on the Championship Committee and the Medical Commission. They did an exemplary job, without giving up, even when unfortunately it was necessary to make difficult decisions to safeguard the well-being and safety of all participants. Thank you Jan, Marc, David, Maurizio, Antonio, Michela, Gianluca, Paolo, Claudio, Giovanni, Jaap, Arianna, Marina. We are proud of you.

Last but not least I want to congratulate the medallists. Well done! But never more than today does it seem like there is no loser, everyone is a winner of this event that marks the resumption of our bridge life and our beloved discipline. As a symbol of this championship I am pleased to select Sanna Clementsson who today, at the age of 21 achieved the title of World Grand Master, the youngest ever in the history of bridge.

I also want to extend a grateful and affectionate thought to Eddie Kantar who unfortunately left us just today. Eddie was a great personality, one of the greatest champions who walked the bridge stage, whose memory will accompany us forever.

We are at the end, the curtain falls. We celebrate closure in an unusual way, with rigor and no frills, but our heart is full of joy, more than many other times, when we were surrounded by lights and sounds, because all together we managed to win a great battle. And this is and will remain a point of pride for our entire bridge life.

Thank you dear Friends, have a safe trip back home with a great memory and see all of you all in Wroclaw for the forthcoming World Bridge Series.

Un abbraccio  
Gianarrigo



# THE MANY FACES OF FU MANCHU

After more than two years, it was a pleasure to have the privilege of reporting on the resumption of World Championship play. From the many comments I have received it appears you enjoyed the efforts of our team of writers. **David The Abbot Bird** headed our all-star cast. His European co-stars were **Marc Smith**, **Jos Jacobs**, **Ron Tacchi** and Australia's **David Stern** made a special guest appearance. They all worked long (and at time unsocial) hours to provide you with coverage of the championships. My right-hand man (literally, as he occupied the appropriate chair) was our American cousin **Barry Rigal**, who, despite an ever-present back pain was able to both write, edit and proof-read. He also picked up the special award for the most coffees delivered to the Bulletin Room. On my left was **Herman De wael**, who would have walked away with the Oscar for best supporting role had one been on offer. Along with Barry he was responsible for making sure that the Bulletins were as error free as possible. Making his debut at these championships, **Claudio Fossati** was our brilliant photographer – watch out for his next appearance! Press Room Manager **Jan Swaan** provided some vital assistance – apart from anything else he had a printer! As is traditional, I have saved the best till last. **Francesca Canali** is (adapting a line from *Singing in the Rain*) 'a shimmering, glowing star in the bridge bulletin firmament' who would walk away with a host of awards, not least the one for Best Production of a Daily Bulletin.

*The World shall hear from us again.*

## FINAL

### BERMUDA BOWL

	c/o	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	TOT
SWITZERLAND	1.4	40	18	35	37	13	24	167
NETHERLANDS	0	36	37	24	22	24	19	164

### VENICE CUP

	c/o	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	TOT
SWEDEN	0	54	39	15	31	62	52	253
TURKEY	0	18	17	28	46	30	31	170

### D'ORSI TROPHY

	c/o	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	TOT
INDIA	0	29	34	24	44	28	35	194
POLAND	0	47	44	39	34	57	18	239

### WUHAN CUP

	c/o	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	TOT
FRANCE	1	44	38	24	43	30	19	199
USA1	0	46	27	13	39	18	20	163

**Ana Roth**

# FACE TO FACE - JAN KAMRAS

*Hello everybody, April 7, 2022. We are in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy at the World Bridge Teams Championships and today we are with Jan Kamras EBL (European Bridge League) president. Hi, thank you for being here.*

## **Can you introduce yourself?**

My name is Jan Kamras. I am a Swede, I am 71 years old, and I'm a widower. I live presently between summers. I live in Sweden and during the winters in Israel. I used to be a physical commodities trader and, I retired a number of years ago and now I am devoting myself fully to bridge matters.

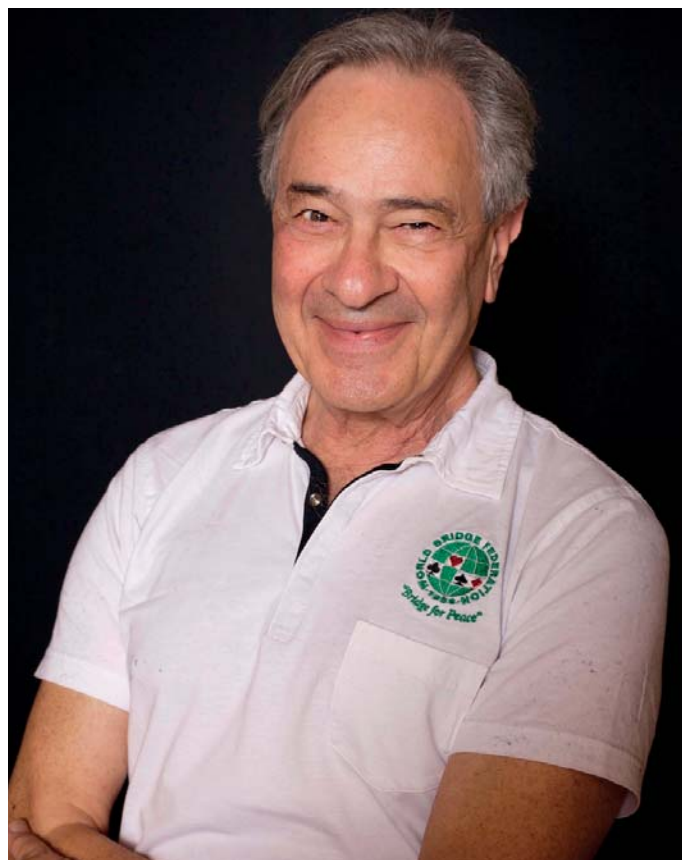
## **How and when did you started to play bridge?**

My father was a very strong Swedish national team player and, you know, I was happy to be able to accompany him as a young teenager when he played tournaments and rubber bridge. And so, I started playing relatively early, but I never played, very much, because of work and studies. But when I started to play, I played a lot of international bridge, not very frequently with my father but with a lot of other Swedish players. My most important results were probably one of the Swedish team championships in 2000. And I was runner up in 2011 and 2012. And then I won the Zimmerman trophy, in Monaco. I can't remember which year, but, since I wasn't good enough to play on the national team, I started, as non-playing captain and as selector for the Swedish national team in those days. Still today, Sweden uses the benevolent dictator form of selection. So, we basically always had the strongest team that we can have.

So, that is what I did between 2000 to 2010, then, I was elected, Sweden NBO Vice-President/President from 2005 to 2015. And in 2010, I was elected to the EBL executive board and where I have been ever since and elected president in 2018.

## **So, you answered my next question then. How did you pass from player to administrator?**

I never played enough, because I was too busy with work and other things. But, I was always hanging around the national teams at all championships, basically since 1985, more or less here in Salsomaggiore. I became interested, I mean, I've always loved the game... If I could give back by helping to administrate, since I had strong ideas about many things. And, you know that if you have strong ideas and want to influence things, you have to be on the inside.



## **And what was your first administrator position?**

The first was in the Swedish Federation, on the board as a vice-president in 2000.

## **What was your main goal, when you decided to start your administrator career? What were the things you wanted to change?**

I wanted to try to modernize the administration, making it more efficient, less expensive, more transparent and, more democracy in the board, sometime it's not such a strong part of most administrations.

## **Let's talk about your actual position. EBL president. How would you describe your EBL presidency: your achievements and your regrets... are you satisfied with your performance?**

I think, overall, I am happy with achieving the main goals which I had. To save costs, reduce the costs, the recurring costs specially a lot, but also during championships. And also, I believe that we improve the transparency, and also the democratic way of running the board. I'm rather happy with, which I got of course, the help of the whole board. And, what I regret maybe I wanted from the beginning to be even more communicative with the outside world.



I wanted actually to make a blog to have on the website all the time and make it more active, but this I never managed to fulfill. So that is my only regret I would say. I'm personally satisfied, but I have to leave it to others to judge.

### **You're a candidate to take over the World Bridge Federation in 2023. What can you tell us about that?**

I told the present executives, that I am interested to become the next president and therefore presented my candidacy. And, that's all about it for the time being. So, you know, anybody can basically stand up and say I want to be a candidate, so we will have to see.

### **Can you tell me about your plans? And where do you see the WBF in 5 years. What are the main issues you will attack in the first year?**

I want to do more or less exactly what we did in the EBL. I want to make the organization much more streamlined and efficient, more cost efficient. So that's basically, and, this I'm going to start with right away. So that's for the first year. In five years, my hope is that the WBF will be seen by all stakeholders, meaning NBOs and players, especially at the top level, to be a relevant organization.

Today, I know that especially a lot of top players feel that the WBF is not doing and acting exactly in the way that they would like. And of course, players are not the only ones who have something to say in the matter. They talked to a lot of people. I mean, you hear a lot of things. In all the different media everybody's complaining about the WBF all the time.

Of course, a lot of the criticism is not valid in my opinion, but, other parts of the criticism is valid. So, my goal is that, in five years from now, there will be no criticism of the WBF. This is the dream. Yes. Utopia. Utopia.

### **Have you created a high performing team to help you in the daily issues?**

I have some thoughts. I'm starting to think about this of course, but it's difficult to say because I will really only know after the elections in August. I have some names. But I won't give them to you.

### **What do you think about the bridge on-line, do you plan to incorporate it as another branch?**

I think that online bridge and face-to-face bridge will exist side by side. I don't have absolutely nothing against the organization of online events, but not as substitution of our main championships. I have said since many years ago that the day we can't play with

cards, uh, I will quit, but we can also arrange other events. We can arrange online events. We can arrange hybrid events. What I don't want to do is to compete for revenue with the NBOs, they are making today a lot of their living based on online tournaments. So, if the WBF will step in and do too many things online in competition, we will be taking away part of their revenue. And, that is something I don't want to do. But for sure, some online activities, I believe we will do.

