



16TH WORLD BRIDGE SERIES



DAILY BULLETIN

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Issue No. 9

Sunday, 28th August 2022

CONQUERING THE WORLD



Rosenblum winners team NICKELL:
Ralph Katz, Nick Nickell, Bobby Levin,
Jill Levin (Captain), Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson,
Steve Weinstein, Norberto Bocchi (team manager)

We salute our new World Champions and all the medallists!
A thrilling Rosenblum final saw **VENTIN** and **NICKELL** exchange blows as first one and then the other took the lead. It was only in the second half of the sixth set that **NICKELL** was able to build an insurmountable lead and secure another world title.
In the Open Pairs, no one could match the pace set by the new champions, **Krzysztof Buras** and **Piotr Lutostański** who won by almost five tops.



McConnell winners team BRODY:
Marion Michielsen, Cecilia Rimstedt,
Sandra Rimstedt (top row)
Joan Brody, Brigitta Fischer (bottom row)

There was a great battle in the Women's Pairs, with **Jill Meyers** and **Kerri Sanborn** holding off a determined challenge by **Marie Eggeling** and **Sarah Bell**.

Contents

Medals, Medals, Medals	2
A Game of Queens	8
Better at the WBF than at the Vatican	9
Ventin v Nickell - Set 2	11
Video Corner	13
Ventin v Nickell - Set 3	14
An absent medallist:	
Joaquin Pacareu	16
Ventin v Nickell - Set 4	17
Follow this session with Me	19
Open Pairs Finals	25
Women Pairs	26
Rosenblum KO Brackets	27

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.



Schedule Sunday 28th August

MIXED TEAMS

Swiss Qualification
10.00 - 11.25
11.45 - 13.10
14.30 - 15.55
16.15 - 17.40
18.00 - 19.25

RAND CUP

If the number of entries remains 12:
Round Robin
10.00 - 11.45
12.00 - 13.45
14.45 - 16.30
16.45 - 18.30



Medals, Medals, Medals



Silver in the Rosenblum: VENTIN,
Guy Mendes De Leon, Thibo Sprinkhuizen, Frederic Wrang, Antonio Palma,
Juan Carlos Ventin, Joaquin Pacareu (absent)



Silver in the McConnell: TRI POLAR,
Kathrine Bertheau, Hjords Eythorsdottir, Janice Seamon-Molson,
Nevena Senior, Nicola Smith, Jessica Larsson



Bronze in the Rosenblum:
TEAM BLACK (Thomas Paske, Andrew McIntosh, Peter Bertheau, Simon Hult, Andrew Black, Gunnar Hallberg) and
Robinson (Daniel Korbel, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Robinson, David Berkowitz, David Gold, Zia Mahmood)



Bronze in the McConnell:
BAKER (Lynn Baker, Fiona Brown, Kerri Sanborn, Jill Meyers, Karen McCallum, Sally Brock,) and
EDMONDS (Danuta Kazmucha, Jodi Edmonds, Irina Levitina, Anna Sarniak, Justyna Zmuda, Katarzyna Dufurat)



Women Pairs:
Kerri Sanborn and Jill Meyers (Gold),
Sarah Bell and Marie Eggeling (Silver),
Janice Seamon-Molson and Hjords Eythorsdottir (Bronze)



Open Pairs:
Krzysztof Buras and Piotr Lutostański (Gold),
Michael Whibley and Nabil Edgton (Silver),
Geir Helgemo and Fredrik Nyström (Bronze)

by Barry Rigal and Herman De wael




Heather Dhondy

bidding game. Had Brock passed, Dhondy's 4♦ call would have got her side to the right spot. To add insult to injury Smederevac doubled, and -100 was worth 8 for her side.

At the end of the first session Kolen-Arnolds were comfortably in the lead. I watched them over the next three deals, where some interesting opportunities presented themselves both on play and defence.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

		♠ 5 4		
		♥ A Q 8		
		♦ Q 9 6 2		
		♣ K 9 7 6		
♠ J 9 3 2				♠ 10 7 6
♥ J 10 9				♥ 7 5 4 3 2
♦ 10 5				♦ K J 3
♣ Q J 5 2				♣ A 4
		♠ A K Q 8		
		♥ K 6		
		♦ A 8 7 4		
		♣ 10 8 3		
West	North	East	South	
<i>Kandolu</i>	<i>Arnolds</i>	<i>Elmas</i>	<i>Kolen</i>	
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT	
Pass	3NT	All Pass		

Kolen took the ♥J in hand and correctly diagnosed to go after clubs not diamonds). She tried the ♣10, West ducking impassively, and let it run. When that lost to the ace, she was well-placed already. Back came the ♠7 and when Kolen won this it occurred to me that leading the ♦8 and letting it run if her LHO didn't put up the king was at least a plausible play. Kolen actually played ♦A and the ♦7 to the ten and queen. When a spade came back, she won the ace, and tried a diamond to the nine, leaving herself a re-entry to hand. That ensured her of nine tricks; when West committed a 'finger-fehler' and let go the ♠J on

the third diamond, declarer suddenly had 10 tricks. That was worth all 14 MP while 600 would have been 10 MPs.

West	North	East	South
Yavaş	İnal	Özgür	Babaç
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Mine Babaç got the same ♥J lead, but took the ace in dummy. She did begin with a diamond to the ace and a second one to the queen. That meant the contract ended up one down when declarer lost four tricks in the minors and a long card in hearts.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

2NT Limit+, 3+ hearts

Arnolds correctly determined that her side had more than half the deck, and expected that 3♥ would have been making (as it could do). The double was certainly reasonable to try and protect her expected +140. Now all she had to do was beat it.

