



16TH WORLD BRIDGE SERIES



DAILY BULLETIN

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Issue No. 8

Saturday, 27th August 2022

ALL THE PRESIDENT'S (WO)MEN



Marc De Pauw, Bernard Pascal, Patrick Choy, Eric Laurant, Nader Hanna, Jan Kamras, Gianarrigo Rona, Gilad Ofir, David Harris, Suzi Subeck, Ben Thompson, AJ Stephani, Fernando Lema, Helen Krüger, Gonzalo Herrera, Kip Rotchell, Marcelo Caracci, Kirubakara Moorthy, Arianna Testa

After three sessions, the final of the Rosenblum is still in the balance, NICKELL leading VENTIN 110-84.

After day one of the Open Pairs final, Krzysztof Buras and Piotr Lutostanski are leading the way followed by Nicholas Gartaganis and Michel Lorber and Tony Nunn and Paul Dalley.

The Women's semifinal saw Carla Arnolds and her daughter Sandra Kolen top the qualifiers for today's final.



Yesterday the President of the WBF Gianarrigo Rona, the President elect Jan Kamras, the Treasurer Marc De Pauw and the President of the Fédération Royale Marocaine de Bridge signed the contract for the 46th World Bridge Team Championships. The Championships will be held at the Palais des Congrès in Marrakech, Morocco, from 20th August to 2nd September 2023. All the necessary information will follow in due course.

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Abridged Bridge to Bridge

All players should be aware that if they plan to travel to Hala Stulecia by car, their journey may take up to 20 minutes longer from Monday 22nd August onwards. This is because of repairs to the bridge that provides access to the venue.

So please allow more time if you plan to travel by car. This should not affect the trams.



Prize Giving Ceremonies

The Prize Giving ceremony for the Rosenblum will start at 19.00. The prize giving for the McConnell and all Pairs events will be afterwards, we expect the McConnell to start around 19.45/ 20.00 and the whole ceremonies to be finished no later than 20.30.

Schedule Saturday 27th August

Rosenblum	Open Pairs	Side Event	Women Pairs
Finals	Final A	Open & Women	Final
10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
13.30	14.00	14.00	14.00
16.15	17.20	17.00	17.00

Biggest penalty in world class event?

by Barry Rigal

I'm not exactly a historian of the penalties recorded at world events but I do remember that when Great Britain reached the final of the World Championships in 1987, history of an unusual sort was made, when in the process Tony Forrester and John Armstrong collected a penalty of 2800 on one deal. This was generally thought to have been the largest penalty recorded in a World Championship event.

However, in a sense, the Polish team in the 1995 European Championships went one "better" than this. They conceded a penalty of 2800 on a deal where their side was probably going to make at least a game in an alternative denomination! In addition they were non-vulnerable, meaning they had to go down even more tricks than in the 1987 incident.

Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ K J 10 8 4 ♥ J 9 ♦ 6 4 ♣ 10 9 5 4	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: 80px; height: 80px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> NE</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> WS</div> </div>	♠ A Q ♥ K 6 ♦ A K 8 7 5 3 ♣ Q J 2	♠ 5 3 ♥ 10 8 4 3 2 ♦ Q J 10 9 2 ♣ 8
	♠ 9 7 6 2 ♥ A Q 7 5 ♦ — ♣ A K 7 6 3		

Names have been withheld to protect innocent and guilty alike, but the Poles were sitting North-South when the Norwegian East opened a Strong Club. The auction after that gets a little tangled, but bear with me.

West	North	East	South
—	—	1♣	1♥*
Dble	2NT**	3NT	Dble
4♠	4NT	Pass	5♣
Dble	Rdbl	All Pass	

1♥ Either hearts plus clubs, or diamonds plus spades.
 2NT Serious support for at least one of partner's suits, whichever pair he has.

Over the Strong Club the Polish South could not show his three-suiter, so he sensibly elected to treat his hand as a two-suiter with hearts and clubs, and at his next turn he doubled Three No-trumps to show a good hand. That contract would probably have gone one down, however West very unwisely ran to Four Spades (which could go four down on best defence). North was having none of this, however, and decided to play in his partner's red suit; remember, he knew that his partner had a red suit and a black suit.

Over South's bid of Five Clubs, North's redouble for rescue was not interpreted that way . . . and a less than optimal contract was reached. On a trump lead, declarer

won and laid down the ace of hearts, then played a second heart. Five rounds of spades followed, allowing East to ruff the fifth with the jack of clubs, and promote an extra trump trick for the defence. That was six down, for the aforementioned 2800. Declarer, meanwhile, was no doubt ruefully reflecting that unless the defence had led three rounds of spades at once, he could have made at least twelve tricks in Five Hearts.

The odd thing was that despite losing this huge swing, the Poles still beat the Norwegians 18-12 in their individual encounter. But as the Poles failed to qualify for the Bermuda Bowl in Beijing by the smallest of margins, this hand certainly cost them a place there.

However, that record has now been expunged in the semi-finals of the pairs event.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ A 8 2 ♥ A Q 9 3 ♦ A Q 4 ♣ K 9 7	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: 80px; height: 80px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> NE</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> WS</div> </div>	♠ 9 5 ♥ 10 5 ♦ J 10 9 6 2 ♣ A J 6 2	♠ K Q J 10 7 6 4 ♥ 2 ♦ 5 ♣ Q 10 8 4
	♠ 3 ♥ K J 8 7 6 4 ♦ K 8 7 3 ♣ 5 3		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hans	Mr X	Gill	Mr Y
—	—	Pass	2♦*
Dble	Rdbl*	All Pass	

2♦ Multi
 Rdbl Either...offering to play OR I have my own suit please bid 2♥

Sartaj Hans doubled the Multi 2♦ and was not unhappy to have the opportunity to defend a redoubled contract. He hit on the ♦A lead and continued with the ♦Q when Peter Gill dropped the jack. Declarer ducked the second diamond and won the third. It feels right to play a spade now but he exited with the fourth diamond.

Gill won the diamond and shifted to the ♥10. When the ♣7 came through, at this point declarer (as Gerard Hoffnung might have said) must have lost his presence of mind. He did not cover the ♣7 and Gill also ducked. Now the defenders could cash out easily enough for down seven and 3400.

Note however, that had declarer covered the club seven, Gill wins cheaply, cashes the long diamond and exits with a second heart to his partner. Now Hans can cash his ♠A and ♥A and dummy is squeezed in the black suits for the same seven down! Now THAT would be embarrassing.

Rosenblum Quarter-finals S2
Robinson v Wolfson

by Marc Smith

These two teams finished fourth and fifth in the qualifying at the start of the week. In the early knockout rounds, Robinson has won twice by margins of more than 30 IMPs, whilst Wolfson won their Round of 32 match with a set to spare but then just squeaked past Zamir by 6 IMPs after being nearly 40 up with a set to play in the Round of 16. That all suggests that today's match should be a close-run affair and, indeed, the teams were separated by only 7 IMPs (Wolfson leading 33-26) after the first 14-board segment. So it was that the large BBO VuGraph crowd settled in for the second stanza.

Just one bidding problem today. With just the opponents vulnerable, you are West holding:

- ♠ K 8 7
- ♥ A 5
- ♦ A K J 10 8
- ♣ K Q J

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
?			

Your diamond suit persuades you to upgrade to a 22-23 NT and partner transfers to spades. Your 3♠ says nothing about your spade holding and partner now bids a quantitative 4NT. What action, if any, do you take?

We join the action early in the set, with both West players facing the problem just posed.



Daniel Korbel



Jeff Wolfson

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wolfson	Robinson	Garner	Korbel
—	—	Pass	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

Jeff Wolfson liked his hand enough to accept the slam try, and he also chose to play in spades. Unfortunately, the distribution of the defensive hands was such that making even game in spades was no certainty.

Eric Robinson kicked off with the ♣A and a second club. When declarer started trumps by cashing the king, he was

in trouble. A second round of spades revealed the bad break and now declarer switched to diamonds. However, South ruffed the second round and switched to hearts, ensuring a fourth trick for the defence. E/W -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Van Prooijen	Gold	Verhees
—	—	Pass	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT*	All Pass

Faced with the same decision, Zia thought for some considerable time before passing 4NT, heralding much applause from the cheap seats. North led a diamond and there was little to the play, declarer conceding tricks to the ♣A and the ♥K and making the rest. E/W +460 and 12 well-deserved IMPs to Robinson.

The crowd did not have to wait long for the next potential slam hand:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

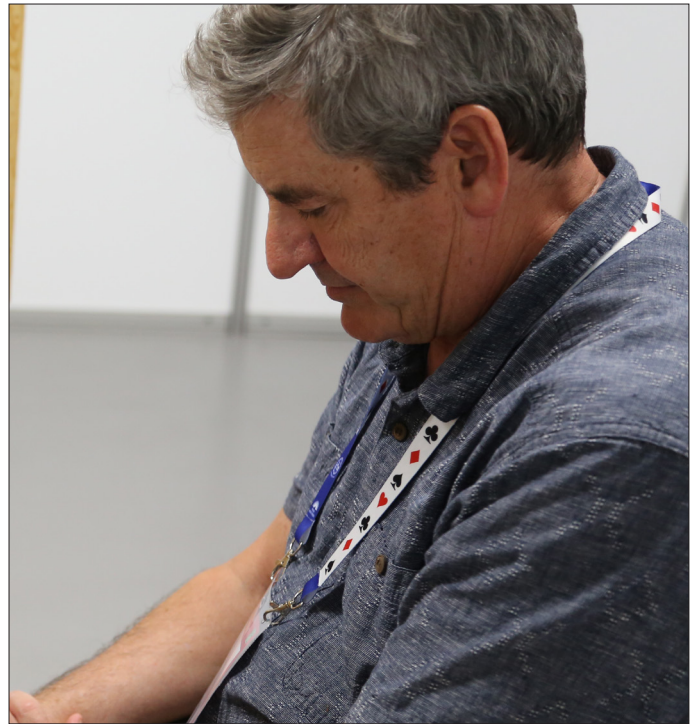
West	North	East	South
Wolfson	Robinson	Garner	Korbel
Pass	1♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Eric Robinson opened 1♦ and Daniel Korbel made an invitational jump to 3♣. I know this is a popular method in North America, but it seems to me to be deeply flawed, as opener never knows what to do when he has extra values. Robinson understandably took a shot at 3NT and found that he had 12 top tricks. N/S +690.

Could the European Champions' famed Tarzan Club system find a way to slam?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Van Prooijen	Gold	Verhees
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	



Eric Robinson

Ricco van Prooijen's 1♣ opening was any 15+ and the 1♦ was response was 0-8 according to their convention card. Now they could safely play slam in either clubs or NT, with North having bid clubs first. North's 1♥ was artificial, showing 18+, and South's 2♥ was alerted as showing clubs. 2NT was natural and now Louk Verhees jumped to 4♣. However, when Van Prooijen could only raise to game, there was little more that Verhees could do on his aceless hand. Declarer made the same 12 tricks: +620 and 2 IMPs to Wolfson.

The next major swing came as a result of a combination of courageous bidding and astute declarer play:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wolfson	Robinson	Garner	Korbel
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

Steve Garner rebid an 11-14 INT and Jeff Wolfson raised invitationaly via a 2♣ puppet. With his square shape and no intermediates, Garner did not think he had enough to accept. Daniel Korbel led the ♦4 and declarer played on clubs, eventually setting up dummy's ♣9 up as a second winner in the suit. After cashing his diamond winners, Robinson exited with the ♥A and a second heart, meaning that declarer did not have to guess that suit. The spade position then provided Garner with his eighth trick. E/W +120.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Van Prooijen	Gold	Verhees
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

After the same start, Zia found out about three-card spade support, but I suspect that information made little difference to his evaluation. He hasn't enjoyed as much success as he has over the years by playing in 2NT – it's all about making games, so he jumped to 3NT.

Now it was up to David Gold to conjure rabbits out of hats, and he got off to a good start when Verhees opened the ♥9. Van Prooijen won with the ♥A and returned to ♥7, and it was here that Gold found the key play of the ♥J from his hand. He didn't want Verhees to switch to a diamond and, by making it look as if the hearts were 4-3-3-3 around the able, Gold persuaded the European champion from Madeira to continue with a third round of hearts after he won with the ♥Q.