### **Tell us your plans for our youth...our future**

The problem for international organizations is that there is no one size fits all solution for all the countries. And it's not only large against small it's that there are different cases. School systems are different in different countries. It is very difficult for the WBF to create a policy that, this is what we recommend everybody to do, because it will work in some places, but it will be absolutely impossible and others.

So, I feel what we should do is encourage financially and with other ideas and systems maybe. And with documentation. That we can provide, which should encourage the NBOs to do their youth promotion programs. So, you know, we would encourage NBOs, for example, now we are thinking about this project such and such. If they present a project to us and ask for help in financing, and if we think it makes some sense, then the WBF should support it financially, and with any other means that they want, maybe they want to use some stuff we have, for example, Eric Laurent has a lot of experience with this from the Netherlands. He would be happy to go to other federations to assist. And, I think that's the most realistic way to do, rather than trying for the WBF to invent something which you think will work for everybody.

Thank you, Mr. Kamras. This is all for today from Jan Kamras.




**David Bird, VENICE CUP, SEMIFINAL 2**

**ENGLAND vs TURKEY**


I had two reasons for choosing to watch this session. It was my first glimpse of the England women's team, who had finished a splendid second in the round-robin. Just as welcome would be two hours of viewing the wonderful Turkey Team, who had (which verb should I choose? I mustn't be disrespectful) obliterated star-strewn USA-2 by 125 IMPs in the quarter-finals. Ah, here come the players.

Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>I Osbay</i>	<i>N.Senior</i>	<i>Özgur</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♠*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

East's 3♣ was Puppet Stayman and the 5-3 spade fit was located. East might perhaps have dispensed with Stayman on her 4-3-3-3 shape.

Hatice Özgur won the ♣9 lead with the queen and advanced the ♠9, covered by the jack, queen and ace. The club continuation was won in the dummy and the ♥J run to the ace. Another trump saves a trick now, for one down, but declarer led the ♥J to South's ace. Ruffs in hearts and clubs were available to the defenders, but the play record is lost and 4♠ ended only one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Kuranoglu</i>
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Fiona Brown could see little advantage in seeking a major suit fit, raising to 3NT. Only eight tricks were on view, mind you, with prospects of a ninth over the horizon.

Dilek Yavas, with no help from the auction, led ace, king and another spade. That was +630 and 10 IMPs to England.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>I Osbay</i>	<i>N.Senior</i>	<i>Özgur</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT
Dble	All Pass		

Irem Osbay had no good action over 1♣ but doubled for take-out on the second round. With a well-placed stack of diamonds, Özgur was happy to leave it in. How many down would you predict?

GIB told us that any lead of a 10 or higher would result in two down. Lower spot-card leads would collect only one down. Let's see.

Osbay led the ♥Q after some thought and then had +500 in her sights. Heather Dhondy won with king and played a diamond to the king and ace. A spade switch was now needed for two down, but East cashed the ♥10. Another heart gave West two tricks, but she then had to return a black suit, to declarer's advantage. A low club went to the king and ace. West won the ♣8 with the queen and exited with a club to the jack.

Dhondy cashed dummy's ♦Q and played a spade to her ♠8, endplaying West. She could cash the ♣9 but then had to lead into declarer's ♠AQ. That was only one down.



Do you see now why I hate writing up part scores?  
So many tricks to describe!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Kuranoglu</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT
Dble	All Pass		

After the same auction Sally Brock started with the ♦10, drawing the king and ace. The ♦9 return was allowed to win, West throwing the ♣9. Fiona Brown switched to the ♠6, declarer's 8 going to the 10. Sally Brock was then right on the money with her ♥Q return.

The ♣7 was run to East's king and another spade was played. Declarer could endplay West now if she won with the ace. She tried the queen instead, losing to the king, and the next spade went to the queen and king. Brock cashed three heart tricks and exited with a spade. Declarer had to concede trick 13 to the ♣Q and was three down for 800. That was 12 IMPs to England.

You will believe me when I say that I am exhausted after tapping in all those details. I do not intend to write up another part score for at least a few months.

England were 22-0 up after two boards, but Turkey were to fight back with 27 unanswered IMPs.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>I Osbay</i>	<i>N.Senior</i>	<i>Özgur</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3♥*	Dble	4♠
All Pass			

Dhondy won the singleton heart lead with the king. When she continued with the ♥9, West declined to ruff and dummy's ace won. A diamond to the jack lost

to the queen and Osbay returned the ♠K, won in the dummy. When a second round of diamonds was led, it was Osgur's turn to decline to ruff and Dhondy won with the ace.

At this stage, I (perhaps unwisely) announced that declarer was 'successfully skating over thin ice'. She cashed the ♣A and, against the actual lie of the cards, now needed to revert to diamonds. I can see no reason to find this play. When she continued with king and another club, ruffed in the dummy she was heading for one down.

Dhondy led a heart from dummy and ruffed with the ♠7. Salvation arrived when West overruffed with the ♠Q and had no good exit. When she returned the ♦K, declarer needed to ruff high in the dummy (with the ♠10). With three tricks remaining, she could then draw East's last trump, cash the established ♦10 and score dummy's last trump. When instead she ruffed the ♦K with the ♠8, East overruffed for one down.

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Kuranoglu</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠*	All Pass	

North's 2♠ was a mild invitation. Nine tricks were made for +140 and 6 IMPs to Turkey.

Board 24. Dealer West Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>I Osbay</i>	<i>N.Senior</i>	<i>Özgur</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Nevena Senior found the best lead of a heart. Osbay ducked this and won the ♥J continuation. The ace of trumps was followed by a heart ruff. A diamond finesse would result in one down now, but declarer

preferred to lead the ♠K, covered and ruffed. A trump to the king was followed by two diamond discards on the ♠QJ. A diamond finesse lost subsequently but declarer had her +400.

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Kuranoglu</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

It was a playable contract, but on the actual ♥Q lead (or indeed a club) declarer needed the diamond finesse to win. When it failed, she was one down for 11 IMPs away.

Board 30.Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>I Osbay</i>	<i>N.Senior</i>	<i>Özгур</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	



Sally Brock



Fiona Brown

3NT was the Good-Bad 3NT showing minimum values before, perhaps, control-bidding the ♥A. What would you have led from the West hand?

Osbay chose an unlucky heart, when the ♦K would have meant two down. Dhondy won with the ace, played the king, queen and ace of trumps and ditched both club losers on the hearts. The ♦A came next and two diamond tricks were lost, but it was +420.

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Kuranoglu</i>
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Brock led the ♣A, followed by a second club to partner's king. After a heart switch to the ace and the ♠K, it seems that nothing can prevent the defenders from scoring a trump and at least one diamond. No, 'Claim of 10 tricks accepted +420' appeared on the screen. Something in the hand records is wrong, but at the time of writing the final 71-58 score in Turkey's favour has not been corrected. So, perhaps the game was indeed let through for no swing.

It had been a somewhat scrappy match. Who would not be feeling tired after having to play four sessions daily, due to the day lost to COVID? Writing up the 1NT doubled hand had been too much for me.





## Marc Smith, BERMUDA BOWL, FINAL 1


**SWITZERLAND vs NETHERLANDS**


Although the Poles in the Venice Cup got extremely close (they lost to Sweden by just 2 IMPs) none of the eight teams (in the four events) who were trailing overnight came back to win their match in the final session yesterday morning. It was, therefore, up to the main event to provide the drama, and the opening session certainly lived up to the hype.

After a long and arduous campaign going back months, to national trials, regional championships, and then a week of qualification here in Salsomaggiore followed by two long knockout matches, two teams have finally made it to the bridge equivalent of the Superbowl. And, I am delighted to say, that I am guaranteed to be able to report that at least one member of the BBO Bidding Challenge expert panel will be crowned as a Bermuda Bowl winner tomorrow (with possibilities in the Venice Cup and the d'Orsi Trophy too).


A couple of Dutch supporters proudly pointed out that this was a first, with a Dutch pair sitting in both directions at a table in the Bermuda Bowl final. Of course, Sjoert Brink and Bas Drijver had been teammates with two pairs from of the current Dutch team the last time Netherlands won the trophy, in 2011 on home soil in Veldhoven. I did confess that I have referred to Brink/Drijver with comments such as "IMPs to the Dutch" a couple of times this week, only to have it pointed out that it was "IMPs to the Swiss". Of course, the first time in commentary today that I said "IMPs to the Dutch" some wag had to ask, "Which Dutch?" I wonder if this is what people mean when they say it is Double Dutch to them.

And so, with the formalities over, the anthems sung, the players introduced, it is the Orange Army (the Denver Broncos) against the red and white (the Arizona Cardinals) of the Swiss Cross. Okay, okay, I know that's stretching the limits of poetic license: who would believe the Cardinals could ever make it to the Superbowl? I would have said the red and white of the Atlanta Falcons, but I didn't think it fair to jinx the Swiss -- as we all know what happens to the Falcons in the Superbowl, no matter how far ahead they may be. Although, I guess the Dutch don't have Tom Brady at quarterback. Alright, enough waffle from me, on with the game...