She led a top spade and received discouragement, and now I think there is certainly a case for playing three rounds of spades, and not getting active. The heart shift at trick two was fatal. Declarer could arrange a heart ruff in dummy, trumps behaved in incredibly friendly fashion, and that was +510 and all the MP for E/W.

West	North	East	South
Yavaş	İnal	Özgür	Babaç
—	1♥	Pass	INT*
2♣	Pass	3♣	3♥
All Pass			

The defence started with two club tricks and prepared the diamond ruff which materialized after the trump ace. The spade loser went on the diamond. Just made (12/2).

It is always fun to watch teammates or compatriots play against one another. Over the next three deals I saw

McCallum-Baker take on one of their teammates with whom they had played in the McConnell. On the first hand Baker brought home 3NT with ♠J4 facing ♥Q5 even though the opponents led the suit. (The opening lead was the ♥10 which was allowed to run to the queen – and yes, the defender in third seat with ♥A863 didn't seem to have much reason to duck, since declarer had denied more than three cards in this suit).

Moving on to stuff more suitable for display in a bulletin where readers are known to have sensitive stomachs:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	♠ K	
	♥ 7 2	
	♦ Q J 8 5 3 2	
	♣ A Q 6 3	
♠ A 7 5 4 3	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ 10 8 6 2
♥ A J 6 4		♥ 10 9 3
♦ K		♦ 10 9 7 6
♣ 10 7 4		♣ 9 5
	♠ Q J 9	
	♥ K Q 8 5	
	♦ A 4	
	♣ K J 8 2	

West	North	East	South
Eythorsdottir	Smederevac	Seamon-Molson	Brock
1♠	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Seamon-Molson was unable systemically to make a pre-emptive raise in spades, so stayed silent. Brock declared 3NT and won the heart lead cheaply in hand then thoughtfully played the ♦A, and was delighted with the result. Now she played a spade up; Eythorsdottir ducked, so Brock came to hand with a top club and led another top spade. Eythorsdottir won the ♠A as dummy pitched a heart, and, not knowing if the diamonds were running, took her ♥A. That meant declarer had 660. I suppose this is the flip side of board two, where the cash out cost a lot of matchpoints.

West	North	East	South
Yavaş	Elmas	Özgür	Kandolu
1♠	2♦	3♠*	3NT
4♠	Dble*	Pass	4NT
All Pass			

Yavaş made the unfortunate lead of the ♠4, which meant that Kandolu was able to even overcome the 4-1 split of the diamonds and arrive at 10 tricks.

On the last round of the stanza, I watched Cathy and Sophia Baldysz take on Babaç and İnal. On the second deal Cathy had ♣Q1043 facing ♣92 and the only point of the deal after trick one was how to score a trick in this suit (the opponents could not be sure this was so.) She led the ♣9 from hand; her LHO went up with the ace, and shifted to a suit declarer could win in hand. Now the question is

whether you stick with your original plan of playing for the jack onside or are diverted by LHO's decision to fly up with the ♣A into playing for the ♣AK onside. Be careful! If you go up with the queen and are wrong, your LHO will 'own' you. If you lead to the ♣10 and are wrong, well you were never going to get the suit right anyway.

So thought Cathy – but indeed her LHO had ♣AK without the ♣J.

On the last board of the stanza Sophia had decisions in the bidding and play.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ K Q 5	
	♥ K Q 6	
	♦ A 10 2	
	♣ A Q J 5	
♠ A J 10 9 3	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ 8 6 4
♥ J 9 4		♥ A 5
♦ K 9 4		♦ Q J 8 7 6 5
♣ K 9		♣ 4 2
	♠ 7 2	
	♥ 10 8 7 3 2	
	♦ 3	
	♣ 10 8 7 6 3	

West	North	East	South
Babaç	S. Baldysz	İnal	C. Baldysz
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Dble	2♥(♠)	Pass
2♠	2NT	Pass	3♦(♥)
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Sophia Baldysz did not hold back in the auction, on a sequence where partner rated at most to have a jack and wasn't terribly likely to have even that. Babaç's choice of a low diamond rather than the ♦Q was mystifying. It certainly fooled İnal, who put in the nine. Sophia won her ♦10, ruffed a diamond, and led a heart to the king and ace. Back came a third diamond. Sophia pitched a spade and won her ♦A, cashed the ♥Q, and gave up a spade. With the club finesse working, declarer had her 10 tricks and 12/2 MP.



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.

Open Pairs Final Session 2

by Ron Tacchi

The second session of the Open Pairs Final was only ten boards long. I set myself the goal of trying to follow four BBO rooms in real time and create some copy, also in real time. If I am successful, then there will not be the matchpoints available – perhaps I can add them after completion of the report. Wish me luck and I hope my fingers do not become entangled when attempting to type at speed.

The first board gave me three different scores for E/W 110, 120 and 200.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

		♠ A 10 4		
		♥ 8 6 3		
		♦ A 10 8 2		
		♣ A J 8		
♦ K J 9 6	<div>W N E S</div>		♠ 8 5	
♥ A K 10 4			♥ J 2	
♦ K J 6			♦ Q 9 5 3	
♣ 9 6			♣ K 10 7 5 4	
		♠ Q 7 3 2		
		♥ Q 9 7 5		
		♦ 7 4		
		♣ Q 3 2		
West	North	East	South	
<i>Black</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Korbel</i>	
—	1♦	Pass	1♥	
Pass	INT	All Pass		

On the lead of a club, dummy's queen won the trick. Declarer had no obvious route to seven tricks and the best bet seemed to tackle the spades and when a small spade was led from dummy West split his honours. After the ace the ♠10 from hand saw West duck and now declarer was only going to make his two aces for two off and -200. West's silence earned a very good score, 19/37.