That was all the help Gold needed, although Van Prooijen's spectacular discard of the ♣K at trick three perhaps did not hurt. The ♣9 was run to South's ten and now Verhees switched to diamonds, but it was too late. A club to the ace and a third round of clubs to South's queen established the ♣9 as a trick for declarer. The favourable spade position then gave declarer three tricks there to accompany two in each of the other three suits. E/W +600 and another 10 IMPs to Robinson.

Robinson won the set 52-8 to blow the match wide open. With 28 boards still to be played, it is far from over, but Robinson now leads by 37 IMPs (78-41). With Meckstroth/Berkowitz to come back in for the second half, it would surely be only a very rich man who would bet against them advancing to the semi-finals.

Indeed, there was little in the remaining two sets, Wolfson gaining 7 IMPs on the third and Robinson winning the fourth by 5 IMPs to record a 148-113 victory.

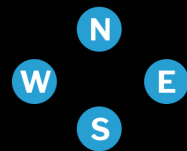


Let me ask you how would you play this hand?

On today's deal, you, playing as South, become declarer in 3NT, and West, on the left, leads the ♦5, on which East plays the ♦10.

What is the best line of play?

♠ A Q 8
 ♥ A 8 7 2
 ♦ 6
 ♣ Q J 9 8 6



♠ J 7 3
 ♥ K 5
 ♦ K J 7 4
 ♣ A 10 5 2



Do you play bridge online?

IntoBridge.com

Rosenblum Semi-finals S2
Team Black v Nickell
by Marc Smith

Although Nickell have been perennial contenders at World Championships for about as long as any of us can remember, Team Black comes into this semi-final having knocked out the Bermuda Bowl champions in the quarter-finals. Can they raise their game again to meet this daunting challenge?

We start with an opening lead problem today: With just the opponents vulnerable, you are East and hear the following auction:

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

What do you lead?

TEAM BLACK edged the opening stanza 27-22, but that 5-IMP lead paled into insignificance compared to the number of IMPs at stake on the opening lead problem faced by both East players on the very first deal of this set. Nick Nickell heard the auction given in the problem above:



Andrew Black

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 9 7 4
♥ A 9 5 3 2
♦ A K 6 5
♣ —

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Bertheau	Nickell	Black
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Although he knew that dummy had a five-card heart suit, Nickell duly found the winning heart lead against 6♠.

Peter Bertheau won with the ♥A and then tried to combine his chances. He first tried to bring down the ♠Q in two rounds and, when that failed, he switched to diamonds, hoping that the defender with the high trump held at least three diamonds. It was not to be, Nickell ruffing the second diamond and cashing the ♥Q for one down. N/S -100.

At the other table, Simon Hult knew less about the distribution.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Hampson	Hult	Greco
—	—	—	1♣*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Eric Greco opened a Strong Club and Geoff Hampson's 2♥ response showed a balanced hand of either 12-13 or 16+. South's 3♣ was then Stayman and Greco confirmed the 4-4 fit and his minimum with a simple raise to game. Hampson now rolled out Blackwood and stopped in a small slam once he found out that the ♠Q was missing.

Hult opened the $\diamond 7$, and now declarer's only concern was to avoid losing two trumps. He ruffed his club loser in dummy and cashed the $\spadesuit A$ ($\spadesuit 10$ from East), and then ran the $\spadesuit 9$. East won with the $\spadesuit Q$ but had no killing continuation. N/S +1430 and 17 massive IMPs to Nickell to begin the stanza.

It was not long before more IMPs changed hands, when we had a variation of a Sherlock Holmes classic, "The Strange Case of the Swedish Double". Gunnar Hallberg is a quiet-spoken man of few words, but one would have expected his rubber-bridge heritage to lead him to the one word required from him in this auction:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

<p>\spadesuit K Q J 9 5 4 \heartsuit 7 \diamond A K 9 7 \clubsuit K J</p>	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>\spadesuit 6 3 2 \heartsuit 5 2 \diamond J 8 6 3 \clubsuit 10 7 6 2</p>	<p>\spadesuit 10 8 7 \heartsuit K Q J 9 6 \diamond 5 4 \clubsuit 9 8 5</p>
	<p>\spadesuit A \heartsuit A 10 8 4 3 \diamond Q 10 2 \clubsuit A Q 4 3</p>		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Hampson	Hult	Greco
—	—	2 \heartsuit	2NT
All Pass			

Hallberg's conservative pass truly let the vulnerable Americans off the hook. He led the $\spadesuit K$ and was soon cashing five winners in his long suit to go with one club and two diamonds. E/W +300, but even at 100 a trick that seemed like poor recompense.

The American West at the other table was the exact opposite of reticent, even though his partner had remained silent.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Bertheau	Nickell	Black
—	—	Pass	1 \heartsuit
4 \spadesuit	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Nickell did not open his weak two, which allowed Andrew Black to claim the heart suit. Ralph Katz then took full advantage of the favourable vulnerability by essaying 4 \spadesuit , and Peter Bertheau confirmed that the Black team had been issued with double cards. Unfortunately for this Swede, there were just three aces to lose: E/W +590 and another 7 IMPs to Nickell.

By the halfway point in the set, things were unravelling for the Black team. This may perhaps not look like the sort of board that my good friend David Bird would have chosen to include in his Bulletin report...

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

<p>\spadesuit K 8 \heartsuit Q J 7 5 4 3 \diamond 9 8 5 \clubsuit 9 4</p>	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>\spadesuit 10 7 2 \heartsuit K 9 8 2 \diamond 10 7 2 \clubsuit Q 10 6</p>	<p>\spadesuit Q J 6 4 3 \heartsuit A \diamond Q J 3 \clubsuit 8 7 3 2</p>
	<p>\spadesuit A 9 5 \heartsuit 10 6 \diamond A K 6 4 \clubsuit A K J 5</p>		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Bertheau	Nickell	Black
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 \clubsuit
1 \heartsuit	Pass	1 \spadesuit	Dble
Pass	INT	All Pass	

Nickell led the $\spadesuit 4$ and it looks as if declarer has seven top tricks. Bertheau won the third round of spades, cashed his four club winners, and then tried a heart to the king for an overtrick. Nickell won, cashed his spade winners, exited with a high diamond, and the defence waited to make a sixth trick at the end. N/S +90.

That does not look like a particularly interesting deal, perhaps, but at the other table, we had another mission for Dr. Watson... "The Strange Case of the Disappearing Defensive Tricks".

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Hampson	Hult	Greco
2 \heartsuit	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2 \spadesuit	Pass	3 \heartsuit
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Gunnar Hallberg started things rolling with a weak 2 \heartsuit opening, and once the wheels were turning the American char-a-banc chugged merrily onward to its inevitable conclusion.

We have already seen that this contract is way too ambitious, but a strange thing happened on the way to the forum. With spades bid on his right, one cannot blame Simon Hult for opening proceedings with the ace of the suit bid by his partner. At trick two, he then switched to the $\diamond Q$, on which Hallberg signalled with the $\diamond 9$ (udca). Bertheau won with the $\diamond A$ and advanced the $\heartsuit 10$ from dummy, covered by jack and king. The $\heartsuit 9$ then went to West's queen and, when Hallberg returned his low diamond to the seven, jack and king, the defensive debacle was complete. Declarer made four tricks in each minor, plus two hearts and one spade: N/S +660 and another 11 IMPs to Nickell. Perhaps the Swedish pair should avoid opening 2 \heartsuit – nothing good ever seems to come of doing so!

With 10 boards played, Nickell had gained 45-1 on the set. Then Team Black finally got on the scoresheet in a meaningful way:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Bertheau	Nickell	Black
—	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	All Pass

Nickell upgraded his hand to 22-23. Katz started with Stayman and, when he found hearts opposite, continued with 4♣, which presumably showed diamonds. That did nothing to enthuse Nickell, who quickly discouraged with 4NT. Katz had nothing more to say, so there matters rested.

South led a club to the queen and ace, and Nickell continued with the ♣J at trick two. When that held, he claimed his 11 tricks: E/W +660.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Hampson	Hult	Greco
—	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♦	All Pass

Hult opened with a 20-22 2NT and Hallberg began with a 3♦ bid that apparently showed a four-card major and a longer minor. Hult bid his hearts and Hallberg now showed his minor. When Hult co-operated with a 4♥ cue-bid, Hallberg made one more try, cue-bidding his club control. With such great controls, Hult could hardly bid less than six.

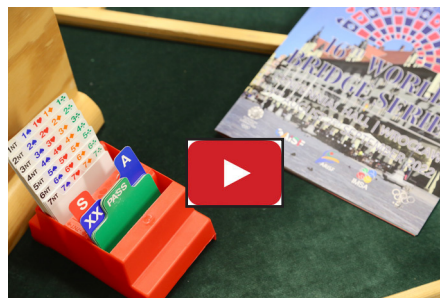
It may not be the best of slams but, as Bob Hamman once observed, any slam that makes is a good slam. The defence could perhaps have been more demanding, and North's ♠A lead certainly did declarer no harm. Hallberg won the heart switch, unblocked the ♠K, returned to his hand with a club ruff, and ruffed a spade with the ♦A. A trump to hand then enabled him to draw trumps and claim. E/W +1370 and a much-needed 12 IMPs to Team Black.

Unfortunately, one swallow does not make a summer and Nickell promptly gained 11-IMP swings on each of the next two deals to win the set 69-13 and thus open a 53-IMP lead (93-40) midway through the match.

There are some people on the pitch... they think it's all over... is it now?

Video Corner

You can access our full playlist here::



Today, we have 3 new videos:



Step by Step with Jack Zhao



What do you bid?




The Chronicles of Wroclaw

McConnell Final
Brody v Tri Polar - Set 4
 by Ron Tacchi

With half the sessions played from the final of the McConnell Cup Brody outscored Tri Polar on all three sessions, but by no means is that a knock-out blow as the margins were 9, 3 and 2 IMPs. A lead of 14 can be wiped out in a single board, so all to play for.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Brody</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Brody, showing faith in Rimstedt's dummy play, raised to game when a spade fit was uncovered. After the heart lead Rimstedt played the trump suit to her advantage by cashing the ace, noting the fall of the ♠9, and leading the ♠8 up to the queen, capturing Eythorsdottir's jack and so holding her trump losses to one. When Seamon-Molson took the king of trumps to ensure defeat of the contract she needed to switch to a club but continued hearts, the suit her partner had led. Thanks to the kind fall of the trumps declarer had an entry to dummy with the ♠7. The ♦9 appeared from dummy and when East played low declarer inserted the jack, unfortunately for Rimstedt on the current lie of the cards it was not the winning move. My limited analysis of the diamond suit confirms declarer's choice of the jack as the best play. It meant that the contract was down one as the defence immediately switched to clubs.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

The 2NT rebid showed 18-19 and so Larsson was happy to pass. Declarer took her three spades, two clubs, two

hearts and could set up a diamond trick to bring home her contract and 5 IMPs to Tri Polar.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Brody</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
—	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♥*	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
2♦	Weak Two		
4♥	Splinter agreeing spades		

Seamon-Molson's weak two may not be everybody's cup of tea but it worked miracles here. The opposition never even mentioned their ten-card heart fit. Declarer played peacefully in Four Spades undoubled and the defence just took their five top tricks for two off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	2NT*	Dble*	4♥
Dble	All Pass		
2NT	Invite, 4-card support		
Dble	Support Double with 3♠		

When Michielsen did not have the same opening available to her Bertheau was able to open with One Heart and then accept her partner's invitation to game. West doubled the final contract, no doubt hoping her ♥K was well-placed and partner could come up with a trick. Neither of these aspirations came to pass. On the lead of the ♣6 Bertheau took the king and played the ♥Q but put up the ace from dummy, perhaps reading the opening lead as a singleton and not wishing to risk a club ruff. Declarer lost the now three top tricks of the ♥K, ♦A and ♠A to succeed and score 790 and 12 IMPs for Tri Polar. Tri Polar were now in the lead by six points.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ A K 6 5 ♥ A 5 3 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ A 10 7	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 9 4 3 ♥ 8 6 4 2 ♦ A 3 ♣ J 6 4 3
♠ Q J 8 2 ♥ K J 7 ♦ Q 10 6 ♣ Q 9 5	♠ 10 7 ♥ Q 10 9 ♦ K J 9 4 2 ♣ K 8 2	

Both Rooms

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Brody</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
3♣ Puppet			

Seamon-Molson chose the ♠9 as her opening lead, which was covered in dummy and then by the jack and finally the ace. Brody continued with a diamond towards dummy and East jumped up with her ace to lead another spade to partner's queen and declarer ducked. West played back the ♠2 which declarer took with her ♠6 before playing another diamond to the jack and West's queen. West exited with the ♠8 to declarer's king which gave her three tricks and Brody still had three diamonds, two clubs and a heart to come for the nine tricks necessary for game.