The early boards were cagey, with each team gauging the lay of the land, the offences exploring to see how much leeway the defence was prepared to

give them. The first real opening came early in the second quarter, when a receiver running a skinny post made the catch for a long gain, only to fumble the ball away for the game's first turnover.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

	♠ K J 8 4		
	♥ K Q 10 8 6 5		
	♦ 7		
	♣ K 7		
♠ 10 7 6 5 3		♠ Q 2	
♥ 3 2		♥ 9 4	
♦ 3		♦ AKQ86542	
♣ A Q J 6 4		♣ 9	
	♠ A 9		
	♥ A J 7		
	♦ J 10 9		
	♣ 10 8 5 3 2		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	1♥	3♥*	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

When the board appeared, Barnet Shenkin and I debated on commentary how many diamonds should be bid over North's 1♥ opening. Barnet voted for four while I went for five, but Berend van den Bos disagreed with us both, choosing instead a stop-asking, jump cue-bid of 3♥. Sjoert Brink stretched to 4♥ on the South cards and Joris van Lankveld took the save in front of his partner, despite holding only a singleton trump.

You would have thought the defence would be easy with the long trump hand's shape on display in dummy. It didn't work out that way, though. Brink overtook the ♥K opening lead, cashed the ♥J and then played the ♠A and a second spade back to his partner's king. A third spade now would promote a trump trick for South, giving the Swiss +500. Bas Drijver, though, chose to believe his partner's play, rather than his bidding, and played a third round of hearts, allowing declarer to ruff in safely, draw trumps and claim the rest. E/W +300 and perhaps the first chink in the Swiss armour, when the contract rated to be the same in the other room.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Piedra</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	1♥	3♥*	Dble
4♣	4♥	5♦	5♥
All Pass			

Zimmermann also treated his hand as a 3♥ overcall but, here, Bauke Muller did not think his hand worth committing to game, doubling instead to (presumably) show a raise to 3♥. When the auction came back to him at the five-level, Muller evidently reassessed the offence-to-defence balance of his hand and elected to take the push. Pierre Zimmermann cashed a top diamond, and we all could have proceeded onto the next board in about 10 seconds flat had he then switched to his singleton club.


When he instead continued with a second high diamond things slowed down considerably. Declarer ruffed in hand, crossed to the ♥A, and led a club. Fernando Piedra rose with the ♣A and then started to think. Watching in the Open Room, we were told that Piedra was thinking. They played three more boards in our room and, when we checked again with our spy at the other table, Piedra was still thinking. Eventually, he played a club for his partner to ruff. Simon de Wijs got the spades right to avoid a second undertrick, but that was still E/W +100 and 9 IMPs to Switzerland when it might have been a handful in the other direction.



Fernando Piedra

On the next deal, Brink's systemic opening on a 3-3-5-2 19-count with AK10xx diamonds was a 2+♣, 1♣ because it was a balanced hand. When he then declared 3NT, Van Lankveld had a fairly routine lead from ♦QJxxx, which gave declarer his ninth trick: N/S +400. In the other room South opened 1♦ and North declared 3NT with only eight tricks available: N/S -50 and another 10 IMPs to Switzerland. This was an interception off a tipped pass that could have gone anywhere but landed right in a line-backer's lap. Unfortunate. Then, in the dying seconds of the first half, the Broncos ran out their punt unit:

## Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Piedra</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>	<i>Muller</i>
1♠	Pass	2NT*	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Declarer wins the opening diamond lead in hand and cashes the ♠A. When no honour appears, Piedra cashes the ♦K and plays a second trump. When spades fall 2-2, he claims eleven tricks, losing just the ♣A. E/W +450 and surely this deal cannot swing more than the overtrick IMP.

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♠	Pass	2NT*	Dble
4♠	All Pass		

Perhaps aided by his partner's double, Drijver finds the best lead, a heart. With no way to regain the lead quickly to lead a second heart, though, it seems that the Swiss will gain only an IMP as all sensible lines seem to lead to ten tricks.

Brink wins with the ♥Q and, with nothing more attractive, returns the suit in the vague hope that his partner has led from ♥Jxx. Van Lankveld does not



sound much like a southern Mediterranean name, so perhaps he has never learned to beware of Greeks bearing gifts. Winning with the ♥J, declarer cashed the ♠A, no honour appearing. Since he no longer needs a heart discard on dummy's diamond winners, there is now a losing option. With a 4-3 diamond break surely better odds than finding trumps 2-2, who can really blame Van Lankveld for taking the bait?

So, rather than playing a second trump, declarer unblocked the diamonds and crossed to dummy with the ♥A. When he then tried to cash one of dummy's diamond winners, Brink ruffed in with the ♠Q. Declarer could get rid of one of his clubs, but Brink quickly cashed the ♣A and North's ♠K was the setting trick. Three defensive tricks had suddenly become four: E/W -50 and another 11 IMPs to Switzerland. The Broncos' punt has been blocked and returned for a touchdown with just seconds left on the clock.

After just eight boards, halfway through the first stanza, the Swiss already have a 33-0 lead. The Dutch finally get on the board when they stop in 4♦ (+130) whilst the Swiss climb to game in clubs at the other table (-100): 6 IMPs. Then the Dutch buy the contract in both rooms (2♦+1 and 1♥ just making) for another 6 IMPs. Then Van Lankveld opens 1♦ on a chunky 2-4-5-2 14-count and rebids a 14-16 no-trump, with the result that Van den Bos plays in 2♠, making exactly for +110. At the other table, the Swiss upgrade to a 15-17 1NT and go two down in 4♠ for another 5 IMPs. Slowly but surely, the Broncos are climbing back into the contest having looked dead and buried at halftime.

The next hand has potential for an even more significant swing.

Board 11. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	1♥	3♠	4♦*
4♠	4NT*	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Brink's 4♦ shows a heart raise (4♣ would have been a slam try in hearts, 4♥ would show clubs and 4♦ spades for the system-heads out there). Quite what Drijver's 4NT means is unclear, as this seems an unlikely hand on which to have bid Blackwood, although perhaps it was and Brink's jump to 6♥ showed one keycard and a useful void.

East led the ♠K, so Drijver ruffed in dummy and led the ♥10. West covered with the jack and declarer won with the king. Discussing it on commentary with Barnet Shenkin, we agreed that West would not split his honors with ♥QJx, and it would seem like Drijver agreed with that analysis as he then laid down the ♥A and claimed when the suit behaved.

The same contract was played at all four tables in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup finals. At the other table in our match and at one of the VC tables, declarer followed an identical line to make twelve tricks. At the fourth table, declarer attempted to cross back to dummy in diamonds, presumably trying to pick up ♥QJx in the West hand, with the result that East scored a ruff to defeat the contract.

The very next deal had huge potential.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♦	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

Let's start with the auction. I have no problem with East opening a natural weak two in hearts on this hand. The chances of getting caught for a big penalty are small, as has been proven on numerous occasions when such bids have been made in recent years. However, to pass, telling the opponents that you don't have a hand good enough for a first-seat



non-vulnerable weak two, and then to come in at the two-level, particularly after LHO has shown a very strong hand, is, in my as-always humble opinion, bordering on insane.

In discussion on commentary, we observed that 6NT could be made on a finesse and a squeeze, but that seemed like jolly hard work for +980 when N/S could simply collect +1100 defending. However, Brink chose to bid and thus it was now a question of whether he could make twelve tricks in 6NT.

Our squeeze expert in residence, Kit Woolsey, felt that winning the heart lead in hand and immediately playing the  $\diamond A$  and then a diamond to the jack, was just about guaranteed to work as long as one of the minor-suit finesses worked. When declarer subsequently cashes his pointed-suit winners, either East would get squeezed in hearts and clubs, or West would be squeezed in the black suits. It is basically an automatic squeeze played as a double squeeze as it will work against whichever defender happens to hold four (or more) clubs.

Brink's first error was to win the opening heart lead in dummy and take the club finesse, which won. When he then played the  $\diamond A$  and took a losing finesse to the  $\diamond Q$ , East returned a thoughtful  $\clubsuit Q$ . Had West held the fourth club, this would have broken up the black suit squeeze on West by severing communications between the two hands.

With East holding the club guard, declarer is still cold, by cashing the  $\clubsuit AK$  and the top spades from his hand, then playing off the diamond winners from dummy. When he then cashes the  $\spadesuit Q$ , East would have been squeezed out of his heart stop or his club winner. When Brink won the club switch and laid down the  $\heartsuit A$ , though, he had severed his own communications and the squeeze would no longer work. N/S -50.

This result can surely be put down purely to exhaustion, after twelve solid days of 48-64 boards a day of high-level concentration. Believe it or not, though, what happened in this room was almost irrelevant. Yes, going down in slam actually cost only 5 IMPs. Indeed, the difference between making +980 and getting +1100 from  $2\heartsuit x$  – absolutely nothing!

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Piedra	De Wijs	Zimmermann	Muller
—	—	$2\heartsuit^*$	Dble
$3\clubsuit^*$	Dble	All Pass	

I know it's popular in France and the Low Countries, so I suppose it should come as no surprise to find Pierre Zimmerman playing a  $2\heartsuit$  opening to show a weak hand with hearts and a minor. Bauke Muller doubled on the good hand, and you can perhaps understand Piedra's reluctance to pass just in case North is sitting with a heart stack. As we have already seen, though, declarer can make four tricks in  $2\heartsuit x$ , which may not sound like a lot, but...

If you try to escape from  $1NTx$ , you need to make two extra tricks to make it worthwhile going to the two-level. Similarly, here, would you rather play a 5-1 fit at the two level or a 4-3 fit at the three-level? Sure, perhaps partner will have diamonds and it will be a 4-4 fit, but you still need to make TWO more tricks to make it worth going a level higher. I'm sure that many people reading this report play this method and they, too, would have bid a 'pass-or-correct'  $3\clubsuit$  on that West hand. You are lucky, as what you take away from this lesson has cost you absolutely nothing, unlike the Swiss.

To say that  $3\clubsuit x$  played poorly would be the understatement of the championships. The defence began with three rounds of trumps, leaving declarer with a trump winner in dummy. Declarer had options as to when he took that trick, but it was the only one he would get. The Dutch pair scored twelve tricks on defence: N/S +2000 and 19 IMPs to the Netherlands.