West	North	East	South
Miechowicz	Sobczak	Kotorowicz	J. Patreuha
—	1♣	Pass	1♦
Dble	Pass	INT	All Pass

I assume the One Diamond response showed four hearts, but no alert was indicated. East, not having a fit with his partner, tried INT and was rewarded with the lead of a small heart, which ran round to his jack. With the aid of a finesse against South's queen declarer took three more heart tricks. A club to the ♣10 gave South the lead with his queen and he switched to a spade to the jack and the ace. The ♠10 followed to West's king and a small club brought forth North's ace. The defence now just had a top spade and the ace of diamonds to come, so a score of +120 for E/W, 31/25.

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	Arlovich	Kwiecien	Vainikonis
—	1♣	Pass	1♦
Dble	Pass	2♣	All Pass

Here East tried the club suit and made nine tricks but +110 is less than 120, so a poor score of 39/17.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

		♠ K Q J 4		
		♥ A J 2		
		♦ 10		
		♣ A Q 6 4 2		
♠ 10 6	<div>W N E S</div>			♠ A 9 7 3
♥ 6				♥ K 9 8 5 4 3
♦ Q 8 7 6 5 3 2				♦ —
♣ J 9 7				♣ K 10 3
		♠ 8 5 2		
		♥ Q 10 7		
		♦ A K J 9 4		
		♣ 8 5		
West	North	East	South	
Miechowicz	Sobczak	Kotorowicz	J. Patreuh	
—	—	1♥	3♦	
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass	

An auction which provides the onlooker with some amusement and especially for those of us who like to bring to attention any flouting of Burns' first law. This is a fine example as not only do the opponents have most trumps, but they are all in one hand. It has been a long-held ambition of mine to find myself in West's position. This is probably as close as I will ever get to it. I am prepared to go out on a limb and say it will be close to a bottom for N/S – it proved to be 0/56.

The third board I watched gave me four different scores:

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



Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	Dble	4♥	All Pass

This was a standard auction and at all four tables it was the same contract. I saw 9, 10, 11, and 12 twelve tricks made. The table where twelve tricks were made had the lead of a trump, won in hand. Then a club towards dummy, whereupon North rose with his ace and exited with a diamond. Declarer was then able to take a second club finesse to disembarass himself of his losing spade and ruff his remaining losing diamonds in dummy. The case where the contract failed was when declarer did not tackle clubs but tried to set up diamonds. Here, the defence managed to get in two rounds of trumps and so declarer was left with two losing diamonds and two black aces. 9 tricks was 52/4, 10 tricks 36/20, 11 tricks 40/16 and 12 tricks 53/3.

I keep hoping for a simple flat board, but no, now we have a board varying from +800 to -130.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Multon	Hult	Zimmermann
1♣	1♠	2♥	4♠
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	5♦	Dble
All Pass			

I do not think the 5♦ bid will win the bid of the year award. To add insult to injury it was scored as down four when it was plainly only three down. I suspected a

change of score from -800 to -500 would not alter the matchpoints – as it happened they would have collected 2 instead of a zero. The best result for the hand with all the clubs I saw was when it was opened Four Clubs and allowed to play there and make for a score of +130, the only plus score I saw for E/W, worth 15/41.

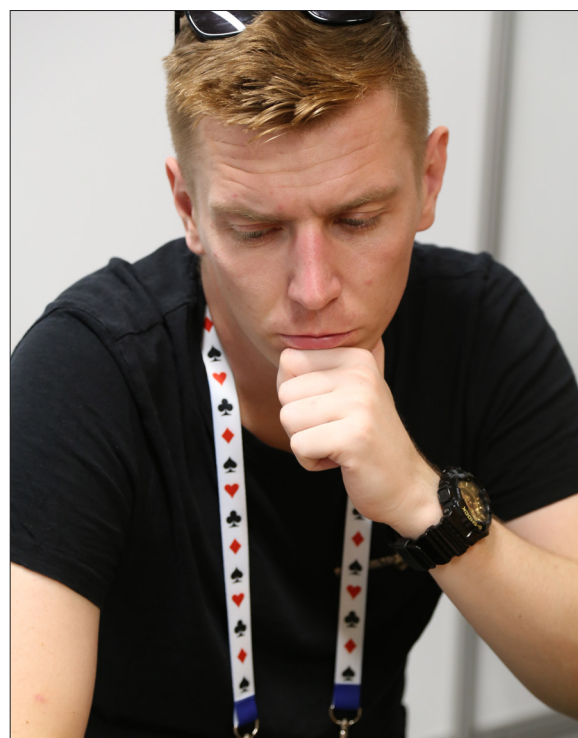
Fortunately for my tiring fingers, Board 25 was a flattish 3NT.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

All tables reached 3NT. One of the tables succeeded when North decided against unblocking his jack after South cashed the ace and the king of clubs. At another two tables it failed when North was awake and unblocked. Another East suffered the indignity of going down when a small club was led, and he correctly rose with the queen but then took a losing diamond finesse. +660 was 5/51, +630 20/36 and -100 45/11.

The remaining four boards had much less scope for self-immolation and were fairly flat. An interesting experience of trying to follow four rooms simultaneously.