In the closed room, Michielsen's opening attack was the



Joan Brody

♠4 to the ♠7, jack and ace. A diamond to the jack lost to Rimstedt's queen and the jack of spades was returned and captured by Larsson's ace. Another diamond ensued, taken, perforce, by Michielsen's ace and the ♠9 went to the ♠10, queen and ducked by declarer. Rimstedt persisted with the ♠2 and now declarer misread the spade position and rose with the king. She could no longer make her contract as she only had five more top tricks and as soon as she lost the lead West would also have a spade to cash. 10 much needed IMPs to Brody.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 8 7 6 ♥ Q 6 4 ♦ J 10 7 6 ♣ A 9 7	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q 5 4 3 ♥ 9 5 3 2 ♦ A ♣ K Q J 6	♠ K J 2 ♥ 10 8 7 ♦ K Q 8 5 3 2 ♣ 8
		♠ A 10 9 ♥ A K J ♦ 9 4 ♣ 10 5 4 3 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Brody</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
—	1♣	1♦	2♦
3♦	All Pass		

West's pre-emptive diamond raise took the pot, the opposition taking a conservative view. Declarer had two losers in both majors and the ace of trumps and so finished one light. Did not look a huge swing as on first glance ten tricks appear to be the limit in clubs.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>
—	1♣	1♦	2♠
3♣	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Without interference, South's Two Spades is a game force with clubs so I assume the explanation holds over the One Diamond bid. When North admitted to having a genuine club suit the minor-suit game was bid. Was that first glance correct? No is the answer, as declarer can establish a spade to discard the losing heart. The diamond lead was taken in hand with the ace and the club king went to West's ace. The diamond continuation was ruffed in hand and when declarer led a spade East solved declarer's problem by splitting her honours, now making establishing a spade a simple undertaking. Eleven tricks and 7 IMPs to Tri Polar. The scores were now level and that was how they finished: 96 all, at the end of the session with two equalising three-point swings in the final five boards.

McConnell Final Set 5
A Close Run Thing
 by Mark Horton

The McConnell final was proving to be one of those matches where neither team could break away. They went into the penultimate session tied at 96-96.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ 3 2 ♥ K ♦ 10 8 4 3 2 ♣ 9 8 5 4 3	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K J 6 5 ♥ J 7 ♦ Q J 9 ♣ A K Q 10	♠ Q 10 8 ♥ Q 10 8 6 4 ♦ 7 ♣ J 7 6 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		♠ A 9 7 4 ♥ A 9 5 3 2 ♦ A K 6 5 ♣ —										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	All Pass	
2♣ Game forcing			

It looks like North intended 4NT to agree spades and ask for key cards.

East led the ♥6 and West won with the king and switched



Janice Seamon-Molson

to the ♣9, declarer winning with the ace and pitching dummy's ♥3. A spade to the ace and a spade to the jack meant 11 tricks, +460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	6♣*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	
4♣ Splinter			
4NT RKCB			
6♣ 2 key cards and a void			

There were a lot of IMPs riding on the lead.

When East went with her diamond declarer won with the nine, cashed the ♠K and played a spade to the ace, a classic safety play that ensured 12 tricks, +1430 and 13 IMPs.

Had East found a heart lead, the IMPs would have gone the other way.

Board 20. Dealer West All Vul.

♠ 10 7 2 ♥ K 9 8 2 ♦ 10 7 2 ♣ Q 10 6	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q J 6 4 3 ♥ A ♦ Q J 3 ♣ 8 7 3 2	♠ K 8 ♥ Q J 7 5 4 3 ♦ 9 8 5 ♣ 9 4
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		♠ A 9 5 ♥ 10 6 ♦ A K 6 4 ♣ A K J 5										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Dble
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

You may choose your adjective to describe West's 2♥.

North led the ♦2 for the queen and king and South cashed the ♣K and switched to the ♥6, declarer winning with dummy's ace and playing a spade to the king. When it held she continued with the ♥Q and North won and played two rounds of clubs, declarer ruffing, cashing the ♥J and playing a spade. South won with the ace and exited with the ♣J. Declarer ruffed and played the ♦8 for the ten, jack and ace, North's ♥8 ensuring two down, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Smith</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When West led the ♠K declarer ducked, took the next spade and cashed her winners, two down, -200 and 12 IMPs went away.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
—	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
3♦	No major		

South led the ♥4 and declarer took North's ten with the queen and cashed the top diamonds discarding a club from dummy while North pitched the ♠2. Declarer took the ♠A and played a second spade for the ten, queen and king and North returned the ♥7. Declarer had only eight tricks, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♥*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

1♦ 11-22, unbalanced, 4♦ only if 4441 or (14)44
 1NT Transfer
 2♥ Fourth suit forcing

South led the ♠10 and when declarer played dummy's queen North followed with the two. The early entry to dummy meant declarer could play a club to the jack and South took the ace and switched to a heart. Declarer was assured of 11 tricks, +460 and 11 IMPs.

Board 25. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
—	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠*	Dble	3NT*	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT*	All Pass
3♠	Relay		
3NT	Spade control		
4NT	Accepts diamonds and shows 3 key cards		



Jessica Larsson and Kathrine Bertheau - maybe following their teammates on BBO?

On this layout you will always take 12 tricks in 6♦, which is where East thought her side was heading.

South led the ♠9 and North took the ace and switched to the ♥10. Declarer won with the ace and cashed the diamonds, finishing with 11 tricks. Taking the ♣A first will see North get squeezed in the majors for an extra trick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	1♣*	Pass
1♥*	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4NT	All Pass

1♣ 12-14 NT or 18-19 NT or 11-22, natural, (4)5+♣ (4♣ only if 4414)
 1♥ Transfer, forcing but may be very weak

If I have interpreted the convention card correctly 2♥ was artificial. If the subsequent auction indicated the nature of East's hand, West had a close decision over 4NT.

North led the ♥10 and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the ♠K, continuing with the eight for the nine, jack and queen. When North exited with a heart declarer cashed her winners to flatten the deal.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
—	—	INT	2♣*
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

2♣ Majors

South led the ♠9 and when dummy's queen held declarer played a diamond to the ace, a classic safety play that will deliver four tricks in the suit 78% of the time. She continued with a heart to the eight and North won with the jack and returned the ♠7 to declarer's ace. A heart to the ace and a heart ruff was followed by two rounds of diamonds, endplaying North, who could only return a club, +600.

I have lost count of the number of times leading away from a king has turned out badly. If South had started with a heart, it would not necessarily have defeated the contract, but declarer would have had some work to do.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the ♠10 and when dummy's queen held declarer played the ♦6 to the ace. Having collected South's king declarer played a diamond to dummy's ten and North's jack, won the spade return and cashed her winners, the fall of the ♣Q getting her up to 11 tricks, +660 and a couple of IMPs.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	1♠	2NT*
3♠	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

2NT Heart support

East led the ♠5 and West took the ace and switched to the ♣2. Declarer took the ace, cashed the ♣K and the ♥K, played a diamond to the ace and cross-ruffed diamonds and spades before claiming the rest, +480.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	1♠	4♥
4♠	5♥	All Pass	

The play was essentially the same, so no swing. Why bother to report this push?

Only to wonder if jumping to 4♥ (or bidding 2NT) is the best move with South's hand. Wouldn't some sort of fit-showing bid in diamonds be a decent idea?

Whatever, Brody took the set 25-19 and led 121-115.

McConnell Final
Brody v Tri Polar - Set 6
 by Brian Senior

Overnight, at the half-way point in the McConnell Cup final, which was being contested by two multi-national teams, the American/Swedish/Hungarian combination, BRODY, led by 14 IMPs; 80-66. On the second morning, Set Four saw TRI POLAR, with one US, one Swedish, and one English pair, tie the match up at 96-96.

Set Five saw TRI POLAR take an early lead but it was BRODY who led at the end of the set, by 121-115. BRODY would take a 6 IMP lead into the final 14 boards of the 2022 McConnell Cup final.

Both E/W pairs missed a chance when they stopped short of a thin but making 3NT on the first board of the set, BRODY picking up an IMP for 3♦+1 against 3♦ just made; 122-115.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ J 6 3 ♥ K 9 ♦ J 7 2 ♣ Q 6 4 3 2	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 9 4 ♥ 8 ♦ A 9 8 6 5 4 ♣ J 10 8
♠ 10 7 5 ♥ J 7 4 ♦ Q 10 3 ♣ A K 9 7		♠ K Q 8 2 ♥ A Q 10 6 5 3 2 ♦ K ♣ 5

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Fischer	Larsson	S. Rimstedt
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	3♦	4♥
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
C. Rimstedt	Senior	Michielsen	Smith
—	—	2♦	2♥
3♦	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Larsson passed as dealer then came in with a 3♦ overcall at her next turn. By now, however, her opponents had found the heart fit and Sandra Rimstedt had an easy jump to game. Bertheau led the two of diamonds to the ten and ace and Larsson switched to ace and another spade. With two aces on her right, Sandra knew where the ♥K was so laid down the ace and claimed 10 tricks for +620.

Michielsen could open with a weak 2♦ bid but, though Cecilia Rimstedt could raise in competition, her opponents were not inconvenienced in the slightest and sailed into the heart game. Cecilia led the two of diamonds, Michielsen winning the ace and switching to the nine of spades. Smith

put up the king and, when that held the trick. laid down the ♥A before taking two spade pitches on the ♣K and ♦Q; 10 tricks for +620 and no swing.

Board 3 saw E/W with a four-four diamond fit in two flat hands, with 14 facing 10 HCP. Both stopped safely in 3♦ and made it exactly; no swing.

The East players had an awkward bidding decision on this next deal.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ Q 10 7 ♥ J 9 8 4 ♦ — ♣ A K J 9 5 4	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A J 8 6 ♥ 3 ♦ K Q 9 7 6 3 ♣ 6 3
♠ K 9 5 ♥ Q 10 7 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ Q 10 8		♠ 4 3 2 ♥ A K 6 5 ♦ A J 8 2 ♣ 7 2

West	North	East	South
C. Rimstedt	Senior	Michielsen	Smith
1♣	Pass	1♥*	Pass
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
2♠	All Pass		
1♥	Spades		




Nicola Smith

Michielsen must have been very tempted to bid on over 2♣, but eventually opted for caution and the likely safe plus score. Smith, however, had both unbid suits and opening values, so made a balancing double, and Cecilia showed her three-card spade support and was left to play there. Senior led the two of hearts, Smith winning the king and continuing with a low heart to the nine, ten and ruff. Cecilia crossruffed in the red suits, collecting three diamond ruffs and two more heart ruffs, then had the ♠A and two top clubs for nine tricks in all and +140.

There was a BBO problem in the other room, so all that we know is that Larsson played it a level higher and from the other side of the table, but she too managed to get home with nine tricks for +140, so another flat board.