For the record, the board was also significant in the Venice Cup final, where the results were  $3NT+2$  for +460 and  $3\clubsuit x$  down seven for -1700, and thus a 15-IMP swing to Sweden.

Having trailed 33-0 after eight boards, the Dutch edged ahead 36-35 six boards later. Can you not hear Alan Shearer saying, "It's a game of two 'alfs, Gary" (Oops, wrong sport!) The Swiss picked up a small swing at the end to win the stanza 39-36, but I think it is fair to say that the first session finished just about honours even. We hear a lot about momentum in sport, though, and right now the Broncos are rampant. Perhaps I should have picked the Atlanta Falcons after all: who needs Tom Brady when you have Orange Power?

One thing you can be sure of: if the rest of this final is as exciting as this first stanza, we will all need another week just to recover.



## Ron Tacchi, WUHAN CUP, FINAL 2

FRANCE vs USA1 

With 91 IMPs changing hands in the first session, it is a surprise to see that the lead is just a single IMP and that is to USA1. All partnerships are playing five-card majors with the Croniers playing 2/1.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ginossar</i>	<i>Cronier B</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Cronier P</i>
—	—	—	1♠
2NT*	3♦	5♦	5♠
Pass	Pass	6♦	6♠
Dble	All Pass		

2NT minors

The Three Diamond bid was alerted and I assume it was a splinter in support of spades. Fine judgement was shown by both teams here, though I am not 100% confident that everyone knew who was saving against whom. Both bids at the six-level could have been a mistake, but on this deal, both were the right thing to do. The lead was a small club taken by East's ♣10. The queen of diamonds was returned, and West overtook to cash the ace of hearts and continued the suit to give his partner a ruff. Declarer now trivially had the rest of the tricks for just a defeat of three tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zochowska</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>ZCampanile</i>
—	—	—	1♠
2NT*	3♠	5♦	5♠
Pass	Pass	6♦	All Pass

2NT minors

East showed fine judgement but at this table South was not willing to risk playing at the six-level. When the

club finesse succeeded declarer had an easy route to twelve tricks and 13 IMPs to France.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ginossar</i>	<i>Cronier B</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Cronier P</i>
—	1♥	Pass	2♦
3♠	Pass	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

South's Two Diamonds was game-forcing and so North's Pass was also forcing. South showed his second suit and when partner showed diamond support, he launched Blackwood and when it was evident there were two aces opposite, the small slam was bid. West led his singleton heart taken in dummy. A diamond was led and declarer finessed, believing, quite rightly, that East held considerably more trumps than West. Unfortunately for declarer West's singleton diamond was the queen. Now when West switched to a spade East could ruff to take the contract down.

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Zochowska</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>ZCampanile</i>
—	1♥	Pass	2♦
3♠	4♦	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

A similar auction to get to the slam. West led one of her spades, which was ruffed by East who returned a heart. With now only four trumps outstanding Declarer could more easily cater for a singleton queen offside and so played a small trump to her ace, felling the queen. Declarer quickly cashed a top club and ruffed



one, when that passed off peacefully, she was able to claim her contract and 16 IMPs to USA1.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ginossar</i>	<i>Cronier B</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Cronier P</i>
Pass	Pass	2♥	Dble
3♥	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	


By inference South showed a strong hand when he bid Four Clubs so it was not a stretch for North to raise her partner to game. West led the ♥5 to East's ♥10. As we can all see it is imperative that a spade should hit the green baize with some alacrity, but East fell from grace when she returned a heart allowing South to ruff, unblock the ace of diamonds and draw trumps finishing in dummy and discarding two losing spades on the top two diamond honours and thus scoring eleven tricks and his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zochowska</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>Z-Campanile</i>
Pass	Pass	3♥	5♣
All Pass			

At this table when East valued his hand as a full-blooded pre-empt South took the direct route and bid what she thought she could make. Again West led the ♥5 and declarer put up dummy's queen and East took the trick with the ace. Reading the heart suit correctly East promptly switched to a spade and now the contract was doomed. 10 IMPs to France.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ginossar</i>	<i>Cronier B</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Cronier P</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The Stayman response showed a five-card heart suit and so North reverted to the no-trump game. The lead was a small heart and dummy's jack won the trick. The ace of clubs was cashed and the suit continued. East rising with her king to play back a heart to declarer's ♥10 and West's queen. West switched to the ♠10 to the queen, king and ace. Declarer now just cashed out his winners for plus one.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zochowska</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>Z-Campanile</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3♣ Puppet Stayman

South showed her five-card heart suit in response to her partner Puppet Stayman enquiry and was soon in a 3NT contract. West's opening lead of a diamond gave nothing away as declarer won in hand with the ace and she tried a small heart towards dummy and West played the queen. The switch was to the ♠2 and East after considerable thought correctly inserted the ♠8 forcing the ace from declarer. The ♥K was taken by the ace and declarer discarded a diamond from dummy. West continued her spade attack by leading the ♠10 to the queen and East's king. East exited with a diamond to declarer's queen. The ♥10 and ♥9 were cashed but when the suit did not provide three tricks declarer was restricted to eight tricks. At trick four when the king of hearts was led dummy was squeezed by declarer. If she discards a spade then the defence will take the next three tricks, if she discards a diamond she is discarding a winner and if she throws a club then a club switch from West mangles declarer's entries. Double dummy declarer could have made the contract by tackling clubs at trick two and playing West for the doubleton jack – not the odds play. 13 IMPs for France.

At the end of the match France had won by 38-27 and thus turned their one-point deficit into a ten-point lead.

**Jos Jacobs,****D'ORSI TROPHY, FINAL 2  
INDIA vs POLAND**

After four of the six semi-final segments, both India and Poland, our two finalists, had won two segments and lost two. The main difference between the two teams was that at that point, India were 52 IMPs up against France whereas Poland were still 6 IMPs down against Denmark. France won the last two segments but still ended up 28 IMPs behind India, while Poland's win in both the final two segments brought them a 37-IMP win and thus a place in the final. They had continued their good work in the first segment of the final, emerging winners by 18 IMPs. The question thus was: would India once again produce a clear segment win or would Poland consolidate their early lead?

An overtrick on the opening board brought India 1 IMP but the next board was a more substantial affair.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Padhye</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Dalal</i>
—	—	2♦*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♦	Dble
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	Pass
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

After East's Polish style two-suited opening bid E/W were not on the same wavelength. West's 2♠ was not forcing but when East persisted in the reds, West had to show preference for his semi-solid suit every time. North thought he had seen this sort of misunderstanding before. His diagnosis was worth +500 when 4♠ went down three.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Krishnan</i>	<i>Kowalski</i>	<i>Goel</i>	<i>Romanski</i>
—	—	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Not that the Indians reached a much more successful contract in the other room after East's weak two opening bid but at least, they were not doubled and only lost -100 for a 9-IMP gain to cut their deficit to just 8.

On the next deal, slam was in the air.

Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Padhye</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Dalal</i>
—	—	—	1♠
2NT*	3♠	5♦	5♥
Dble	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♦	6♥	Dble	All Pass

This is an interesting auction. At his first attempt, Kwiecien only went for his vulnerable game so Dalal was right to introduce an alternative sacrifice which might even be a makeable contract. With double fits now diagnosed all-round the table, all players involved expressed an opinion about playing at the six-level. In a sense, they all were correct.. 6♥ was the right sacrifice as the slam on a finesse would make. Down two, Poland +300.

In the Closed Room, West showed his two suits in two steps.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Kowalski	Goel	Romanski
—	—	—	1♠
2♦	2NT*	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♦	5♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

With the double fit not as obvious as in the Open Room, the auction came to an end at the five-level. One down, India +100 but 5 IMPs to Poland.

After a few quiet boards, there was action again:

## Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

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

W	N	E
S		

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	Padhye	Kwiecien	Dalal
1♦	Pass	1♥	3♥
Dble	4♣	4♥	5♣
Pass	Pass	5♥	6♣
Dble	All Pass		

On a heart lead by West and a spade shift by East, 5♣ will go down, so technically one should consider Kwiecien's 5♥ bid a phantom sacrifice. This also applies to Dalal's 6♣, however. When West led a trump rather than a heart, declarer escaped for just one down. Poland +100.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Kowalski	Goel	Romanski
Pass	Pass	2♥	5♣
All Pass			

We will never know why West did not lead partner's suit after the weak two. His lead of a low trump changed a 2-IMP loss into a loss of 11 IMPs as two of declarer's losers quickly disappeared on dummy's top diamonds. The Polish lead had gone up to 25 at the halfway point of the set.

Two more flat boards but from board 27 onwards, we saw a flurry of swings. Here we go.

## Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

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

W	N	E
S		

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	Padhye	Kwiecien	Dalal
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

The Indian Puppet easily established the 5-3 spade fit. Either red king well placed was enough for the success of the spade game in the South hand. India +420.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Kowalski	Goel	Romanski
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

In the Polish approach, the 5-3 fit remained a hidden asset, When West led a low diamond and declarer logically put up the king, the defence quickly had six tricks for another +100 and 13 IMPs to India.








One more flat board but then:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Padhye</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Dalal</i>
—	1♣*	Dble	2♦
3♥	Pass	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1♣ 16+ if unbalanced, 17+ if balanced

West led a heart but when he was given his diamond trick later on, he played ♥K and a heart. East was out of hearts when he got his ♣A and ♠K, because he had discarded his hearts on the run of the now established diamonds, so the contract surprisingly made. India +600.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Krishnan</i>	<i>Kowalski</i>	<i>Goel</i>	<i>Romanski</i>
—	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

The Poles did well to avoid 3NT and end up in 5♦ but when the trumps broke 4-1, this contract had to go

down two. India another +200. The score now stood at 64-63 to Poland, just the odd IMP between the teams...