Mateusz Sobczak

A Game of Queens

by Mark Horton

Tom Hanlon does not like to blow his own trumpet, but some deals are too pretty to remain unmentioned. This is from the third session of the Open Pairs Final:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

		♠ A 7 6 3 2		
		♥ 10 7		
		♦ K 9 7 5 2		
		♣ 10		
♠ 10 9 8 5 4	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ K J		
♥ A		♥ Q 8 6 5		
♦ 10 8 6 4		♦ A Q 3		
♣ A 8 7		♣ K 9 5 4		
		♠ Q		
		♥ K J 9 4 3 2		
		♦ J		
		♣ Q J 6 3 2		
West	North	East	South	
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	
—	Pass	INT	2♦*	
3♥*	Pass	3♠	Pass	
4♠	All Pass			
2♦ Pointed or round suits				
3♥ Invitational+ in spades				

The ♦J was led, for Tom's queen. He realized that there was not much chance unless the ♠Q was singleton, so he played the king at trick 2! Success!

But his work was not yet finished. Tom next played the ♠J, ducked by North. He went to the table with the ♣A and played spades until North took the ace. He won the heart return in dummy and drew the outstanding trumps to reach this ending:

♠ —	<div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> N W S E </div>	♠ —		
♥ 10		♥ Q 8		
♦ K 9 7 5		♦ A		
♣ —		♣ K 9		
♠ —	<div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> N W S E </div>	♠ —		
♥ K J		♥ Q 8		
♦ —		♦ A		
♣ Q J 6		♣ K 9		

When Tom came to hand with a diamond South could not afford to pitch a heart as declarer would then play a heart, setting up the queen. However, when he threw a club Tom could cash the king of clubs and exit with a club forcing South to surrender the game going trick to the queen of hearts.

+620 was not quite a top because three Easts made a tenth trick in 3NT and two North's went for -800 in 2♠ doubled, but no-one else took ten tricks in spades.



Tom Hanlon



Better at the WBF than at the Vatican

Tomasz Wolfke interviews the President Emeritus of the WBF, Gianarrigo Rona.

The Catholic Church has one Pope Emeritus. There are two Presidents Emeriti in the World Bridge Federation (WBF) since Thursday. Somehow it happened in this organization that the third new president elected in a row (José Damiani – Gianarrigo Rona – Jan Kamras) follows the same path. It leads from the helm of the European Bridge Federation (EBL) to the captain's bridge of the world. And the predecessor is honoured with the title of Emeritus, or the honorary president. Since yesterday, Gianarrigo Rona has the same title as José Damiani, but the 82-year-old Italian is still formally in full power until the end of the year, when the ten years younger Malmö Swede will begin his tenure.

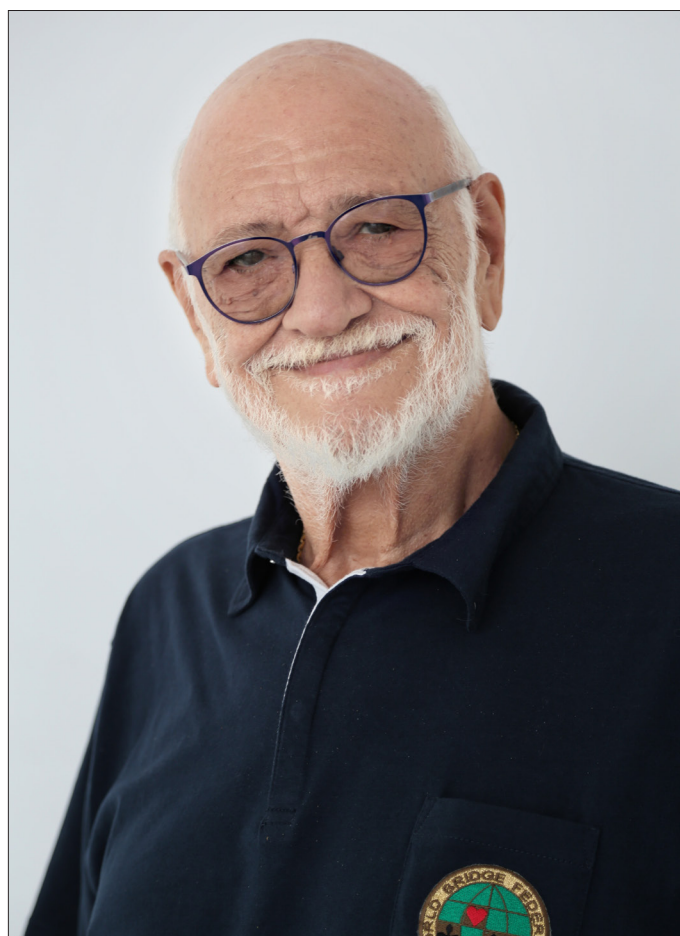
Tomasz Wolfke: Is this European succession accidental, or is it some unwritten rule in the WBF, a customary law?

Gianarrigo Rona: Of course not! *(smile)* We are fully democratic, strictly regulated by statute, board elections, although Jan was indeed the only candidate for the presidency. Simply put, Europe is by far the strongest bridge zone in the world. The WBF has nearly fifty members from this continent, which is almost half of the hundred and seven national bridge unions that belong to the world federation. And – for example – in North America there are only three. If I count correctly, of the twelve presidents throughout history, since 1958, nine have been Europeans. Of course, there are more Americans, Chinese or Indians playing, but the heart of bridge beats on the Old Continent. Here are the oldest bridge traditions and culture, education in schools, clubs ...

In addition, this is our organization's management model, that the function of the WBF president is completely non-profit, and even though – as I know from my own experience – it may not require additional payments from your own pocket, it cannot be reconciled with any professional work. Therefore, it is not easy to find such a "madman" who will devote himself to work for free, often several hours a day. I could only afford it when I had retired. And anyway, I want to thank my family as beautifully as I can - my wife, daughter, son, grandchildren – for accepting my, if not physical, then mental "absence" for so many years.