On Board 5, N/S had a flat 17 facing a flat 8 HCP and both Norths opened INT and played there. Responder's four-card suit was headed by the eight, and the hand held no nine or ten, so it was a normal pass. BRODY gained an IMP for +120 against +90, and led by 123-115.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ K 3 2 ♥ 8 ♦ J 10 9 8 5 3 ♣ J 8 2		♠ 10 5 ♥ Q J 9 7 6 5 2 ♦ Q ♣ K 10 6	
♠ A 9 8 7 ♥ A 4 ♦ A K 4 2 ♣ 9 7 3		♠ Q J 6 4 ♥ K 10 3 ♦ 7 6 ♣ A Q 5 4	
West Bertheau C. Rimstedt — Pass All Pass	North Fischer Senior — Dble	East Larsson Michielsen 3♥ Pass	South S. Rimstedt Smith Pass 4♠

Two identical and straightforward auctions saw both Souths become declarer in the spade game. As we can see, even 12 tricks are possible, but our two declarers were concerned about a bad trump break and almost tied themselves in knots playing to overcome that eventuality.


Smith received a heart lead to the four, jack and king. She led the queen of spades and ran it and, when it held the trick, switched her attention to diamonds. The second top diamond was ruffed by the ten of spades and a heart return was also ruffed. Cecilia now returned the king of spades to dummy's ace, and Smith found that she needed the club finesse for her contract; no problem, and +420.

Bertheau too led her singleton heart, but Sandra won dummy's ace and tried to cash the diamonds. Again, the king was ruffed and the return of the jack of hearts was covered by the king and ruffed. A diamond came back,

ruffed with the ten and over-ruffed, and Sandra led a spade to the seven, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a heart and cashed the ace of spades. When she next played the nine of clubs off the dummy, Larsson went in with the king, which relieved Sandra's worries, and she had 10 tricks for +420 and just another push.

Board 7 saw E/W with 14 HCP and a decent five-card suit facing 11 and another decent five-card suit. Both E/Ws bid to an unbeatable 3NT and BRODY picked up an IMP for +630 against +600. That was BRODY's third single IMP gain of the set and, with seven boards gone and seven more to come, they led the set by 3-0 and the match by 124-115.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 6 2 ♥ A K 8 6 4 2 ♦ A K 10 ♣ J 4		♠ K Q 8 5 3 ♥ 7 ♦ 6 5 4 2 ♣ K Q 2	
West Bertheau 1♥ Dble	North Fischer 2♠ All Pass	East Larsson Pass	South S. Rimstedt Pass
West C. Rimstedt 1♥ 2♥ 3NT	North Senior 1♠ Pass All Pass	East Michielsen Pass 2NT	South Smith INT Pass

Senior overcalled at the one level and Michielsen passed, intending to play for a penalty. However, Cecilia bid 2♥ in front of her so she showed her hand-type by bidding 2NT to invite game, and Cecilia raised to game. Smith led the six of clubs, Michielsen winning dummy's jack and ducking a heart. Senior won the ten and returned a club to the queen and ducked by Smith to keep defensive communications open. Michielsen led a diamond to the ace then cashed the ace of hearts, getting the bad news. She led a spade to the nine and queen, a diamond to the king, and cashed the king of hearts, on which Senior discarded her remaining club to keep ♠AJ10 and two diamond winners. When Michielsen next led a second spade up, Senior won the ace and cashed two diamonds then had to return a spade to declarer's king. Michielsen then had to concede the last trick to Smith's ♣A so was down one for -50.

Fischer overcalled a level higher, and Larsson too passed in search of a penalty. Unlike Michielsen, however, she got her wish when Bertheau reopened with a double and

Larsson could leave it in. Larsson led her singleton heart, Bertheau winning the king, cashing the king of diamonds, and switching to a spade to the jack and queen. Larsson switched to the king of clubs to dummy's ace and Fischer played the queen of hearts to the ace, low ruff and over-ruff. Larsson returned a diamond, Bertheau winning the ace, cashing the jack of clubs, and following up with the ten of diamonds. Fischer won the diamond and cashed the ace of spades, after which she could cash the eight of diamonds, and she still had to come to one of the jack or ten of spades, so was down three for -500 and 11 IMPs to TRI POLAR, who were in the lead by 126-124.

Board 9 was flat in 4♠+1 by N/S, then...

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Fischer	Larsson	S. Rimstedt
C. Rimstedt	Senior	Michielsen	Smith
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	Pass	2♦
All Pass			

Both Souths became declarer in an ugly little diamond part-score.



Brigitta Fischer

Cecilia cashed the top diamonds then switched to a low spade for the king and ace. Smith tried the queen of hearts, but Cecilia won her ace and led a second spade to declarer's nine. Smith played king of hearts then ruffed a heart and was over-ruffed. Smith came to the queen of spades and jack of diamonds from here and was down three for -300.

Bertheau also cashed the top diamonds and switched to a spade. Sandra won the ace of spades and played a club at trick two and Bertheau ducked, the jack winning. A heart went to the king and ace and back came a second spade to jack and queen. Sandra cashed the ♥Q and ruffed a heart, and that was over-ruffed and the ♦Q cashed. Sandra had the ♦J and ♠9 to come so was down two for -200 but 3 IMPs to BRODY, who were back in the lead by a single IMP at 127-126.

The difference between the two tables was that Sandra stole an early club trick, while Smith did not.

Board 11 was flat at N/S 2♠+2 for +170. BRODY still led by that single IMP with three boards to go.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Fischer	Larsson	S. Rimstedt
C. Rimstedt	Senior	Michielsen	Smith
4♠	5♣	Dble	All Pass

Both Wests opened 4♠, both Norths overcalled 5♣, and both Easts doubled.

Larsson led the king of diamonds and switched to the king of hearts to dummy's ace. Fischer led a club to her ace, expecting the king to be offside for the penalty double. She had to lose a club and two spades now so was down two for -500.

That gave a chance to TRI POLAR, if only Senior would take the trump finesse and be down only one. No, Michielsen too cashed the ♦K and switched to the ♥K. Senior won that, ruffed a heart, and laid down the ♣A; down two for -500 and no swing.

Board 13 saw both E/Ws play 2♠ which was comfortable as the cards lay, but Cecilia made an overtrick which Larsson did not, so that was 1 IMP to BRODY, who doubled their lead at 128-126. It would all, therefore, go down to the final board.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West Bertheau	North Fischer	East Larsson	South S. Rimstedt
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♦	1♠	Pass	INT
Dble	2♥	Pass	2♠
All Pass			
West C. Rimstedt	North Senior	East Michielsen	South Smith
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♠	Dble	Pass
INT	All Pass		

Rimstedt opened in third seat with 1♣ and rebid INT in response to the negative double. Senior led the seven of spades. Cecilia called for dummy's ten, which held the trick. She led a heart to the queen and ace followed by a club to the jack, losing to the queen. Smith returned her remaining spade, Cecilia ducking but, perforce, winning the spade continuation. Cecilia led dummy's low club, Smith winning the ace and returning the two of diamonds. Cecilia played low from hand, so Senior won the queen and cashed her spade winners then played a heart. Cecilia had seven tricks, knowing that the ♦K was offside as Smith was a passed hand and had shown up with ♣AQ and ♥QJ already; +90.

In the other room it was Larsson, East, who opened 1♣, but it was her opponents who bought the contract in 2♠, played by North. Larsson led a diamond, Bertheau winning the ace and switching to a low trump. Fischer played low, so Larsson won the ten and switched again, this time to a low club. Fischer put in the queen, which won the trick, and led the nine of spades to the jack and ace. Larsson returned a diamond, Fischer winning the king, cashing the king of spades, and playing on hearts. That established two more winners so Fischer was home with eight tricks for +110 and 5 IMPs to BRODY.

The final had been close throughout, but BRODY had come out on top by 133-126 IMPs and Sandra and Cecilia Rimstedt, Marion Michielsen, Brigitta Fischer and Joan Brody were the 2022 McConnell Cup winners and the new World Champions! Congratulations to them.

Did you get it right?

Let me tell you how you should have played it...

We have:

- 1 trick in ♠
- 2 tricks in ♥
- 1 trick in ♦
- 4 tricks in ♣

♠ A Q 8
♥ A 8 7 2
♦ 6
♣ Q J 9 8 6

♠ 10 9 6 5
♥ Q 6
♦ A Q 9 5 2
♣ K 4

♠ K 4 2
♥ J 10 9 4 3
♦ 10 8 3
♣ 7 3

♠ J 7 3
♥ K 5
♦ K J 7 4
♣ A 10 5 2

One chance is to take the ♣ finesse and find out that East is the player who started with the ♣K. If this is not the case, we can still hope for the ♠ finesse to provide the 9th trick, as from the lead, we can deduct that West is the player with ♦AQ. If East had any of those cards, they would have likely played it to the first trick. There is no fast entry for East's hand, so our ♦ suit is protected.

Does it matter if we win the lead with the ♦K or the ♦J? Winning with the ♦K might create the false impression that East holds the ♦J. If West wins the ♣ with the King, it would be almost impossible for them to resist the urge to play a low ♦ to their partner's Jack, expecting the contract to be down in a matter of seconds. This play doesn't prevent us from enjoying any of our other chances to make the contract, assuming indeed that West started with the ♦AQ.

Do you want to see more of these puzzles?

IntoBridge.com


Rosenblum Semi-finals S3

Ventin v Robinson Team Black v Nickell

by Jos Jacobs

At halftime, Robinson were leading 50-37 over Ventin. In the other match Nickell were already more than 50 IMPs up over Team Black, the giant killers of the day before: 93-40. So my plan was to concentrate on the former semifinal but already on the first board, I had to change plans.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>R. Katz</i>	<i>P Bertheau</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Black</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Not easy to assess during the bidding that E/W are looking at a sure combined heart stopper, so game was missed by the Americans. Nickell +130 when the defence did not take all their tricks immediately and the ♠Q appeared under the ♠K.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Paske</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>McIntosh</i>	<i>R. Levin</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the other room, Andrew McIntosh showed no inhibitions. When South led a heart and continued a spade, declarer had time to establish a heart and finish up with an overtrick when here, too, the ♣AK were not cashed. Team Black +430 and 7 IMPs to them.

In the Ventin v Robinson match, there also was a big swing on the opening board:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>D. Gold</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

The problem of this board remained unsolved here as well. Down three, Ventin +150.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Dble
1♠	2♥	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

In the other room, Guy Mendes de Leon did not bother too much about the club situation, like one of his counterparts in the other match. Ten easy tricks when South led three rounds of hearts. Ventin +430 and 11 IMPs to them to reduce their deficit to just two.

Next:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>R. Katz</i>	<i>P Bertheau</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Black</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Seven-card suits are there to be bid. Just made, Team Black +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Paske</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>McIntosh</i>	<i>R. Levin</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	3♦	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

When Levin showed his fine hand in different fashion, N/S got visions of a possible slam, and understandably so. With the ♥K offside, even the five-level proved too high.

One down, Team Black another +100 and 12 more IMPs to them.

And the next board:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 9 5 3 ♥ A Q 3 ♦ A K J 6 ♣ 8 7 5	♠ Q J 10 7 6 ♥ 10 4 ♦ 10 7 ♣ A K 6 4 <div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div> ♠ A 4 2 ♥ J 8 6 5 ♦ 5 3 2 ♣ J 9 2	♠ K 8 ♥ K 9 7 2 ♦ Q 9 8 4 ♣ Q 10 3
--	--	---

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Katz	P Bertheau	Nickell	Black
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	2♠	Dble	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	Dble	All Pass	

This time, the Americans in the E/W seats were far too optimistic. East's 4♦ was clearly intended as competitive but this message got lost. It all got worse for them when Bertheau found a double. Down two, Team Black +500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	Weinstein	McIntosh	R. Levin
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	1♠	Dble	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♦	All Pass



Thibo Sprinkhuizen

In the other room, North did not insert a bold jump overcall so Team Black could settle for their diamond partscore in relative peace. Just made, Team Black +110 and another 12 IMPs to them.

Team Black had thus managed to score 31 IMPs in three consecutive boards to reduce their deficit to 22. We had a match, here as well.

In the Ventin v Robinson match, the Iberian pair had a little problem.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Ventin	D. Gold	Palma
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	2♠	Dble	3♠
All Pass			

Palma's polite pre-emptive raise was not too well timed, this time. One down, Robinson +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Berkowitz	Mendes de Leon	Meckstroth
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	1♠	Dble	2♠
All Pass			

The American style of overcalling saw N/S landing on their feet. Berkowitz even managed an overtrick on friendly defence. Robinson +140 and 5 IMPs to them.