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Padhye</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Dalal</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Dble	5♦	Dble	All Pass

The nebulous Indian diamond led to an equally nebulous contract when both Poles could afford just one double each. Down two, Poland +300 when West led a heart rather than a black suit..

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Krishnan</i>	<i>Kowalski</i>	<i>Goel</i>	<i>Romanski</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣*
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

The Polish Club had no room for this sort of balanced 1♦ opener, so the Poles were not too far overboard. One down on the ♠K lead by West was the outcome here. India +50 but 6 IMPs to Poland.



Włodzimierz Starkowski

Anil Padhye

Rajesh Dalal

Michał Kwiecien

Next:

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Padhye</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Dalal</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3NT*
All Pass			

As 3NT had shown five hearts, West led a passive low diamond. Declarer won the ace in hand and tried a heart, but West took his queen and continued a spade to partner's jack and declarer's ace. The ♥K came next. West won the ace and played the ♠10, covered by queen and king. East exited with a low club to the jack and dummy's ace, but when East was next given his ♣K, he could exit in diamonds and wait for the setting trick from somewhere as neither the hearts nor the spades would bring declarer's 9th trick and declarer's communications were gone. One down, Poland +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Krishnan</i>	<i>Kowalski</i>	<i>Goel</i>	<i>Romanski</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

At the other table, the same contract was reached, and West led the ♠10. This ran to declarer's ace and a heart then went to West's queen. His spade return went to dummy's nine and East's jack; but now when East returned a club to partner's jack and dummy's ace, declarer simply played on clubs and had his nine tricks with the diamond communication still intact. Poland +600 and 12 more IMPs to them.

And the last board of the set:

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Both Wests opened 1NT and played there. Both Norths led the ♥2 to the 8, 9 and king. Starkowski, for Poland, continued a low spade to North's king and a low heart came back, South playing the queen rather than staying low. West won the ♥A perforce and another spade brought down North's ace. North's club return went to the jack and ace, the spade winners were cashed, and a diamond was taken by North's ♦10. Another club went to South's queen but when South exited with a club to dummy's king, declarer could play a heart to endplay North and thus came to seven tricks when the ♦K scored. Poland +90.

For India, Krishnan played the ♠J from hand at trick two. Now North immediately returned a club to the jack and declarer's ace. Next came a spade to the ace and another club, South winning the queen and returning a low heart to declarer's ace. With the spades now blocked, declarer had to cross to the ♠10 in dummy first but when he next tried a low diamond to his king, North could win the ace, cross to partner's ♥Q and get another diamond through declarer for down three. Poland another +300 and 9 IMPs on an innocent-looking deal.

So the Poles had managed to turn the score round on the last three boards from almost level to a 28-IMP lead. They won the set 44-34 after all, to lead 91-63 with four sets to play.

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)



**Barry Rigal, Bermuda Bowl, FINAL 3**

**SWITZERLAND vs NETHERLANDS**

The Netherlands started the third set leading 73-59, with the knowledge that they would probably be facing the might of Drijver-Brink (Dutch doubleton – like Polish but slightly more natural) and Gawrys-Klukowski for the next four sets. Verhees-Van Prooijen play Tarzan relay strong club, Van Lankfeld-Van den Bos also play Dutch Doubleton.

The first two deals were unexciting games, with no IMPs changing hands. The third hand was a horse of a different colour.

Board 35. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣*	Dble	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Van Prooijen	Gawrys	Verhees
—	—	—	1♠
2♥	Dble*	3♥	Pass
Pass	Dble*	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

Klukowski led his singleton club against 3♠ and signaled for hearts on his first discard. Gawrys duly shifted to hearts and the defenders cashed out. So Van Prooijen’s restraint was not fully rewarded – but at least it was worth 2 IMPs against 3NT down two on a heart lead. Brink won the heart and cashed out diamonds then spades, then gave up.





## Board 36. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♥	Pass	1NT	All Pass

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Van Prooijen</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Van Lankveld's extras might have argued with him finding the three-card rebid here, but that would not have been systemic. In any event 3NT on a club or diamond lead is doomed, even with hearts 3-3. After Verhees's quite rational spade lead declarer set up hearts for nine tricks and 10 IMPs. The score was 75-69 for the Netherlands.

Switzerland picked up an overtrick IMP for a more successful opening lead against 3NT and for playing 3NT where Van Prooijen-Verhees had explored slam in clubs and settled in 5♣ (slam was on a winning finesse and no violently bad breaks).

## Board 39. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van Den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♦
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Van Prooijen</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2♣	2NT	All Pass

Gawrys veered from his normal optimistic approach with a remarkably heavy 2NT overcall – not that it would have affected the final contract? Had Verhees doubled and led a club they would have had an easy 500. Verhees respected his partner's third in hand opener and did not double and led the ♦Q, costing his side a trick and holding the penalty to 100. In 1NT in the other room Drijver received a top club lead and spade shift, with diamonds so favorable he wrapped up seven tricks, no swing.

## Board 40. Dealer West . Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van Den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	2♣
Dble	2♠*	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♣	3♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Van Prooijen</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	3♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3♠	4♣	All Pass	

Van Prooijen opted to try to land on a pinhead when he bid on to 4♣; he needed to find a hand where the opponents could make nine but not ten tricks in spades, and where his side could take nine



or ten tricks in clubs. Right he was – in a sense. After Klukowski's incisive diamond lead 4♣ was quietly down one, while 3♠ had reasonable play. After a top club lead you might get diamonds right once South appears to have nine black cards. When Brink led a diamond to the first trick declarer had no further problems. Netherlands had 3 IMPs and doubled their lead at 78-72.

Switzerland picked up an IMP in a quiet 3NT deal, then took the lead on the next deal.

Board 42. Dealer East. all Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Van Prooijen</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

With the diamond ace offside the defenders appear to have an easy task against 3♠. So long as they lead a heart before declarer has established diamonds for a discard, or a diamond from West before declarer has established hearts for a discard, they will take five tricks.

Klukowski led a trump, which made the defenders' lives easier in a way. Verhees ducked a heart to East, who underled in clubs for the diamond shift, and that was that.

In the other room the ♦Q was ducked, and now after a trump shift declarer ducked a diamond and had nine tricks. That made it 79-78 to Switzerland.

If you have recently eaten a meal or are of a nervous

disposition, you may care to skip the next paragraph. The Swiss added 3 IMPs to their lead when in third seat Drijver overcalled 2♦ over 1♠ with no one vulnerable holding:

♠	6 4 3
♥	9 7 4 3
♦	A K J 10 7
♣	4

I suppose it was restrained not to make a weak jump overcall. He heard 2♥ to his left, 5♦ from his partner and was doubled there. Bless his little cotton socks, partner put down queen-fifth in diamonds and the club ace, enough to escape for 300, against the 420 in the other room. Easy game, bridge.

Board 44. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Van Prooijen</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Both rooms brought out some delicate modern science. I believe Verhees issued a puppet to 2♠ at his second turn facing both minors, then elected to play spades. Brink relayed at his second turn and found the 1=3=5=4 pattern opposite and opted for 3NT. Against 3NT West's heart lead let Brink run the ♠9,




cross to  $\diamond K$  and clear spades. The defenders could win and take a club then lead a heart, to set up their fourth trick and hold declarer to nine tricks.

That same hostile lie of the cards meant the spade game was no sinecure. Verhees received the helpful heart lead ( $\heartsuit 5, \heartsuit 9, \heartsuit 4, \heartsuit 3$ ) and pitched a club on the top diamonds, then overtook the  $\spadesuit 9$  to ensure he had communications to draw trump. The 5-1 break meant he now had four top losers. Declarer could not be sure whether hearts were 3-3 or 4-2 of course. Had Gawrys put up the  $\heartsuit 6$  at trick one, declarer might have run the  $\spadesuit 9$  then played a heart to the ace? The lead was 94-78 for Switzerland.

The Netherlands then picked up their first sizeable swing of the day:

Board 45. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	1 $\spadesuit$	Pass	2 $\clubsuit^*$
Pass	2 $\diamond^*$	Pass	2 $\heartsuit^*$
Pass	2 $\spadesuit^*$	Pass	2NT
Pass	3 $\clubsuit^*$	Pass	3 $\diamond^*$
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

- 2 $\diamond$  Minimum not hearts
- 2 $\spadesuit$  Second suit
- 3 $\clubsuit$  Diamonds
- 3NT 5-2-4-2

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Van Prooijen</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>
—	1 $\spadesuit$	Pass	1NT*
Pass	2 $\diamond$	Pass	2 $\heartsuit^*$
Pass	3 $\clubsuit^*$	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

- 3 $\clubsuit$  5-2-4-2 or 7-1-4-1

Both tables reached 3NT to leave the South hand completely unknown. Both defenders led clubs, and Brink won in dummy and elected to lead a low diamond to the  $\diamond 10$  and  $\diamond J$ . Back came a diamond. Declarer won the  $\diamond A$  and tried the  $\heartsuit Q$ . Van den Bos won and returned a low spade. Brink would have been fine had he ducked this but he won and unblocked clubs then played a third diamond. The defenders could win and cash out the spades for down one.

Verhees took the top clubs and crossed to the  $\spadesuit A$  to finesse in diamonds. When that lost, he basically needed the  $\diamond J$  to fall and his luck was in today. It really isn't clear to me if there is a best line or whether the best approach in theory should be followed as opposed to Brink's 'pressure' line.

Netherlands had 12 IMPs and trailed 90-94.