You are leaving after three terms. Fulfilled?

Thanks to bridge I had a fantastic, long adventure. It started in the late seventies in an Italian union. I owe a lot to the world's bridge family. I visited almost all countries of



Gianarrigo Rona

the world, because there was no chance to send a board member, for example - they wanted the president to come personally everywhere ... Not only did I meet people from all over the world, but I also learned a lot from them. Different cultures, ways of thinking or solving problems, comparing all ideas and rubbing compromises.

I am not quitting because of ill health. I am still enthusiastic, curious about the world, with a clear mind and fit body. For example, I am very excited now what it will be like to reorganize my life in my eighties. I will definitely read the books my wife bought me, and which – even though I love reading! – I had put on the bookshelf, because after a whole day of studying various papers - contracts, regulations, projects, etc. – in the evenings I didn't have the strength to look at the written word and only the TV was left. And we will take a dog again, in place of our beloved female sheepdog, who left us two years ago ... So, I am fulfilled, free and happy. Also, because I have gained thousands of new acquaintances and friends.

There are certainly many Poles among them ...

Sure, I could exchange for hours, if I forget about someone, I apologize in advance ... It started back when I was playing myself, when the Italian and Polish bridge were

very close to each other. We went to you, you – to us. For example, the Trofeo Campari tournament in Milan was sometimes almost the international championship of Poland! I will mention only the best Polish rivals from those times, and at the same time my wonderful colleagues: (Marek) Kudła, (Andrzej) Milde, Marian Frenkiel – an excellent player, but also the president of your union, (Andrzej) Macieszczak, (Andrzej) Wilkosz, (Lukasz) Lebioda ... Later “juniors” who are seniors today: couple (Krzysztof) Martens/(Tomasz) Przybora, Apolinary Kowalski, (Cezary) Balicki, (Adam) Żmudziński, husband and wife (Irena and Jan) Chodorowscy, (Piotr) Gawryś, who we called “Diabolo”... And finally, the current stars: (Jacek) Kalita, (Michał) Nowosadzki, (Michał) Klukowski ... I cooperated a lot with your previous president, Radek Kielbasinski.

I have been to Poland several times for sure, and I am in Wrocław for the fifth time. I feel at home with you, I have wonderful memories and I am proud of your development and progress, not only in bridge. You organize – a lot and well – international competitions, bridge is developing fantastically in your country, you are in the top three – next to France, the Netherlands, Italy and the United States – world powers. And it is in every respect: sports, popularizing, teaching, organizational. I wish you all the best, keep it up! And maybe I will come to Poland as a tourist, because, for example, I haven't been to Krakow yet.

And during this time ... what problems will your successor have to grapple with?

The financial situation of WBF is stable and there are no threats that this will change. Unfortunately, we lost two full years of playing as a result of the pandemic. Worse, we also lost a lot of bridge players during this time. And not only in the most tragic, literal sense – although many

of my generation have passed away forever; too many ... Many bridge clubs have closed all over the world, people have left the tables covered with green cloth. Just as they stopped going to the cinema or theatre or to work in the sense of the place where it was performed. And our sport is a sport that takes place at the table, a social sport. Its salt is a competition during real and not virtual meetings – at every level, masterfully in sports or family friendly. We must rebuild it! And to infect young people all over the world with the bridge bug. After all, someone must replace us at these tables ... I strongly believe that it will be so, and I saw a glimmer of hope a few weeks ago during the Youth Festival in Salsomaggiore, where four teams from completely exotic Ecuador played bridge.



Gianarrigo RONA

Born on November 18, 1940 in Rome, he lives (or rather resides, because he spends three hundred days a year away from home) in Pavia (Lombardy). Italian bridge champion Anna Claudia was his mother. Lawyer by education (fourth generation of continuing family traditions). In his youth he played not only bridge, but also basketball – in the Italian premier league; he was also active in motorboat sports.

The last tournament he took part in was the first Rosenblum Cup in 1978 (won by the Polish team: Frenkiel, Macieszczak, Polec and Wilkosz). In 1986, he became president of the Italian Bridge Federation (FIGB) and held that position until 2009 – parallel to the presidency of the European Bridge League (EBL) from 1999. In 2010 he was elected president of the World Bridge Federation (WBF), his third and final term will end on December 31, 2022.

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.



Rosenblum Final

Ventin v Nickell - Set 2

by Marc Smith

Nickell finished third and Ventin eighth in the Swiss qualifying. Both have come through the knockout rounds in relative comfort, each with just one of their four victories by only a single-digit margin, although Nickell's 3-IMP semi-final win is perhaps still fresh in their memory. Even so, Nickell came into this final as favourites, but it was Ventin who jumped out to a 16-IMP lead in a high-scoring first set, 64-48. With more than 100 IMPs changing hands in the first stanza, the Great Dealer must be exhausted, so perhaps we shall have to make do with slim pickings in Set 2.

The second set started quietly, but it was not long before the first deal with swing potential came along.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K J 4		
♥ K 4		
♦ A Q 9 8 7		
♣ K 6 5		
♠ Q 10 6		♠ A 9 8 5 2
♥ 7 5 2		♥ 8 3
♦ K 10 5 3 2		♦ J 6 4
♣ Q 7		♣ 10 9 3
	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center; width: 80px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	
♠ 7 3		
♥ A Q J 10 9 6		
♦ —		
♣ A J 8 4 2		



Antonio Palma

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Mendes de Leon	Nickell	Sprinkhuizen
Pass	INT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

Thibo Sprinkhuizen showed clubs and hearts via a transfer auction and then made an invitational jump to 5♥. Not unreasonably, with kings in both of his partner's suits, and a control in both side suits, Guy Mendes de Leon accepted.