More IMPs changed hands in this match on the subsequent boards. Here is the first:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ Q 10 7 ♥ J 9 8 4 ♦ — ♣ A K J 9 5 4	♠ K 9 5 ♥ Q 10 7 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ Q 10 8 <div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 4 3 2 ♥ A K 6 5 ♦ A J 8 2 ♣ 7 2	♠ A J 8 6 ♥ 3 ♦ K Q 9 7 6 3 ♣ 6 3
---	--	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Ventin	D. Gold	Palma
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

A little overbidding by E/W and an easy defence: four rounds of hearts and the ♦A in between. Ventin +100.



Nick Nickell

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Mendes De Leon</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Dble
Rdbl	2♥	3♦	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

The main virtue of this auction was that it led to a making contract. Ventin another +140 and 6 IMPs to them. Then came:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

	♠ A Q 5	
	♥ 8 6 3 2	
	♦ Q 6 3	
	♣ 6 4 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>D. Gold</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	INT	2♦	Dble
Rdbl	3NT	All Pass	

This was a hair-raising game contract. East led a spade (one of the suits suggested by his 2♦ overcall). Dummy's queen won and declarer immediately took a successful club finesse. Then came a low diamond. After a long huddle, East rose with the ♦K to continue...the ♥10. Curtains. The possible endplay destroyed but the contract made. Ventin +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
—	INT	All Pass	

A more modest contract in the replay. One overtrick, Robinson +120 but 10 IMPs to Ventin. We had a new leader in the match.

Next:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>D. Gold</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	—	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Declarer was not prepared for both red suits breaking 7-1. The lead was the ♦Q to the ace. Club finesse and diamond to the king, ruffed. Low heart to the eight and ace, ♣A and ♥K, ruffed by West. Another diamond, ruffed by East with the 10 and not overruffed by dummy. The remaining club loser then set the contract. Robinson +50. In the other room, South was the declarer.



Guy Mendes de Leon

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
—	—	3♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

He won the ♥8 lead in hand with the king and immediately ran the ♠Q successfully. The ♦AK followed but East ruffed and gave partner a heart ruff. After that, declarer could only lose one more club trick and thus made his contract. Robinson +420 and 10 IMPs back to them to regain the lead.

Two boards later there were more swings in both our matches.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>D. Gold</i>	<i>Palma</i>
1♥	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	Pass	Dble	2♣
Dble	All Pass		

North's overall was looking solid enough and 2♣ seemed a reasonable place to be. A spade was led to the ace and a diamond to the queen and king came next. Declarer ruffed the spade continuation and West took his ♦A when declarer continued the ♦9. On West's ♦10, dummy won the jack, declarer shed a heart and advanced the ♥10. This went to West's king and his return of a low heart was ruffed in dummy and overruffed by East's ♣Q. A diamond was ruffed by declarer and overruffed by West's ♣J and East then scored his ♣K on another overruff of dummy. With yet another heart still to lose, declarer thus was two down for +300 to Robinson.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
1♥	1♠	Pass	INT
2♥	All Pass		

When Sprinkhuizen rebid his suit, any chance of a penalty double was gone. The contract went one down

for another +50 and 8 IMPs to Robinson.

In our other semifinal, Peter Bertheau was immediately caught speeding:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>R. Katz</i>	<i>P Bertheau</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Black</i>
1♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

You won't be surprised to hear that this contract went down four. Nickell +800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Paske</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>McIntosh</i>	<i>R. Levin</i>
1♥	1♠	Pass	INT
2♥	All Pass		

Though Paske even made his contract for +110, this did not prevent a loss of 12 IMPs for Team Black.

Two boards later:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>R. Katz</i>	<i>P Bertheau</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Black</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣
All Pass			

Gazzilli passed out. Well done, just made, Team Black +90 in about their only successful denomination.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Paske</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>McIntosh</i>	<i>R. Levin</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
INT	All Pass		

Paske obviously thought that passing South's 1♥ was out of the question. Their NT overall range permits it and when nobody had anything more to say, he played there. Club lead by North to declarer's ♣8 and then, by playing on hearts after unblocking his ♦AK, South was on play more often than he liked. One overtrick, Team Black +120 and 5 IMPs to them.

Next:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Katz	P Bertheau	Nickell	Black
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥(♠)	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

The normal contract after North's transfer bid and a normal enough diamond lead from West. Dummy won the king and led his club. When East rose with the ace, declarer was home. Team Black +420.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	Weinstein	McIntosh	R. Levin
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The same transfer style auction here but West led a trump. Dummy won the queen and, here too, immediately led the ♣6. When East smoothly ducked, declarer inserted his jack. When this lost to the queen, he could no longer make the contract. Another +50 and 10 IMPs to Team Black.

The next board was a nice little freak.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Ventin	D. Gold	Palma
4♠	5♣	All Pass	

Well, 4♠ can go down but North's overcall looks pretty normal. One down also looks quite normal. Robinson +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Berkowitz	Mendes de Leon	Meckstroth
4♠	5♣	Dble	All Pass

East's double was successful as it suggested the ♣K with East. ♦A and ♥K to dummy's ace. Declarer from here managed to lose an extra trick for down two and +500 or 9 IMPs to Ventin, reducing their deficit to 2 IMPs again. In the other match, mainly the same happened:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Katz	P Bertheau	Nickell	Black
4♠	5♣	Dble	All Pass

No nonsense here for Bertheau, just one down, Nickell +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	Weinstein	McIntosh	R. Levin
1♠	3♣	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

An entirely different approach here: an opening at the one-level and a constructive club overcall. So the spades won the auction, as so often...down two nevertheless, Nickell +100 and 7 IMPs to them.

With just 14 boards to go, the scores stood at:

Ventin v Robinson 75-75

Team Black v Nickell 90-114

Certainly one of the matches would go into a tense final set – and maybe two...



Thanksgiving


The INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION arranges a party in the Radisson Blu hotel on Wednesday (the 31st) at 7.40 p.m. where we will pay homage to the immediate past Presidents of EBL and WBF. We will also welcome the new Presidents of those organisations. You can register to this party in the media room, or at the book stall.

Rosenblum Semi-finals S4
Chalk and Cheese
by Mark Horton

Chalk and Cheese: A phrase emphasizing that two things are very different...

Going into the last set of the Rosenblum semi-finals Ventin & Robinson were locking horns at 75-75, while Nickell led Team Black 114-90.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Ventin v Robinson

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Berkowitz	Palma	Meckstroth	Wrang
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♦	2♥	Dble
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the ♥J and when declarer pitched dummy's ♠3 West followed with the seven. East continued with the five and declarer took West's ten with the ace and ran the ♦Q, which meant three down, -300.



Palma, Meckstroth, Wrang and Berkowitz

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Gold	Mendes de Leon	Zia
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥	2♥	2♠
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

South led the ♣A and switched to the ♠K for a regulation one down, -100 and 9 IMPs.

Nickell v Team Black

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levin	Hult	Weinstein	Bertheau
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥	2♥	2♠
3♥	All Pass		


South led the ♣A, cashed the king and switched to the ♠K. When declarer won with the ace and played a diamond South took the ace and cashed the ♠Q at which point declarer claimed eight tricks, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	Hampson	McIntosh	Greco
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥*	2♥	Dble
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♣
All Pass			
1♣	16+ or 17+ balanced		
1♥	8-11		

West led the ♥10 and declarer took dummy's ace pitching a spade and ran the ♦Q. West won, returned the ♦3 for East to ruff and the ♠A meant the contract was two down, -200 and 6 IMPs for Team Black.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Ventin v Robinson

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Berkowitz	Palma	Meckstroth	Wrang
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dble	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

North led the ♠J and South took the king and returned the six, declarer ruffing, playing three rounds of trumps ending in dummy and a heart to the ten, +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Gold	Mendes de Leon	Zia
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dble	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

South led the ♣2 and declarer won in dummy and played the ♦6, North winning with the king and returning the ♣7. Declarer won in dummy, cashed the top hearts and must have been delighted when for the second time on the deal South contributed an honour. Declarer crossed to the ♥J, went back to dummy with a diamond, pitched a diamond on the ♥10, ruffed a diamond and gave up a spade for a magnificent, miraculous, 11 tricks, +400 and 7 IMPs.

(Tim Bourke, who kindly sends us files with all the BBO deals the following day, mentioned this deal. I had seen it, but only wrote it up on Friday – perhaps we should split the prize money!)

Nickell v Team Black

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levin	Hult	Weinstein	Bertheau
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dble	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

2NT Scrambling

South led the ♠K and switched to the ♦9, North winning with the king and returning the two. Declarer won with



the ace, cashed the ♣AK and seeing South's jack continued with a low club to dummy's nine. A heart to the ten was followed by a claim of ten tricks, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	Hampson	McIntosh	Greco
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dble	2♠*	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♣	All Pass

2♠ Weak
2NT Natural

East remarked that this is probably a very uncomfortable hand to have if you don't play 2NT as natural. (It would a triumph to reach 3NT!)

South led the ♠A and switched to the ♦8, North winning with the king and returning the two. Declarer won, cashed the ♣AK and the ♥A, played a club to the nine and a heart, claiming ten tricks, +130 and 5 IMPs.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ J 6		♠ 9 7 4 2									
♥ K Q 10 9 5		♥ 6									
♦ A 9 7 5 4		♦ Q 3									
♣ 3		♣ Q 10 9 7 6 5									
♠ K Q 5											
♥ J 8 7 4											
♦ K 6 2											
♣ K 4 2											
	<table border="1" style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; text-align: center; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A 10 8 3										
	♥ A 3 2										
	♦ J 10 8										
	♣ A J 8										

Ventin v Robinson

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Berkowitz	Palma	Meckstroth	Wrang
—	—	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Declarer took West's lead of the ♠K with the ace, played hearts in regulation fashion, drew trumps and played a diamond for the three, jack and king. West continued spades and declarer took the third round with the ten and finessed in diamonds, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Gold	Mendes de Leon	Zia
—	—	2♣*	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♣ Weak in clubs or any game force

Mobile phones and electronic devices



Mobile phones and any other electronic device which can be used to communicate and to connect to the internet can be carried to the tables but must always be switched off and clearly visible. They cannot be carried from the room until the end of play for any reason, but in case of emergency seek the permission of an official.

When team events are played, the Tournament Directors will conduct random searches before every round: players of the drawn tables will be asked to empty their pockets and open their bags. Whoever refuses to do it will be penalised as if a device had been found, and escorted out of the playing room. A substitute will be allowed.



West led the ♣2 for the queen and ace and declarer played the ♦J for the king and ace and a diamond. Back came the ♣9 and when declarer put in the jack he was two down, -200 and 13 IMPs went away.

Nickell v Team Black

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levin	Hult	Weinstein	Bertheau
—	—	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Dble	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East resisted the temptation to open 3♣ – there are plenty of players who would have done.

West led the ♣2 and declarer took East's queen with the ace and ran the ♦J, East taking the queen and returning the ♣10 for the jack, king and a ruff. Declarer cashed dummy's ♥K, played a heart to the ace and ran the ♦10, claiming 12 tricks when it held, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	Hampson	McIntosh	Greco
—	—	3♣	3NT
All Pass			

West led the ♣2 for the three, queen and eight. When East continued with the five, declarer needed to go up with the ace to block the club suit. Easier said than done, and when declarer played the jack West won and played his remaining club. Declarer won and played hearts in the approved fashion, cashing all five tricks in the suit. East pitched all his remaining clubs and the ♠2 and when

declarer continued with a low diamond from dummy East not unreasonably followed with the three, West taking the jack with the king and switching to the ♠K. South took the ace and returned the eight, West winning with the queen and exiting with the ♦6. When declarer put in dummy's nine he was one down, -100 and 13 IMPs away making the score 115-114!

Declarer had played East to be 5-1-1-6 – possible, but perhaps unlikely.