The last three deals saw Netherlands judge two 'small' competitive boards better. First Van den Bos having overcalled 1 $\spadesuit$  judged well to compete a second time, sitting behind a balanced 18-19 count 1NT rebid on:

$\spadesuit$ K Q 8 6 5
$\heartsuit$ K 9 2
$\diamond$ Q J 8 5
$\clubsuit$ 10

He bought only a moderately suitable dummy but escaped for -50 against the 120 in the other room on his opponents' cards.

Then Gawrys opened a strong no-trump, vulnerable with:

$\spadesuit$ K J 10
$\heartsuit$ A K 7 6 2
$\diamond$ J 9 5
$\clubsuit$ K Q

And bought it there, freezing the opponents out of their 5-3 spade fit. Dummy had  $\heartsuit 10xx$  and  $\diamond K10xxx$ , (with  $\heartsuit QJ$  falling doubleton). Naturally after winning the spade opening lead Gawrys finessed diamonds and the defenders won cheaply and ran spades on him. Gawrys pitched hearts of course and ended with just four tricks, without having done anything too foolish. Meanwhile 2 $\spadesuit$  in the other room fetched 110, so Netherlands had 5 IMPs to break at the half up 97-94.




## David Bird, BERMUDA BOWL, FINAL 4


**SWITZERLAND vs NETHERLANDS**


The deadline is tight for this piece on the last day. I will present just three boards, to give you a general flavour of this fourth session of the Bermuda Bowl Final. It starts with a score-line of Switzerland 94.4 Netherlands 97. Every subsequent IMP will be fiercely contested.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	3♠	Pass	4♠
4NT*	Pass	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

Bas Drijver starts as he means to continue. When South leads a spade against the doubled club game, bridge teachers around the world will be telling their flocks: “You see what I told you? You need two of the three top honours to open with a pre-empt!” Minus 550 was the price to be paid for North being two big honours short. (A spade lead may have looked safe from the South seat, but was the ♣A to see dummy a viable alternative?)


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
4♠	—	3♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

Simon de Wijs starts as he means to continue.... etc. Again the ♠4 is led, 11 tricks are made, and the board is a push. Bridge teachers: “I think we’d better turn off BBO, class. The way they play here is not a

very good example to set you.”

Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	1NT	2NT	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

North’s 1NT, showing 4 spades and 5 in a minor is known as Lindqvist in Scandinavia. All right, I admit I was told this by a kibitzer. It is similar to the Raptor 1NT. Since 1NT is very valuable as a natural bid, I do not generally rate this alternative meaning. It certainly worked well here! East/West took their five top tricks for +300, finding that they had missed the coldest of slam in two different suits.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♣	Psss	6♥	All Pass

Michal Klukowski opened 1NT and De Wijs did not enter the bidding. The 3♥ Stayman response showed a maximum with five hearts. Gawrys’s 3♠ indicated a heart fit. 3NT was explained as ‘Go ahead, partner’. That’s exactly what they did and 6♥ was easily reached. The ♦K was led and it was +1430 for a massive 15-IMP gain to Switzerland.



## Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♦	Dble	1♥	2♠
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

The North/South intervention may have been helpful in reaching this slam. Drijver's take-out double was not everyone's choice at this score. East's 4♦ was very well judged and +1390 was the well-earned reward.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass

North earned his nod of respect from any bridge teachers still watching this encounter. The Netherlands quickly retrieved 13 IMPs and the two teams were again neck and neck.

I need one more good board to complete this report. Kibitzers tell me that the 3♥ and 3♠ contracts on Board 24 were both VERY interesting in the play. Is that so? Well, I'm not going to finish two weeks of world championship report writing with a part-score. Not unless I have to.

Ah, two boards to go and salvation has arrived. A slam!

## Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣*	2♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

How I wince when I see the ♦8 lead appear on the screen! For 40 years I thought leading from a king-jack was a splendid idea. ("You just need to find partner with the ace or queen.") Computer simulations in my book with Taf Anthias, 'Winning Suit Contract Leads', showed it was one of the very worst leads. And against a slam, with a possible 30+ points against you, what is the chance of finding partner with a diamond honour?

Declarer won with dummy's ♦Q and was not yet home because of the trump break. He played the ace and king of trumps, East throwing a diamond. The slam can still be made at double-dummy, but not after queen and another club to the ace. Declarer ran the ♠Q to the king and had to lose a trump trick.

(The winning line is to concede the fourth round of trumps and rise with the ♠A when a spade comes through. You can then discard three spades on the clubs when that suit comes in.)

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣	2♦	Pass
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

Piotr Gawrys did not let me down; he was there with the ♣8 lead. Dummy's ♣9 won, and De Wijs ran the ♠Q at trick 2, losing to the king. No doubt he read East for short clubs and West with a guarded ♣J. When a trump loser was exposed, it was one down. That was a push board (better than writing up two part-scores, though).

Switzerland made 3NT against 2NT on the last board, collecting 7 IMPs. The 4th set ended with the scoreline Switzerland 131.4 Netherlands 117.

It has been truly wonderful two weeks. Congratulations to all concerned, particularly to Bridge Base Online for allowing the whole world to share the excitement!





## Marc Smith, WUHAN CUP, FINAL 4



## FRANCE vs USA 1



For the first time this tournament, I was assigned a session at stupid-o'clock in the morning and it did not take me long to discover why David Bird has looked upon the day's first session as his private fiefdom for the past two weeks. Perhaps they put something in the morning coffee in Salsomaggiore, but the players came out of the traps like their tails were on fire. The French led overnight by 21 IMPs, 107-86, and it did not take long for those numbers to mushroom.

We jump straight in with the opening deal of the day, on which the French benefited greatly from playing the Multi rather than natural weak twos. One of the downsides of playing the Multi is that it gives the opposition more room but, curiously, on this deal that worked to its advantage.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ Q J 9 8 7 6</p> <p>♦ 9 2</p> <p>♣ K Q J 10 9</p>		<p>♠ A Q 6 2</p> <p>♥ A 5 4</p> <p>♦ 6 3</p> <p>♣ 8 7 6 4</p>	<p>♠ J 10 9 8 7 3</p> <p>♥ 10</p> <p>♦ K Q 8 4</p> <p>♣ 5.3</p> <p>♠ K 5 4</p> <p>♥ K 3 2</p> <p>♦ A J 10 7 5</p> <p>♣ A 2</p>
--	--	---	--

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sebbane</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Z-Campanile</i>
—	2♠	Pass	4♠
4NT*	Pass	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

Migry Zur-Campanile raised to 4♠ with an expectation of making, and that is exactly what declarer would have done if East does not find a club lead (or cash the ♠A and switch to one), as the ♥K sets up for a club discard. Not that there was any chance of 4♠ ending the auction on this layout, and Lionel Sebbane duly came in with 4NT,

showing two places to play. Vanessa Reess chose her lowest playable suit and Zur-Campanile doubled.

Now the critical question of what to lead had moved 90 degrees around the table. When Zur-Campanile not unreasonably opened with the ♠4, away went dummy's two diamond losers. Declarer knocked out the ♣A and later took the heart finesse for an overtrick. E/W +550 was not far from the expected result on this combination and, indeed, was duplicated at both tables in the Bermuda Bowl final.

Not here, though, as the French N/S pair were playing the Multi. Yes, it led to the same contract, but with a crucial difference:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Willenken</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>Lin</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
—	2♦*	Pass	4♣*
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

South's intent in the auction was essentially the same but, because of the Multi, Joanna Zochowska had to raise to game with 4♣, asking opener to transfer to his major. This allowed Chris Willenken to come in with a 4♥ overcall. When this came back to Zochowska, she competed with 4♠, but Willenken was not done, and he continued with 5♣. South's double ended the auction in the same contract that had been played at the other table except with one crucial difference – North was on lead at this table.

Pierre Schmidt duly led the ♦K and continued at trick two with the ♦Q. He then switched to the ♥10. Declarer rose with dummy's ace and played a trump, but Zochowska rose with the ♣A and cashed her ♥K. There the play record ends with declarer apparently claiming nine tricks, so what happened to North's heart ruff remains a mystery, but the board was scored as E/W -300 and 13 IMPs to France.

Then came consecutive deals to test the slam-bidding capabilities of the E/W pairs.

## Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sebbane</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Z-Campanile</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

West appears to hold a balanced hand in the 15-17 range, so I cannot explain the 1♥ opening, but it worked effectively on this layout. Reess forced to game with 2♣ and agreed hearts at the three-level. A couple of cue-bids and Blackwood then led to the 12-top trick slam being easily reached, as one would expect at this level. Apparently, declarer claimed 13 tricks at trick one, and the defenders acceded, although quite where the thirteenth might materialize from is a mystery to this humble scribe: E/W +1460.

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Willenken</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>Lin</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Chris Willenken did open 1NT, but getting to slam should have proved no more problematic after this start. Amber Lin started with Stayman but then inexplicably just raised the 2♥ response to game. This is a particularly feeble effort although, in fairness to Lin, this is not a regular partnership as she was drafted in as a replacement following positive COVID tests within the team earlier in the week. E/W +680 and another 13 IMPs to France.

For students out there, East can jump to 3♠ after the 2♥ response to Stayman. This cannot be natural (you would have started by transferring to spades, not with Stayman), so 3♠ would agree hearts and show a spade control. The auction can then proceed in similar fashion to the French one at the other table.

The very next deal saw a much trickier combination for the E/W pairs to tackle.

## Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Willenken</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>Lin</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Dble	6♦	All Pass

The small slam in diamonds is obviously an excellent contract, with only an opening heart lead reducing it to a 75% proposition. On any other lead, declarer can establish a heart discard on the clubs even if the ♣K is offside.

Willenken had a difficult rebid after his partner's 1♥ response, and I have to confess that I have had limited success with jumping to 3♦ on an eight-card suit, as partner inevitably cannot picture so many winners. It would seem to me that Lin's 4♣ bid should probably be control-showing agreeing diamonds, but it seem that she intended it as natural. Willenken surely took it as such, otherwise he would have an obvious 4♠ cue-bid in response.