Although not a great slam looking at just the North/South hands, the Dutch youngsters had at least played it from the right side. Indeed, Nickell did not have an easy lead, and the diamond he selected does look like the most obvious choice on the bidding. It was, though, exactly what declarer would have asked for. Mendes de Leon captured West's ♦K with his ace, drew trumps, and then played the ♣A and a club to dummy's king. The appearance of West's ♣Q enabled declarer to claim all 13 tricks: N/S +1460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wrang	Hampson	Palma	Greco
Pass	1♣	Pass	INT*
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♥
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Geoff Hampson started with a Strong Club. Eric Greco's game-forcing INT response showed 12+ HCP and 5+ hearts. 2♣ and 2♠ were relays, Greco showing at least six hearts (2♥) and then 4+ clubs (with 3♦). At this point, with 10 of his HCP in his partner's short suits, Hampson jumped to game to show an unsuitable hand. Greco was not done, though, and when he had one more go with 5♥, Hampson accepted the invitation.

On commentary on BBO VuGraph, I was about to observe that the play was much more difficult on what looked like 'the obvious trump lead' from the West hand but, before I could even finish typing, Frederic Wrang had produced the ♦2. Greco tried a less-than hopeful ♦Q from dummy but, when East failed to produce the king, away went declarer's spades. Greco eventually lost a trick to the ♣Q, but the Americans had dodged a large bullet: N/S +1430 and just 1 IMP to Ventin.

There was little else of note to report in a dull first half that finished with Nickell leading 6-1. The vagaries of no-trump range generated some interest on the first deal of the second half. Although at many tables the auction

would, presumably, have gone INT-All Pass, neither N/S pair in this match were playing a 15-17 INT.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Mendes de Leon	Nickell	Sprinkhuizen
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Mendes de Leon started with 1♣ and then reversed into diamonds after a 1♥ response. Perhaps Sprinkhuizen could have bid a non-forcing 2NT but he opted for a fourth-suit 2♠ and then raised 2NT to game.

Nickell led the ♠8, and declarer cannot have been too disappointed, with what looks like four tricks in each of the pointed suits and thus just one more to find. Declarer cashed all but one diamond winner before playing a club

to the jack. Nickell won with the queen, played a heart to Katz's king, and got a second round of clubs through declarer's king. The defence quickly collected their three clubs and two hearts: N/S -50.

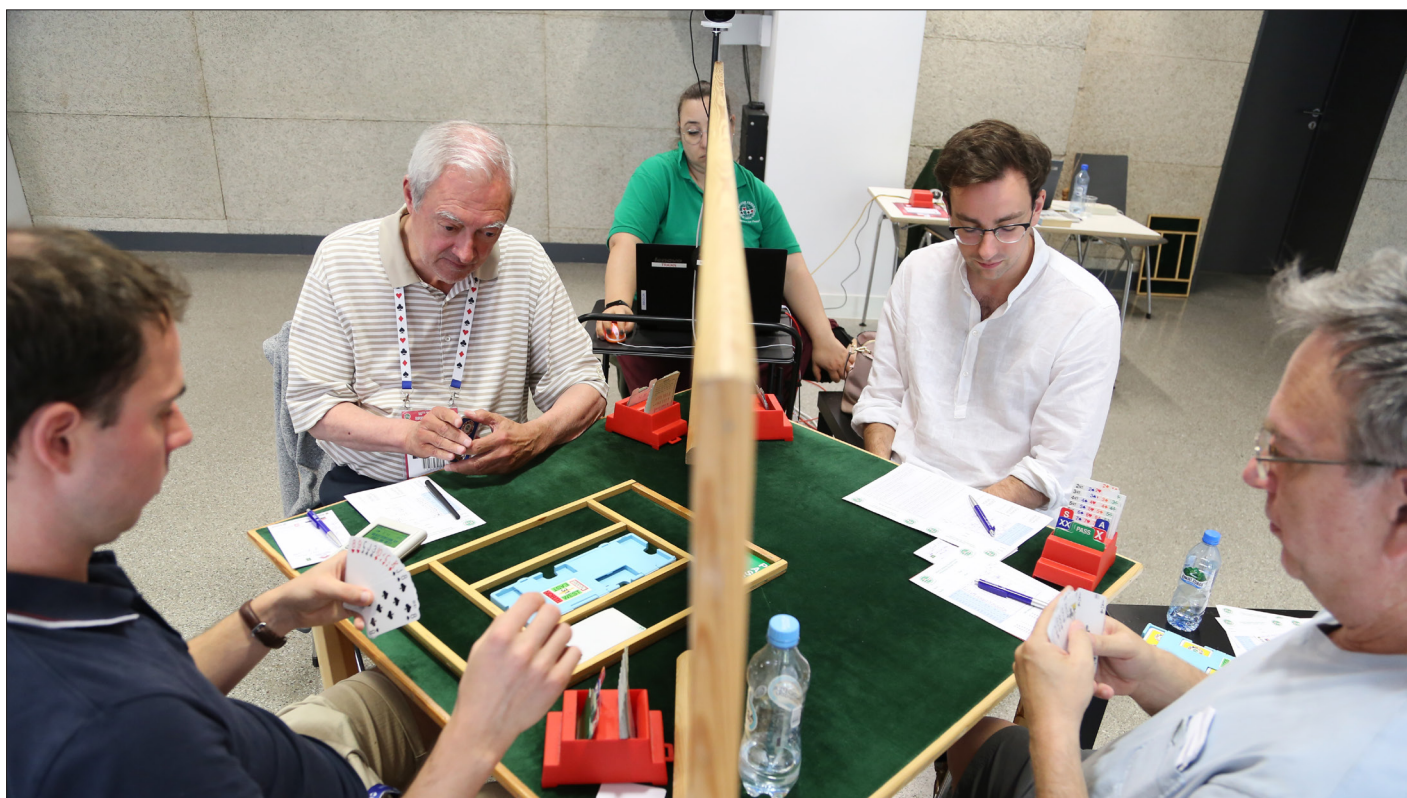
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wrang	Hampson	Palma	Greco
—	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

The Americans started with a Strong Club opening and a 17-18 INT rebid. Greco advanced with a Checkback-type 2♣ and Hampson showed his spades. I suspect that Greco might have been interested had he found a heart fit but facing spades he gave up. Well judged!