On Board 20 McIntosh held ♠875 ♥A109642 ♦KJ3 ♣10 and opened 2♥ third in hand. When South doubled, Paske, looking at ♠J93 ♥J8 ♦A8762 ♣A76 raised him to 3♥ and that went two down which cost 3 IMPs when NS made 2♠ in the other room.

By the time four deals remained Ventin was ahead, 95-92.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 8		♠ K 9 7 6									
♥ 6 5 2		♥ 4									
♦ A 10 4 3		♦ Q 8 7 5 2									
♣ Q 8 6 4 3		♣ J 10 9									
	<table border="1" style="background-color: #004a00; color: white; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 10 5 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♥ K Q J 7									
		♦ K 6									
		♣ 7 5 2									
		♠ A J 4 3									
		♥ A 10 9 8 3									
		♦ J 9									
		♣ A K									

Ventin v Robinson

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Berkowitz	Palma	Meckstroth	Wrang
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2♣ Gazzilli
2♥ Less than 8

East led the ♥K and declarer took dummy's ace and played the ♦9, East winning with the king and switching to the ♣2. Declarer won with dummy's king and played the ♦J, West taking the ace and returning the ♣6 to dummy's ace. Declarer ruffed a heart, ruffed a club, ruffed a heart and played the ♦Q, ruffed by the ♠5 and overruffed with dummy's jack. A heart ruff was declarer's eighth trick and he had the top spades for +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Gold	Mendes de Leon	Zia
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The first five tricks were basically the same, but here declarer then cashed the ♠A and continued with a spade to the king. Declarer cashed the ♦Q, ruffed a diamond and ran the ♥8 pitching a club. East won, cashed the top spades and played a club for three down and 11 IMPs.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ K Q J 9		♠ 6 5 4 3 2									
♥ A J 9 7		♥ Q 5 4 3 2									
♦ A 9 2		♦ 3									
♣ J 10		♣ 6 5									
	<table border="1" style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ —
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♥ K 10									
		♦ K Q 10 4									
		♣ A K 9 8 7 3 2									
		♠ A 10 8 7									
		♥ 8 6									
		♦ J 8 7 6 5									
		♣ Q 4									

Ventin v Robinson

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Berkowitz	Palma	Meckstroth	Wrang
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♦*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5NT*	Pass	6♣	All Pass

4♦ RKCB for clubs
4NT 2 key cards

I confess I'm a little mystified by West's 5NT, but 6♣ was a sound contract. South led the ♠A and declarer was soon claiming, +1390.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Gold	Mendes de Leon	Zia
—	—	1♣*	Pass
1♥*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
6NT	Pass	7♣	All Pass

- 1♣ 2+♣
- 1♥ 8+, 4+♥, may have longer diamonds
- 2♦ 5+♣ & 4+♦ game forcing or 18-20 balanced
- 2♥ Relay
- 3♣ 5+♣, 4+♦
- 3♦ Slam interest in a minor
- 3♠ Shortness, and or 4♦, 6+♣

South led the ♥6 so when the clubs behaved (53.13%) the slam was home.

The only lead to give the defenders any hope is a club – but even then declarer might make – for example, he draws trumps, plays three rounds of hearts ruffing and runs the clubs to squeeze South.

It was a 13 IMP swing and with the lead up to 32 IMPs the match was as good as over.

In the other match both teams bid 7♣!

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

		♠ A 5 4									
		♥ A J									
		♦ A 10 6									
		♣ A K Q 10 2									
♠ Q 10 9 6 2	<table border="1" style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 8 3
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ Q 9 5		♥ 10 8 7 4 3									
♦ K 9		♦ Q J 8 3									
♣ 9 4 3		♣ 8 6									
		♠ K J 7									
		♥ K 6 2									
		♦ 7 5 4 2									
		♣ J 7 5									

Ventin v Robinson

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Berkowitz	Palma	Meckstroth	Wrang
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
2NT 22-23			

East led the ♥4 and declarer managed 11 tricks, +460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Gold	Mendes de Leon	Zia
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	6NT
All Pass			
2♥ Kokish			
2♠ Forced			
2NT Balanced			

East led the ♥8 and declarer took West's queen with the ace and played on spades, claiming for one down when the finesse lost, another 11 IMPs away that saw Ventin take the last set 61-22.

Meanwhile in the other match an overtrick IMP on Board 23 had brought Team Black to within 3 IMPs, but the last five deals were pushes – over the last ten deals only 4 IMPs had been scored.

Championship offer

The NEW dealing machines and the cards that are (only) used during the championships are sold for the occasional price of €2650 and €0.79 respectively. Visit the book stall or email anna@jannersten.com



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- Zia -



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Championship Diary

Ulrich Wenning informs us that he and his wife Karin are celebrating their fortieth anniversary of World Championship play. They participated in Biarritz in 1982 and in all ten World Series events since. Any other players who can say this are friendly requested to inform the bulletin. At least, Karin and Ulrich would like to know.



There are tons of boards to duplicate during this type of championship and a lot of handling. Each duplicator in the duplication room has to fetch played boards from one corner of the room, duplicate the boards, and then bring the duplicated boards to another corner of the room. It is impressive to make more than 400 boards an hour without any help from an assistant handling the boards. One of the operators (Piotr Kucharski) reported to Per Jannersten that he had set his stopwatch and counted how many boards he duplicates in 60 minutes. He came to 401 – and he is not the fastest

It's bad enough to do something wrong at the table – be it a misplay, misdefence or misbid. It's even worse to be blamed for something when you are dummy (!) a fate that befell Zia the other day when he was blamed for a mistake made by his partner. The BBO operator had got the names the wrong way round and as a result Zia's phone never stopped ringing as his many followers wanted to know how he could have done such a thing!

These two ladies Ela Tomczuk and Joanna Chmielewska are playing in the women's pairs. They are at the bottom, BUT they have ZERO WK (polish ranking)!

They play, gain experience, do not

care, and have fun. Is it possible in another sport? Bridge is beautiful! Why are they interesting? Because they are the founders of Bridge2Success an amazing idea of combining business with bridge! They have already made one of the largest tournaments for amateurs in Poland, with a concert and goodies. Because they love bridge so much they want to promote it themselves spending their own funds, time and work. Ela previously attended a WBF congress, giving a lecture from B2S.



Rosenblum Final S1
Team Ventin v Nickell
 by David Bird

The two semi-finals were thrilling encounters. Will the final be any different? Not if the first set provides any guidance on the matter. 100 IMPs were scored in the first 13 boards. What is the accepted collective noun for double-figure swings – torrent, deluge, landslide, bridge-writer’s dream?

To avoid a very late lunch indeed, I had better start describing them.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ J ♥ K Q 3 ♦ A K 9 ♣ A J 8 6 5 2	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> N W S E </div>	♠ Q 9 3 ♥ 10 6 2 ♦ 8 7 6 4 ♣ K Q 10	♠ K 10 6 5 4 ♥ A 7 5 4 ♦ J 10 3 ♣ 9
		♠ A 8 7 2 ♥ J 9 8 ♦ Q 5 2 ♣ 7 4 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

East’s 2♦ presumably covered the awkward 5-4 shape, not strong enough to bid both suits naturally. Against 3NT Antonio Palma led the ♦5, won with dummy’s ace. The jack of spades was covered by the queen, king and ace, South continuing with the ♦Q to dummy’s king. When the club ace was played, Juan Carlos Ventin contributed the queen. A second club to North’s ten was followed by a third round of diamonds. Steve Weinstein won with the jack, crossed to the king of hearts and claimed +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Greco</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♣*	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♠*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3NT*	All Pass		

With so many boards to describe, you would not thank me for a lengthy description of the auction here (even if that was within my powers). Geoff Hampson led the ♦8, covered by the jack, queen and ace. North dropped the

king on the ace of clubs and won the next round with the 10. The queen of spades was covered by the king, allowed to win, and dummy’s jack was pinned. After a heart to the king, declarer could not continue clubs, because North would win and claim three spade tricks for the defence. He played the queen of hearts and could in fact have made two more heart tricks for the contract (one spade, four hearts, three diamonds and a club). No, he preferred the odds in clubs and went one down. 12 IMPs to Nickell.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A K Q 2 ♥ 5 ♦ K Q 10 ♣ 9 7 6 3 2	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> N W S E </div>	♠ 6 4 3 ♥ Q 6 2 ♦ A J 7 5 ♣ K 10 8	♠ 10 8 ♥ A J 8 7 3 ♦ 8 3 2 ♣ A Q J
		♠ J 9 7 5 ♥ K 10 9 4 ♦ 9 6 4 ♣ 5 4	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The ♦9 was covered by the king and allowed to win. Weinstein played a club to the queen, which won. He continued with the club ace, failing to drop the king, and cleared the clubs. That gave him nine tricks. The play record is incomplete, but +630 was recorded.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Greco</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Guy Mendes de Leon (With my apologies, I will call him Mendes from now on), won the ♠5 lead with dummy’s ace. After a club to the queen, he too cashed the ace of clubs. This could not be afforded after the spade lead; declarer needed to repeat the club finesse.

Hampson won the third club and switched to the ♦6, drawing the 8 and 9. A second heart went to the queen and ace. A diamond to the king and ace allowed the

defenders to claim two more heart tricks for one down. It was another 12 IMPs to Nickell, who led 37-3.

Was this to be a one-way-traffic affair? No! The fightback was about to be launched.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levin	Ventin	Weinstein	Palma
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

I prefer a 2♥ rebid on those cards, when not playing in France. The heart fit was apparently not located and the bidding died on 2NT.

The ♦5 lead drew the jack and king, and a heart to the king and ace came next. A diamond to the ace was followed by queen and another heart to South's jack. What should South do next?



Steve Weinstein

A spade switch was needed, as the cards lay, but Palma played another diamond (why shouldn't North have the ♦Q and two more diamonds to cash?) Levin won and knocked out the spade ace to make his +120.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Hampson	Mendes de Leon	Greco
			Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

A near-impossible trump lead from A-J-7 was needed to beat this contract. Eric Greco led everyone's queen of clubs, covered by North's king and declarer's ace. After disposing of his club losers on the diamonds, Mendes ruffed a club in his hand. A spade to the queen and ace was followed by a spade return to the king. After a spade ruff, and a club ruffed with the ♥10 and overruffed by the king, declarer took another spade ruff. Declarer then had ♥954 to South's ♥AJ7. He called for dummy's bare ♥Q and South had to win and surrender a trick to declarer's ♥9. That was a well-earned +620, and 11 IMPs to Ventin.

That may seem like enough exciting action for one session, but (the Great Dealer be praised!) I am only halfway through.

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levin	Ventin	Weinstein	Palma
—	Pass	2♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Bobby Levin led the jack of spades to declarer's ace. After a trump to his ace, Weinstein returned the ♣3 to the king and ace. Levin switched to the ♦3, won with dummy's queen. After a second trump to West's king, +620 was scored.

'A diamond lead would beat it,' claimed some of the kibitzers. 'They can get a diamond ruff.' If declarer wins West's diamond lead with the ♦Q and plays a trump, this is

true. East can rise with the ace of trumps and switch to a club to receive his diamond ruff. The trump king will then be the setting trick.

However, declarer has a counter. He can play the ace, king and 9 of spades, aiming to throw two clubs from dummy. This will act as a Scissors Coup. It will do West no good to ruff the third spade with the ♥K, because dummy's last club will vanish on this trick. The defenders will score three trump tricks, but that is all. My co-commentator, Paul Barden, was characteristically sharp with his analysis here.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Greco</i>
—	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

The singleton diamond lead went to the king and ace. When Hampson played a trump (rather than attempting the perhaps double-dummy Scissors Coup), the defenders claimed the ♥A, the ♣A, a diamond ruff and the ♥K. That was one down and another 10 IMPs to Ventin.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	—	—	1♠
3♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Levin led the king of hearts, allowed to win, and switched to a club. Weinstein won with the king and returned a club to declarer's queen. The trump queen went to the ace and a heart was returned. There was no way to avoid a diamond loser and that was one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Greco</i>
—	—	—	1♠
3♥	4♠	All Pass	

Again, the king of hearts was ducked. Thibo Sprinkhuizen then missed Levin's deadly club switch, continuing with

another heart. Greco won and played the king of trumps to the ace. Mendes had no better return than a trump. Declarer ran his trumps, forcing East to an eventual discard from ♠A-J ♣K-J. Caught in a strip-squeeze, he threw the ♦J. Greco then threw him on lead with a diamond to lead away from the club king. Well done, and 10 IMPs to Nickell.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Palma</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			



Robert (Bobby) Levin

With clubs 4-4, declarer would have survived a lead of that suit. When Weinstein led the ♠9 and declarer claimed seven tricks in the red suits plus the two black aces. It was +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Greco</i>
INT	Dble	All Pass	

West's INT showed 9-12 HCP. Hampson doubled and led the ♠Q. The defenders can pick up 500 for three down, to minimize the swing. When South scored three diamond tricks and switched to the ♠5, Hampson needed to win with the ace and switch to hearts, for maximum effect. He chose to play the 10, to dummy's king, and the potential penalty was down to 300. The queen of clubs went to North's ace and he cashed two more diamonds.