It would seem that Lin's 4NT was Blackwood, neither particularly useful when your suit is a minor, not very suitable with two low spades either, but it was effective on this layout and landed the partnership in the optimum contract, even if rather fortuitously. North led a spade and declarer was soon claiming 13 tricks: +1390.




## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sebbane</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Z-Campanile</i>
1♦	Dble	Rdble	2♠
5♦	All Pass		

I suppose it is a matter of personal style, and whilst I really dislike the very idea of making a takeout double on the sort of hand North held here, I will admit that it worked well for the American pair. Reess started with a redouble and Migry Zur-Campanile's jump to 2♠ left the French West with a problem. Bidding 3♦ now really does not seem anything like enough, even if you play 2NT as a weaker hand with one or both minors. Sebbane's solution was a jump to game in his long suit, but that left Reess with a complete guess. 7-2 is the worst hand you can pick up in Texas Hold'Em, and it isn't a great holding to have in the spade suit on this auction either. Reess guessed not to raise, thus undoing some of the damage already inflicted on the Americans early in this stanza. E/W +640 and 13 IMPs back to USA-1.

There were still more big swings to come in this early morning outing. The contract on our next deal was the same in both rooms (albeit doubled at one table).

## Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Willenken</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>Lin</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	2♣	Pass
2♦*	Dble	3♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

The Americans bid aggressively to game in clubs, but the hands did not fit well and there appeared to be at least three unavoidable losers.

Zochowska led the ♦J. Declarer won with the ♦A, ruffed a spade to his hand, and advanced the

♣K. Pierre Schmidt won, cashed his two diamond winners, and delivered his partner's ruff for two down. E/W -200.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sebbane</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Z-Campanile</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	2♣	Pass
2♦*	Dble	3♣	Pass
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

The auction at the other table was identical except for Rosenthal's double of the final contract. Of course, declarer could have saved one trick at the other table, by not taking the ♦A at trick one. The defence can then only score a diamond ruff at the expense of one of their high-card tricks in the suit. Could the French declarer flatten the board despite the double?

Zur-Campanile also opened the ♦J and Reess won with the ace, and thus looked to be going two down for a 7-IMP loss. However, when she led a low spade from dummy at trick two, the American North, presumably concerned that declarer might hold a singleton jack, fatally rose with the ♠K. Reess ruffed, cashed the ♥A and crossed back to dummy with a heart ruff. Away went two of declarer's diamonds on the ♠AQ. Reess could now ruff her last heart in dummy and concede just one trick in each of the minors. E/W +750 and 14 IMPs to France.

On the penultimate deal of the set, the Americans bid to 3NT having failed to locate their eight-card heart fit. 3NT was always likely to make, but not certain. As the cards lie, declarer managed eleven tricks: a fairly unimpressive N/S +660. At the other table, the French pair not only found their major, but bid to a slam that needed a bit more than a 3-2 trump break but was certainly a reasonable proposition. When trumps split 4-1, that was curtains for declarer: N/S -200 and a fortunate 14 IMPs to USA-1.

The Americans gained a partscore swing on the last deal of the set to make the set score 43-39 in favour of the French. With 32 boards left, the French therefore lead by 25, 150-125. It is not an insurmountable lead, but the French had much the better of this set and were unlucky not to gain significantly more, whilst the Americans seemed to be just hanging on by their fingernails. It will require a dramatic turnaround for the Americans to pull this one out of the bag, and I am putting my rapidly-devaluing rouble on hearing "La Marseillaise" at tonight's presentation ceremony.

**Mark Horton**

## THE RIGHT PATH

On the final deal of the fourth set both sides were able to start with a weak bid, but the effect was somewhat different:

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	Pass	3♥	3NT
All Pass			

Despite the poor 7-2-2-2 pattern and the prevailing vulnerability East weighed in with a maximum pressure pre-empt and South had enough to take a shot at game.

West led the ♣3 and thousands of spectators could see that going up with dummy's king and then knocking out the ♦A would result in at least nine tricks.

Not having all 52 cards in view declarer played dummy's two and East won with the jack and continued with the

♣Q. It would do no good to win that and when declarer ducked East switched to the ♥J and declarer won with the ace and played the ♦Q, West taking the ace and returning the two. Declarer won in dummy and played a heart, claiming nine tricks when East contributed the eight and he ducked!

Declarer wins the heart return and cashes three diamonds. The last of these sees West down to the ♣A and three spades and when he discards a spade declarer knows the suit is now breaking 2-2.

Because of the spade position declarer can also get home by taking the second heart, but is clearly inferior. However, suppose West had started with five spades headed by an honour. After taking the ♦A he can exit with the ♠9 and if declarer wins in hand and ducks a heart East wins and plays a second spade. If that was how the cards were disposed the only winning move would be to go up with the ♣K at trick one.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
2♠*	Pass	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

2♠ Spades and a minor

North had an awkward decision over 2NT and he opted to take the low road.

West led the ♣5 and declarer won the second round of the suit with dummy's king and knocked out the ♦A, +120 but a 7 IMP swing for Switzerland.



## World Championship Book Salsomaggiore 2022

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



Mark Horton &amp; Herman De wael

**LAST ROUND UP**

We decided to try and do a 'live' report on the last session – Herman typed up all the diagrams and the bidding records while I made some brief comments on the play.

Board 83. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣	3♠	Pass
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Declarer had an easy time in 4♥, +450.



Bas Drijver

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Declarer was able to ruff a diamond to get to dummy and take the spade finesse, -200, the vulnerable save collecting 6 IMPs that gave Switzerland the lead.

Board 86. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	1NT	2♦*
3♥*	4♣*	Pass	4♦
All Pass			

North's 4♣ was a transfer. Given that West had jumped to 3♥ to show his spades it seems odd that East did not do something over 4♦. Declarer managed 7 tricks, -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	—	1NT	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

With East as declarer 4♠ was untouchable. Declarer won the trump lead, went to dummy with a club and played a second spade. He could then eliminate the clubs ending in dummy and play a diamond, ducking North's jack. +420 and 10 big IMPs.

Board 90. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

When East led the ♦J declarer had no real chance and finished one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	All Pass	



Michal Klukowski



Sjoert Brink

Although Netherlands stopped short of the making 4♥ they picked up 7 IMPs to keep their hopes alive.

Board 93. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	2♦	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Watching on BBO I thought West might have preferred 4♦ to 4♥. Still, if North doubles EW must have a way for East to show his second-round control. It was a missed opportunity. South led the ♦3, +680.



## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♦	2♥	3♣	4♥
4♠	All Pass		

The NS bidding, particularly 4♥, made life tough for EW, who collected +710 and an IMP when South led a heart.

## Board 95. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	—	Pass
3♥	3NT	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

4♥ Clubs



Piotr Gawrys

West's 3♥ might have been a match winner, but NS managed to stop in time, +600.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	—	—	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♦
3♥	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

2♣ 11/15 6+♣

4♠ was a comfortable spot and declarer collected 11 tricks, +650 and a couple of IMPs.

## Board 96. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
Pass	1♦	Dble	1NT
All Pass			

A thin game, not easy to make, was available on the last board – as you can see the Netherlands stayed low for +120 but it was not enough, even though declarer went down in the Open Room.

Switzerland 167 – Netherlands 164

# Bermuda Bowl

## *Gold*



SWITZERLAND: Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Piotr Gawryś, Michał Klukowski, Fernando Piedra, Pierre Zimmermann, Krzysztof Martens (coach)

## *Silver*



NETHERLANDS: Simon de Wijs, Bauke Muller, Berend van den Bos, Joris van Lankveld, Ricco van Prooijen, Louk Verhees Jr, Gert-Jan Ros (npc), Ton Bakkeren (coach)

## *Bronze*



NORWAY: Terje Aa, Christian Bakke, Boye Brogeland, Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Allan Livgård, Tolle Stabell (npc), Sten Bjertnes (coach)



USA 1: Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Ralph Katz, Bobby Levin, Nick Nickell, Steve Weinstein, Jill Levin (npc), Eric O. Kokish (coach)

Of the 24 semifinalists this year, 13 had already won a Bermuda Bowl in the past, and 2 had even won two, and Nick Nickell four even. The final would determine whether Piotr Gawryś or Bauke Muller would join the select club of 25 winners of three or more Bermuda Bowls.

Geir Helgemo is the recordholder among current players, with a total of 18 World Championship medals. Tor Helness only has 17 - he scored his first one in 1980, but Helgemo caught up with two Junior ones. Piotr Gawryś has 14 medals. Michał Klukowski already has 10, and that includes only three junior events.

Pierre Zimmermann is also already up to a medal tally of ten.

Bas Drijver now has 9 medals, 3 of them gold. all but one (the 2003 junior pairs) came with Sjoert Brink who consequently has 8 medals, 3 of them gold.

Nick Nickell has won his eighth medal, all but one (silver in the Rosenblum) in the Bermuda Bowl. After his 4 golds and 2 silvers, he now has a complete set of Bermuda Bowl medals.

Boye Brogeland also has 8 world medals, three of them in junior play.

Bauke Muller has eight medals, Simon de Wijs seven.

Terje Aa has won his sixth medal, 5 in Bermuda Bowls, one in the World Games. He claims he has never finished lower than fourth, but then again, he has never been on a winning side.

Eric Greco also has six medals, two of them in Junior teams. So has Geoff Hampson, but his Junior team medal came as a representative of Canada.

Ralph Katz and Bobby Levin also have six medals.

Ricco van Prooijen has won a gold and four silver medals. Louk Verhees also has 5, but there is a bronze next to his 1 gold and 3 silvers.