Theoretically, only a diamond opening holds declarer to eight tricks. However, Antonio Palma kicked off with the ♥6, Wrang winning and switching to diamonds. When declarer won in hand and ran the ♠J to West's queen, though, the defenders were in a position to beat the contract if Wrang could find the club switch. Instead, he played a second diamond, so Hampson won in hand, drew trumps, and advanced the ♥Q. The defence could take two clubs and the ♥A, but the ♥J would now provide declarer with an eighth trick. N/S +110 and 4 IMPs to NICKELL, which was to be almost the largest swing of the set.

There was a little excitement on Board 29, when Nickell perhaps thought he might have unwittingly wandered into an auction where he did not belong. The best partners, though, always produce a dummy to justify your bidding.



Guy Mendes de Leon, Nick Nickell, Thibo Sprinkhuizen and Ralph Katz

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Mendes de Leon	Nickell	Sprinkhuizen
—	INT	2♦*	Dble
Pass	Pass	2♥	Dble
All Pass			

North opened a 14-16 INT and Nickell's 2♦ intervention showed one major. South doubled to show values and Nickell was forced to reveal his suit. South's second double was takeout of hearts, but North can hardly be blamed for choosing to convert.

Although dummy contained little, what values it had were enormous facing declarer's hand. The defence began with a diamond to the king and then two rounds of spades, declarer winning in dummy with the ♠J to play a heart to his king. North won the second round of trumps and forced declarer with a diamond, but Nickell ruffed, cashed his ♠Q, and played a club towards dummy's queen to make sure of his sixth trick. N/S +500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wrang	Hampson	Palma	Greco
—	INT	2♥	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The auction began in similar fashion, but Greco was not interested in defending when he expected to be able to make a vulnerable game. His 3♥ cue-bid showed game values whilst denying either a heart stopper or four spades. Hampson bid the obvious 3NT and Palma opened the ♠Q, ducked. When Palma then continued with the ♠K, Hampson could count enough tricks. He unblocked the diamonds and then exited with a spade, establishing the ♠9 as his ninth trick. N/S +600 and 3 IMPs to Nickell.

Going into the final deal of the set, Nickell led 13-3. Ventin came back with a vengeance on a deal played in INT at both tables, scoring seven tricks on defence in one room (+100) and eight tricks on offence (+120) at the other for a 6-IMP gain. With the set finishing 13-9, the match score was now 73-61, Ventin up by 12 with 64 boards left to play.

Video Corner



You can access our full playlist here:



Today, we have 1 new video:

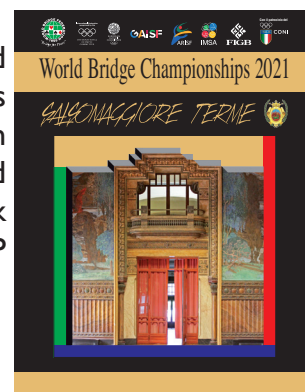


Step by Step with David Gold

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.



Rosenblum Final

Ventin v Nickell - Set 3

by Jos Jacobs

After a very high-scoring first segment (64-48) and a very low-scoring second segment (9-13) the two contestants started the 3rd and last segment of the first day with the score at 73-61 to Ventin. So the question was first of all: "How would the Great Dealer behave this time?"

In the opening boards, he did not behave very well, we thought, as only 4 IMPs were added to the total, all going to Nickell. Board 4 then woke us up.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Mendes de Leon	Weinstein	Sprinkhuizen
1♣	Pass	1♠	Dble
Rdbl	2♦	Dble	3♦
Pass	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	All Pass

What an auction! N/S were way overboard but rather than take their +500, E/W went on and on and on. Had N/S doubled them, they might even have paid the price for it in the end but when North decided to lead a heart rather than the partnership's bid suit, Levin suddenly was in with a chance. Not that it was plain sailing yet because there also was a communication problem. Dummy's ♥10 was covered by the jack and won by the ace and declarer crossed to the ♥K. Next, he went back to the ♣A and discarded a diamond on the ♥Q. When the nine appeared, he continued with the ♥8, ruffed by North and overruffed in dummy. With the trump problem now solved, declarer's only remaining problem was the spade suit. When he played a spade to the ace and a spade back, he guessed right by putting up the queen and had thus brought home an unlikely contract. Well done, Nickell +600.

In the other room, the Iberians produced a more decent auction and ended up in the par contract with no opposing actions.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Palma	Hampson	Ventin	Greco
1♣	Pass	1♥	Dble
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	All Pass

When North at this table also led a heart from his 974, declarer soon came to 11 tricks at this table, too. Ventin +150 but 10 IMPs to Nickell.

On the next board, N/S muddled the waters for declarer in the Open Room.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Palma	Hampson	Ventin	Greco
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♣
3♥	Dble	3♠	All Pass

Game in spades is on a trump finesse at best, and needing some help elsewhere, so you cannot be blamed when you don't bid it. After a trump lead, it quickly turned out that the trump finesse was right for declarer. Ventin +170.