Again, a heart switch was needed, but Hampson played a spade to partner's jack and declarer's queen. As a result, only +100 was collected. It was 11 IMPs to Ventin, and the double-figure swings just kept on coming.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Ventin led the ♣5 to partner's ace and won the ♣2 return with the queen. A third club cleared a winner in the suit for South. When a finesse of the ♥J lost to the queen, South cashed the ♣8. Levin finessed the queen on the spade return and was one down when this lost to North's king.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Greco</i>
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The first three tricks were the same, the defenders clearing a club winner for South. Sprinkhuizen played the ace and king of diamonds and finessed the ♠10 to the king. When North switched to a heart, declarer won with the ace and played the king, felling South's queen. He claimed +630 and that was 12 IMPs to Ventin.

Would the next board allow us time to recover our breath? No.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	—	1♦	2♦*
2♠*	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♥*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Levin's 2♠ showed diamond support and his 4♥ (one bid beyond four of the trump suit) was an economical form of RKCB. The response showed two key-cards but not the ♦Q. Since the Michaels overcall might assist declarer in picking up the missing ♦Q (could East not hold five diamonds, also?), I expected Levin to bid the slam. No, he stayed low and was no doubt not overjoyed when the ♦Q fell on the first round. It was +420

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Greco</i>
—	—	1♦	2♦*
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

Sprinkhuizen took a more optimistic view and picked up 11 IMPs for his +920.

The first 16-board set drew to a close with the amazing score-line of 64-48 to Ventin. My friend Marc Smith, is reporting on the second set and will perhaps find out that the double-digit swings have dried up completely. Sorry about that!

Open Pairs Finals

Final A after 4 sessions

Rank	Players	Nationality	%	
1	BURAS Krzysztof	LUTOSTANSKI Piotr	POL - POL	63.14
2	GARTAGANIS Nicholas	LORBER Michel	CAN - CAN	59.22
3	GOLD David	MAHMOOD Zia	ENG - USA	56.95
4	BIRMAN Alon	PADON Dror	ISR - ISR	56.53
5	BESSIS Thomas	LORENZINI Cedric	FRA - FRA	56.04
6	NUNN Tony	DALLEY Paul	AUS - AUS	55.88
7	MULTON Franck	ZIMMERMANN Pierre	MON - SUI	55.46
8	RIMSTEDT Mikael	RIMSTEDT Ola	SWE - SWE	55.36
9	STAMATOV Jerry	ZHAO Jie	BUL - CHN	55.25
10	ANKLESARIA Keyzad	TEWARI Rajeshwar	IND - IND	55.14
11	HELGEMO Geir	NYSTROM Fredrik	NOR - SWE	54.83
12	TOLEDANO Oren	ZAMIR Ami	ISR - ISR	53.82
13	EDGTTON Nabil	WHIBLEY Michael	AUS - NZL	53.38
14	JANSMA Jan	WILLENKEN Chris	NED - USA	53.36
15	MIELNIK Krzysztof	LONSKI Adam	POL - POL	52.73
16	MESBUR Adam	GARVEY Tommy	IRL - IRL	52.57
17	BARTKOWSKI Mariusz	SZULEJEWSKI Bogdan	POL - POL	52.45
18	GILL Peter	HANS Sartaj	AUS - AUS	51.46
19	CAMMARATA Michele	VALSEGA Cristiano	ITA - ITA	51.43
20	JASSEM Krzysztof	PATREUHA Patryk	POL - POL	51.39
21	MULLER Bauke	DEWIJS Simon	NED - NED	51.32
22	DONATI Giovanni	PERCARIO Giacomo	ITA - ITA	51.06
23	BERTHEAU Peter	BLACK Andrew	SWE - ENG	51.00
24	GRUE Joe	MOSS Brad	USA - USA	50.74
25	KOWALSKI Dariusz	SIELICKI Tomasz	POL - POL	50.37
26	HUANG Shan	XU Zemin	USA - CAN	50.27
27	HOFTANISKA Thor Erik	CHARLSEN Thomas	ENG - NOR	50.26
28	ROBINSON Eric	KORBEL Daniel	USA - USA	49.87
29	MARTEL Chip	FLEISHER Martin	USA - USA	49.81
30	MANNO Andrea	DI FRANCO Massimiliano	ITA - ITA	49.63
31	SZCZEPANSKI Radoslaw	MAJCHER Arkadiusz	POL - POL	49.57
32	HANLON Tom	VOLCKER Frederic	IRL - FRA	49.28
33	TRENKA Peter	KEMENY Gyorgy	HUN - HUN	48.51
34	GOTARD Thomas	ALTER Florian	GER - GER	48.41
35	KWIECIEN Michal	STARKOWSKI Wlodzimierz	POL - POL	48.28
36	KOTOROWICZ Jakub	MIECHOWICZ Pawel	POL - POL	48.24
37	WILDAVSKY Adam	ZUR-CAMPANILE Migry	USA - USA	48.21
38	VERBEEK Tim	NAB Bart	NED - NED	48.10
39	BERKOWITZ David	MECKSTROTH Jeff	USA - USA	47.96
40	SAKOWICZ Ryszard	PLOCKI Pawel	POL - POL	47.96
41	HALLBERG Gunnar	HULT Simon	ENG - SWE	47.93
42	PATREUHA Jakub	SOBCZAK Mateusz	POL - POL	47.51
43	SILVERSTEIN Aaron	ROSENTHAL Andrew	USA - USA	47.17
44	AKGUL Mustafa	ASLAN Bulent	TUR - TUR	47.13
45	ROBSON Andrew	ALLFREY Alexander	ENG - ENG	46.93
46	HOYLAND Jim	HOYLAND Sven Olai	NOR - NOR	46.58
47	MOLLER Rachael	GURVICH David	USA - USA	46.45
48	FRIEDLANDER Ehud	YEKUTIELI Asaf	ISR - ISR	46.34
49	PIETRASZEK Marek	ZNAMIROWSKI Jacek	POL - POL	46.19
50	AUKEN Sabine	WELLAND Roy	GER - GER	44.99
51	ARGELAZI Eliran	ROSENTHAL Lee	ISR - ISR	44.97
52	GROSSACK Adam	LEBOWITZ Laurence	USA - USA	44.83
53	KHARE Ajay	TOLANI Raju	IND - IND	44.67
54	BAKKEREN Ton	BAKKEREN Frank	NED - NED	44.23
55	LANZAROTTI Massimo	FRANCHI Arrigo	ITA - ITA	43.58
56	VAINIKONIS Erikas	ARLOVICH Andrei	LTU - LTU	42.11
57	WALCZAK Piotr	WITTENBECK Pawel	POL - POL	42.11
58	IAVICOLI Federico	CAFFI Cristoforo	ITA - ITA	40.32

WCB 2021

The World Championship Book from Salsomaggiore 2021 is now available from the Jannersten bookstall here in Wroclaw. The official retail price is £25, US\$30 and €30. What differentiates this edition from past volumes is that it is available both in hardcopy and as an e-book.

The book is distributed by Master Point Press and will be available from bridge suppliers around the world. The e-book is available on the MPP website, for US\$25.



Final B after 3 sessions

Rank	Players	Nationality	%	
1	MELMAN Victor	MILASZEWSKI Mirosław	USA - POL	61.88
2	WOLFSON Jeff	GARNER Steve	USA - USA	61.09
3	BROGELAND Boye	BAKKE Christian	NOR - NOR	60.67
4	GOSNEY John Paul	LEIBOWITZ Tony	AUS - AUS	60.23
5	GAWRON Grzegorz	KOWAL Jakub	POL - POL	59.13
6	ADAMCZYK Stanisław	RUSZKIEWICZ Karol	POL - POL	59.09
7	EKSIOGLU Metin	AKPINAR Mehmet Hakan	TUR - TUR	58.55
8	MALINOWSKI Artur	BAKHSI David	ENG - ENG	58.45
9	STRZEMECKI Wojciech	ZAWADA Przemysław	POL - POL	57.98
10	VOLHEJN Vit	MEDLIN Ales	CZE - CZE	57.98
11	CZIMER Csaba	SZALKA Tamas	HUN - HUN	57.43
12	CHAN Richard	SHENG Ming	CAN - USA	56.76
13	HOOGENKAMP Ed	HELLE Rob	NED - NED	55.57
14	STEPINSKI Jeremi	HUTYRA Maciej	POL - POL	55.44
15	MUKHERJEE Sumit	MAJUMDER Debabrata	IND - IND	55.13
16	MAAT Roeland	DE MEER Mark	NED - NED	55.07
17	BAREL Michael	KATZ Paz	ISR - ISR	54.99
18	KOLUDA Piotr	ILCZUK Piotr	POL - POL	54.47
19	COOPER Renee	FREEMAN Jacob	AUS - CAN	54.30
20	CIBOROWSKI Konrad	KEDZIERSKI Maciej	POL - POL	54.09
21	LEWANDOWSKI Krzysztof	BALDYSZ Mark	POL - POL	53.95
22	JASZCZAK Andrzej	PSZCZOLA Jacek	POL - USA	53.92
23	PASELL Mike	GOODMAN Andy	USA - USA	53.75
24	KRITSALIS Filippos	ZERVOGIANNIS Alexandros	GRE - GRE	53.39
25	GULYAS Daniel	HODOSI Peter	HUN - HUN	52.83
26	HESHMAT Mohamed	HUSSEIN Ahmed	EGY - EGY	52.75
27	JANECZEK Marta	BUNIKOWSKI Andrzej	POL - POL	52.70
28	KANG Seongseok	ROH Seungjin	KOR - KOR	52.66
29	AGICA Marius	SAFTA Florin	ROM - ROM	52.60
30	SUBRAMANIAN Vijayraghavan	RAGHAVACHARY Vasudevan	IND - IND	52.42
31	KIM Daehong	LEE Soo Ik	KOR - KOR	52.35
32	NAIDOO Bindiya	SINHA Priya Ranjan	IND - IND	52.29
33	TUBAK Daniel	VIKOR Attila	HUN - HUN	52.03
34	NARKIEWICZ Grzegorz	INGIELEWICZ Zdzisław	POL - POL	51.93
35	CHMIELAK Robert	CZAJKOWSKA Magdalena	POL - POL	51.59
36	OHNO Kyoko	YAMADA Akihiko	JPN - JPN	51.50
37	SENSARMA Joyjit	PODDAR Biswajit	IND - IND	51.05
38	BLASZCZYK Przemysław	KORECKI Piotr	POL - POL	50.98
39	AIMALA Antti	KOIVU Oskari	FIN - FIN	50.75
40	EASWARAN Prakash	PRAKASH Anrudh	IND - IND	50.56
41	GOTARD Tomasz	BOCHENSKI Adolf	GER - POL	50.45
42	JADCZAK Bernard	FECHNER Mirosław	POL - POL	50.43
43	GLOWACKI Dominik	SLESICKI Waldemar	POL - POL	50.41
44	KUC-DZIERZAWSKI Piotr	STRYSZAWSKI Tomasz	POL - POL	50.30
45	MAAMARBACHI Clement	VROUSTIS Vasilis	LIB - GRE	50.20
46	CARIC Jurica	MARINOVSKI Kiril	CRO - CRO	50.18
47	URMAN Lior	EZION Amir	ISR - ISR	50.18
48	BEDNARCZYK Edward	KROL Stanisław	POL - POL	50.05
49	MAGNUSSON Stephan	AMIGUET Jerome	SUI - SUI	50.02
50	RAE Kenneth	BLICHARZ Grzegorz	SCO - ENG	49.99
51	RODZIEWICZ-BIELEWICZ Olgierd	RODZIEWICZ-BIELEWICZ Ewa	POL - POL	49.83
52	MORIMURA Shunsuke	ZHAO Jinlong	JPN - JPN	49.76
53	NEHMERT Pony Beate	DING Hong	GER - USA	49.40
54	SATYANARAYANA Bachiraju	NADAR Kiran	IND - IND	49.30
55	CHEN Lin-Huan	HSIEH Ding-Hwa	USA - USA	49.27
56	LATOS Tomasz	GIZA Marek	POL - POL	49.20
57	ZACK Yaniv	COHEN Ilan	ISR - ISR	49.11
58	CIESLAK Sylwester	GOLAS Krzysztof Chris	POL - POL	48.90
59	TIHOLOV Todor	VOS John-Henry	ENG - ENG	48.82
60	LIPOWSKI Krzysztof	GLOWINSKI Dariusz	POL - POL	48.74
61	SHAH Anal	MASKARA Subodh	IND - IND	48.61
62	SJOQVIST Mans	SAFSTEN Johan	SWE - SWE	48.40
63	GAN Grzegorz	PIETRZAK Marek	POL - POL	48.37
64	PUNCH Sam	PETERKIN Stephen	SCO - SCO	48.35
65	VAN OOSTEN Sibrand	THORPE Stefan	NED - NED	48.11
66	PASZKO Wojciech	ZARNOWSKI Adam	POL - POL	47.77
67	BIELAWSKI Maciej	KRYSTECKI Jacek P	POL - POL	47.72
68	NEVE Olivier	BOCKEN Patrick	BEL - BEL	47.64
69	SZCZERBOWSKI Jacek	ZWOLAK Ryszard	POL - POL	47.44
70	KIELICHOWSKI Urban	KOZIKOWSKI Andrzej	POL - POL	47.26
71	KOISTINEN Kauko	SALONEN Jari	FIN - FIN	47.15