Christian Bakke also has five medals, all previous ones from Junior events.

Allan Livgård is up to his fourth bronze medal, two of them from Youth events.

Berend van den Bos scored his first Medal at the senior level. He won three world titles in the Juniors, all together with Joris van Lankveld, who has an extra silver from the Junior teams in 2014.

Strangely enough, this is Steve Weinstein's first team medal, but he does have a gold and a silver from the World Open pairs.

These are not the first medals for Switzerland. Pierre Zimmermann himself scored his first two medals (on Transnational teams) while representing his native country, and Jean Besse played on the European Bermuda Bowl team of 1954.





# Venice Cup

## *Gold*



SWEDEN: Kathrine Bertheau, Sanna Clementsson, Louise Hallqvist, Ylva Johansson, Jessica Larsson, Emma Övelius, Tobias Törnqvist (npc), Carina Wademark (coach)

## *Silver*



TURKEY: Özlem Kandolu, Serap Kuranoğlu, Eren Özan, İrem Özbay, Hatice Özgür, Dilek Yavaş, Belis Atalay (npc), Halil Atalay (coach)

## *Bronze*



ENGLAND: Sally Brock, Fiona Brown, Heather Dhondy, Catherine Draper, Gillian Fawcett, Nevena Senior, David Burn (npc)



POLAND: Cathy Bałdysz, Sophia Bałdysz, Katarzyna Dufurat, Danuta Kazmucha, Anna Sarniak, Joanna Zalewska, Mirosław Cichocki (npc)

Sally Brock brings her medal tally at World Championships to 16. We do not reveal the date of her first one.

Nevena Senior now has eight medals (one of them representing Bulgaria). Heather Dhondy has seven medals, Fiona Brown six, Catherine Draper five.

Kathrine Bertheau, Jessica Larsson, Emma Övelius and Sanna Clementsson were also a member of the winning Venice Cup team in 2019, Kathrine had three prior medals, Jessica, Emma and Sanna one (Venice Cup bronze in 2017).

Cathy Bałdysz previously won a bronze on the Women's team in 2012. Her daughter Sophia won a silver on the Girl's team of 2018. Danuta Kazmucha, Katarzyna Dufurat and Joanna Zalewska were also on that Girl's team, with the first two also winning a Women's team bronze in that same year. Danuta has an additional Girls team gold from 2010.

Turkey had previously won a silver and a bronze at Junior level, with one individual (Nafiz Zorlu) getting a gold as part of a transnational Mixed team.

# D'Orsi Trophy

## *Gold*



POLAND: Apolinary Kowalski, Michał Kwiecień, Victor Markowicz, Krzysztof Moszczyński, Jacek Romański, Włodzimierz Starkowski, Włodzimierz Wala (npc)

## *Silver*



INDIA: Rajesh Dalal, Sukamal Das, Ashok Kumar Goel, Anil Padhye, Subrata Saha, Ramratnam Krishnan (pc & coach)

## *Bronze*



DENMARK: Klaus Adamsen, Jørgen Cilleborg Hansen, Dennis Koch-Palmund, Dorthe Schaltz, Peter Schaltz, Steen Schou, Bo Loenberg Bilde (npc)



FRANCE: Michel Abécassis, Marc Bompis, Alain Levy, Philippe Marill, Dominique Pilon, Philippe Soulet, Guy Lasserre (npc), Solange D'Elbée (coach)

Not surprisingly, many of the Senior players have won medals at World Championships before: Apolinary Kowalski took his ninth World Championship medal, his third gold after the Mixed pairs in 1994 and the Senior teams in 2014.

Jacek Romański is up to eight medals, it is his third gold after the Olympiad in 1984 and the senior teams in 2014.

Michał Kwiecień now has seven medals, also including three golds (Open pairs in 1998 and Senior teams in 2018).

Victor Markowicz is also up to seven medals, all of them at Seniors events. It is only his second gold.

Alain Levy has six medals, including three Open team golds (one of them here in Salsomaggiore)

Philippe Soulet has five, including two Open team golds (1980 and '82).

Steen Schou is up to four medals, including gold in the d'Orsi Trophy two years ago.

Dorthe Schaltz has three medals, with gold in the Women's team Olympiad in 1988 and bronze at Senior teams in 2016. Peter also has three medals, bronze in the Open teams in 1984 and the two Senior teams together with his wife.

Marc Bompis now has a full set, after gold in Open teams in 1996 and silver in the Mixed Pairs in 1998.

Rajesh Dalal previously won bronze in the Open teams in 1988.

Sukarnal Das and Subrata Saha were on the Indian team that won bronze in the d'Orsi Trophy in 2019.

Jørgen Hansen won gold in the d'Orsi Trophy in 2019. He also won bronze in the Senior teams at the World Games in 2016.

Dominique Pilon previously won gold in the open teams in 1982.

Dennis Koch-Palmund won bronze in the Open team Olympiad in 1996.

Włodzimierz Starkowski previously won the Open teams in 2014.

Krzysztof Moszczyński had a bronze in the Open teams of 1989.

This is India's first-ever silver medal, they previously won four bronzes.



# Wuhan Cup

## *Gold*



FRANCE: Bénédicte Cronier, Philippe Cronier, Vanessa Reess, Pierre Schmidt, Lionel Sebbane, Joanna Zochowska, Laurent Thuillez (npc), François Combescure (coach)

## *Silver*



USA 1: Dana Berkowitz, Eldad Ginossar, Debbie Rosenberg, Andrew Rosenthal, Chris Willenken, Migry Zur-Campanile, Jeff Aker (npc)

## *Bronze*



GERMANY: Marie Eggeling, Anne Gladiator, Michael Gromöller, Paul Grünke, Helmut Häusler, Daniela Von Arnim, Max Weiss (npc), Monika Luy (coach)



ITALY: Dario Attanasio, Irene Baroni, Leonardo Cima, Barbara Dessi, Alessandro Gandoglia, Gabriella Manara, Luigina Gentili (npc)

Bénédicte Cronier gained her 16th medal here. Five of those are golds. Apart from a Mixed pairs bronze in 2018, all the others were in the Women's series. Philippe has five medals, next to the two mixed medals he won with his wife, he has two Open team bronzes and a Senior team gold (2014).

Daniela Von Arnim won her 10th medal, which includes two Venice Cup wins.

Debbie Rosenberg is up to five medals, two golds and a silver in Women teams and a gold in the 2002 Women pairs.

Vanessa Reess similarly has won three medals on Women's teams, she also has a bronze from the 2001 Transnational.

Joanna Zochowska has four medals, also including two Venice Cup wins.

Migry Zur-Campanile has three medals, including a gold in the 2000 Transnational Mixed teams, on a team that included Piotr Gawrys.

Chris Willenken gains his second silver in Mixed teams, he has another silver from the 1999 Junior teams.

Irene Baroni won her second bronze medal after the 2018 McConnell.

Alessandro Gandoglia adds a bronze to his 2015 Junior team gold.

Eldad Ginossar previously won an Open team gold (representing Israel).

Michael Gromöller won bronze in the 2009 Transnational Open teams.

Pierre Schmidt has a silver from the 2016 Senior teams.

# Cumulative Medal Table for all World Championships



Medal Table	gold	silver	bronze	total
USA	96.17	81.30	58.22	235.69
France	24	31.67	40.03	95.70
China	17.5	25.67	32.33	75.50
Italy	39.27	18.83	13.83	71.93
Poland	25.48	26.17	18.25	69.89
Netherlands	15	16.67	25.25	56.92
England	16.16	17.63	24.19	51.98
Sweden	14.67	8.83	15.90	39.40
Norway	7.67	8.17	12.25	28.08
Germany	5.58	6	11.32	22.90
Israel	10.19	5.67	5	20.85
Denmark	5	2.67	12.17	20.83
Canada	1.25	8.87	10.48	20.60
Austria	7.73	7.17	2	16.90
Russia	3.33	4.5	7	14.83
Brazil	4.33	3	6	13.33
Indonesia		6	3	9.00
Australia		5	4	9.00
Bulgaria	1.2	2	5	8.20
Argentina	0.17	2	4.2	6.37
Monaco	2.47	3	2	7.47
India		1	4	5.00
Japan	1.5	2		3.50
Turkey	0.17	2	1.17	3.33
Chinese Taipei	1	1.83	0.33	3.17
Iceland	2.67	0.33		3.00
Switzerland	1.83	0.67		2.50
Scotland	1	0.54	0.58	2.12
New Zealand	1	1		2.00
Serbia	1	1		2.00
Croatia	1		1	2.00
Hungary	1		1	2.00
Pakistan		2		2.00
South Africa		2		2.00
Singapore		1	1	2.00
Venezuela		1	1	2.00
China Hong Kong			2	2.00
Romania			1.75	1.75
Egypt	1.5			1.50
Greece	1		0.25	1.25
Serbia		1		1.00
Latvia		1		1.00
Uruguay		0.5	0.5	1.00
Belgium			1	1.00
Lithuania			1	1.00
Czechia	0.5			0.50
Ireland	0.5			0.50
Belarus		0.17		0.17
Thailand		0.17		0.17
<b>total</b> (49 different NBOs)	<b>312.83</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>945.83</b>

Explanation: Every medal is counted equally (teams, pairs and individual), and medals gained by multi-national participants are divided.

Competitions are counted from eight categories: Open, Women, Mixed, Seniors, U26 Open, U26 Women, U21 and U16. All World Championships since 1937 are counted.

The total of gold medals adds up to 312.83 because Helgemo's medal of 2018 is not counted.

Denmark passed Canada into twelfth place on this table.

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M.P. Pairs	November 12
National Simultaneous	November 13
IMP Pairs	November 14,15
Open Pairs	November 16,17,18
Teams	November 18,19

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## Further information and registration:

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