Rank	Players	Nationality	%
72	RAMARATNAM Krishnan	PODDAR Dipak	IND - IND 47.03
73	KLUBINSKI Piotr	BROSCH Marek	POL - POL 46.94
74	GALEK Przemyslaw	SYNOWIEC Rafal	POL - POL 46.92
75	SZKUDLAREK Leszek	KOCON Wlodzimierz	POL - POL 46.57
76	LEDOCHOWSKI Lukasz	LEWANDOWSKI Adam	POL - POL 46.27
77	CAMPOS Joao-Paulo	RODRIGUES Adriano	BRA - BRA 45.80
78	SOSNA Zbigniew	KOZLOWSKI Marek	POL - POL 45.66
79	JASKIEWICZ Ryszard	SOSIN Dariusz	POL - POL 45.23
80	HAMMOND Nicolas	JOHANNSSON Axel	USA - AUS 45.23
81	DINKIN Sam	TEBHA Anam	USA - USA 45.19
82	KEAVENEY Gay	GLYNN Enda	IRL - IRL 45.19
83	VON ARNIM Daniela	JOEL Geeske	GER - USA 45.09
84	BOLESTA Slawomir	BLINSKI Tomasz	POL - POL 45.04
85	LAWRENCE Oliver	LAWRENCE Patrick	ENG - ENG 44.90
86	GOLDBERG Jerry	SEAMAN Eleanor	USA - USA 44.57
87	TURSKA-MARCINOWSKA Malgorzata	MARCINOWSKI Adam	POL - POL 44.53
88	TJARNEMO Jonas	OHLSSON Bjorn	SWE - SWE 43.23
89	PETERSEN Henrik Kruse	HANSEN Kjeld	DEN - DEN 41.78
90	STRANDBERG Ylva	ANDERSSON Gunnar	SWE - SWE 41.67
91	KLOET Jos	ARENDESE Wim	NED - NED 41.16
92	CZUBAK Edmund	GLODOWSKI Robert	POL - POL 41.05
93	JURKIEWICZ Andrzej	POMARANSKI Artur	POL - POL 40.91
94	KURANOGLU Serap	ERDEM Serdar	TUR - TUR 38.77
95	TJARNEMO Hakan	CARBONNIER Pierre	SWE - SWE 36.99
96	WODKOWSKI Arkadiusz	LASOTA Pawel	POL - POL 36.76

Women Pairs

Semi-final A after 3 sessions

Rank	Players	Nationality	%
1	ARNOLDS Carla	KOLEN Sandra	NED - NED 58.81
2	SARNIAK Anna	KAZMUCHA Danuta	POL - POL 57.9
3	BROCK Sally	SMEDEREVAC Jovanka	ENG - FRA 57.14
4	MEYERS Jill	SANBORN Kerri	USA - USA 55.47
5	BAKER Lynn	McCALLUM Karen	USA - USA 55.02
6	BALDYSZ Cathy	BALDYSZ Sophia	POL - POL 50.61
7	EGGELING Marie	BELL Sarah	GER - ENG 49.39
8	YAVAS Dilek	OZGUR Hatice	TUR - TUR 49.24
9	SMYKALLA Gisela	VECHIATTO Claudia	GER - GER 49.09
10	EYTHORSDDOTTIR Hjordis	SEAMON-MOLSON Janice	USA - USA 49.09
11	TAGLIAFERRI Vera	CUZZI Monica	ITA - ITA 48.18
12	DHONDY Heather	NETTLETON Diana	ENG - ENG 48.18
13	MADSEN Christina Lund	FERM Barbara	DEN - USA 45.74
14	KANDOLU Ozlem	ELMAS Tuna	TUR - TUR 44.68
15	BABAC Mine	INAL Gaye	TUR - TUR 41.95
16	CHRISTENSEN Malene Holm	VISSER Esther	NED - NED 39.51

Semi-final B after 3 sessions

Rank	Players	Nationality	%
1	SOBOLEWSKA Ewa	BREWIAK Grazyna	POL - POL 58.61
2	PYYKKO Ylva	JOHANNSSON Lena	SWE - SWE 54.72
3	BANASZKIEWICZ Ewa	JAROSZ Aleksandra	POL - POL 54.17
4	MICHELIN Marjorie	KISLITSYNA Irina	USA - USA 53.89
5	KATER Ewa	SIKORA Marta	ENG - POL 53.61
6	ROJKO Silvana	BAUER Tracey	SLO - USA 51.67
7	CAPLAN Eva	THOMPSON Jenny	AUS - AUS 50.56
8	SHIMAZAKI Ayako	SYLVESTER Elisabeth	JPN - AUS 50.56
9	GREENWOOD Fiona	PALMER Julia	SCO - SCO 49.72
10	GROSS Susanna	ROBINSON Claire	ENG - ENG 48.89
11	WOOD Viv	LEYBOURNE Marina	AUS - AUS 48.33
12	STANISZEWSKA Urszula	STANISZEWSKA Adrianna	POL - POL 38.61
13	TOMCZUK Ela	CHMIELEWSKA Joanna	POL - POL 36.67

McConnell Butler

PLA1	PLA2	Butl	CntBrd
MICHELSEN Marion	RIMSTEDT Cecilia	1.44	144
SMITH Nicola	SENIOR Nevena	1.06	96
YAVAS Dilek	INAL Gaye	0.75	16
MEYERS Jill	SANBORN Kerri	0.53	112
BABAC Mine	YAVAS Dilek	0.50	16
LARSSON Jessica	BERTHEAU Kathrine	0.40	96
CHRISTENSEN Malene Holm	VISSER Esther	0.39	144
ZMUDA Justyna	DUFRAT Katarzyna	0.38	128
CHEN Wenmin	ZHANG Ivy	0.35	127
LEVITINA Irina	EDMONDS Jodi	0.31	48
SARNIAK Anna	KAZMUCHA Danuta	0.19	112
RIMSTEDT Sandra	BRODY Joan	0.19	80
SEAMON-MOLSON Janice	EYTHORSODOTTIR Hjordis	0.14	96
GROMANN Ingrid	WENNING Karin	0.13	144
BROCK Sally	BROWN Fiona	0.05	128
OZBAY Irem	OZGUR Hatice	0.03	144
BAKER Lynn	McCALLUM Karen	-0.02	48
CAO Yimei	HUANG Candice	-0.13	128
CAPLAN Eva	THOMPSON Jenny	-0.24	144
WOOD Viv	LEYBOURNE Marina	-0.36	144
RIMSTEDT Sandra	FISCHER Brigitta	-0.38	64
SMYKALLA Gisela	VECHIATTO Claudia	-0.40	144
HE Lucy Yong Luo	JIA Kelly	-0.44	32
GREENWOOD Fiona	PALMER Julia	-0.58	144
BABAC Mine	INAL Gaye	-0.66	32
AITCHISON Susan	LEES Joan	-0.72	144
ARNOLDS Carla	KOLEN Sandra	-0.85	143
YAVAS Dilek	KURANOGLU Serap	-1.71	80

Seniors - note

State of the art Senior Teams format

If the number of entries remains at the present 12, this will be the Senior Teams' format:
A full round robin over three days – 11 matches of 12 boards each – will be followed by semifinals and final, each consisting of four stanzas, 14 boards per stanza.

Time schedule

Sunday August 28th and Monday August 29th

10.00 – 11.45

12.00 – 13.45

14.45 – 16.30

16.45 – 18.30

Tuesday August 30th

10.00 – 11.45

12.00 – 13.45

14.45 – 16.30

The winner of the Round Robin will pick its semifinal opponent between the third and fourth qualified teams. Ties will be broken according to the head to head match, or, otherwise, in favour of the highest ranked team.

Rosenblum KO Brackets

 **LEBOWITZ** 142
 **SEOUL** 71

 **NICKELL** 156
 **THE BLACK SWAN** 129



 **LEBOWITZ** 104
 **AZS WRATISLAVIA** 138

 **NICKELL** 131
 **BRIDGE FOR BUSINESS** 71

 **AZS WRATISLAVIA** 143
 **STREET** 112

 **BRIDGE FOR BUSINESS** 115
 **SOUTH SWEDEN** 86



 **AZS WRATISLAVIA** 83
 **VENTIN** 106

 **NICKELL** 190
 **LUCKY FOUR** 71

 **FLEISHER** 113
 **BORTOLETTI** 169

 **ODMET** 85
 **DRINTEAM** 86

 **VENTIN** 129
 **BORTOLETTI** 66

 **LUCKY FOUR** 93
 **DRINTEAM** 90

 **VENTIN** 136
 **ROBINSON** 97



 **TEAM BLACK** 115
 **NICKELL** 118

 **VENTIN** 86
 **ECF HOLDING** 77

 **LUCKY FOUR** 120
 **FORMIDABLES** 93

 **WOLFSON** 133
 **MIKADINHO** 59


 **ZIMMERMANN** 108
 **COOREMAN BELGIUM** 105

Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
 VENTIN	64	9	11				84
 NICKELL	48	13	39				100

 **WOLFSON** 85
 **ZAMIR** 79

 **ZIMMERMANN** 118
 **MINITER** 94

 **WORLD BRIDGE TOUR** 52
 **ZAMIR** 149

 **MINITER** 123
 **ZALESKI** 103

 **HANS** 124
 **TEAM CANADA** 63

 **ROBINSON** 148
 **WOLFSON** 113



 **TEAM BLACK** 138
 **ZIMMERMANN** 121

 **TEAM BLACK** 125
 **OBJECTIVITY** 79

 **ROBINSON** 144
 **HANS** 84

 **APRES BRIDGE CHAMPS** 50
 **TEAM BLACK** 111

 **ROBINSON** 141
 **PERICULO** 104

 **APRES BRIDGE CHAMPS** 188
 **SPS EKO ROZANKA** 113