In the Open Room, North's double may well have suggested that this finesse would be wrong.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Mendes de Leon	Weinstein	Sprinkhuizen
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♣
3♦	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

North led a heart to partner's ace and when South continued the ♥Q, he overtook this with his king to switch to a low diamond into declarer's tenace. Rather than winning the ace in dummy to take the trump finesse, Levin ran this to his jack. Suddenly, he could no longer make the

contract because when he would give up a club to ruff the last club in dummy, the defence would take their diamond ruff. So he decided to first cash the $\spadesuit A$, which gave the defenders the $\spadesuit K$ as the setting trick. Ventin another +100 and 7 IMP back to them.

Two boards later, the scorers were put to work again, rather unexpectedly.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

\spadesuit 3 2		\spadesuit 9 6
\heartsuit Q 5 2		\heartsuit A K 7 3
\diamondsuit K Q 4		\diamondsuit 9 8 5 2
\clubsuit A J 8 7 6		\clubsuit 10 3 2
\spadesuit A Q 8 7	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">N W S E</div>	\spadesuit K J 10 5 4
\heartsuit J 10 8 4		\heartsuit 9 6
\diamondsuit 7 3		\diamondsuit A J 10 6
\clubsuit K Q 5		\clubsuit 9 4

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Mendes de Leon	Weinstein	Sprinkhuizen
—	—	—	Pass
1 \clubsuit	Pass	1 \heartsuit	INT
2 \heartsuit	All Pass		



Juan Carlos Ventin

South's INT showed five spades and four diamonds.

On the lead of the $\clubsuit 9$ to the king in dummy, declarer had no problem in coming to nine tricks.

Nickell +140. It should be a simple push board.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Palma	Hampson	Ventin	Greco
—	—	—	Pass
1 \clubsuit	Pass	1 \diamondsuit	1 \spadesuit
2 \heartsuit	All Pass		

But it was not, because strange things were happening at the other table. North led the $\spadesuit 3$ to the ten and queen and declarer's next move was to play a diamond. South won and continued the $\clubsuit 9$, and North allowed declarer's $\clubsuit Q$ to win the trick. Declarer crossed to dummy's $\heartsuit A$ to play the $\spadesuit 9$, covered by the jack and ace. Next came the $\spadesuit 8$ on which declarer threw a club from dummy. South won his king and crossed to partner's $\clubsuit A$. When dummy ruffed North's club return with the $\heartsuit 7$, South could overruff with the nine. Later, declarer misguessed the actual trump position and thus managed to go one down...Nickell another +100 and 6 IMPs more to them.

After a few more quiet boards, N/S had a misunderstanding on board 12.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

\spadesuit J 4 3		\spadesuit 7
\heartsuit 9 2		\heartsuit K 8 7 3
\diamondsuit 10 8 6 5		\diamondsuit Q 9 3 2
\clubsuit K J 4 3		\clubsuit 10 6 5 2
\spadesuit A Q 9 8	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">N W S E</div>	
\heartsuit 10 4		
\diamondsuit A J 4		
\clubsuit A Q 9 7		
\spadesuit K 10 6 5 2		
\heartsuit A Q J 6 5		
\diamondsuit K 7		
\clubsuit 8		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Mendes de Leon	Weinstein	Sprinkhuizen
INT	Pass	Pass	2 \clubsuit
Dble	2 \clubsuit	3 \clubsuit	3 \diamondsuit
All Pass			

Was 3 \diamondsuit a game try or a natural bid after 2 \clubsuit had shown majors? Down three, Nickell +300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Palma	Hampson	Ventin	Greco
INT	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2 \clubsuit	Pass	2 \heartsuit
Pass	2 \spadesuit	Pass	3 \spadesuit
All Pass			

At the other table, N/S also tried for game, only to find out that the three-level already was too much. One down, Ventin +100 but still 5 IMPs to Nickell.

The penultimate board of the set, and the day, for that matter, was a play problem.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Mendes de Leon	Weinstein	Sprinkhuizen
—	—	—	2♦
2♠	4♦	4♠	All Pass

Four Spades looks the normal contract but how should you play when North leads a low diamond?

Levin adopted a classic principle: turn your attention to the side suit first if there is no clear reason to draw trumps immediately. So he played a low heart at trick two and was rewarded when North took the trick with his king and South followed suit with the jack. North continued the ♣K but now, Levin could win dummy's ace, draw two rounds of trumps with the jack and ace and play another heart, hoping for the best. When the suit broke 2-2, he was home. Nickell +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Palma	Hampson	Ventin	Greco
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

In the Closed Room, they were also in 4♠, of course, but here North immediately attacked the clubs and dummy's entries by leading the ♣K. Dummy won the ace but rather than adopting the principle followed by Levin, Palma returned the suit. North thus won the ♣9 and played the ♠8. This ran to declarer's jack and now, declarer tried to ruff a club with dummy's nine. When South overruffed with the ♠10 and returned his last trump, the contract had actually gone two down. Nickell +100 and 11 more IMPs to them. They had won the set 39-11 and brought the score to 100-84 in their favour with one full day (48 boards) to play. It was by no means over!

An absent medallist: Joaquín Pacareu

If you read through the roster of team Ventin, silver medallist in the Rosenblum yesterday, you will find six named, but if you go through the line-ups of the final, only five players are to be found.

All was well during the weekend. Juan Carlos Ventín played six of the ten matches with his regular partner, Joaquín Pacareu from Chile. They also played the first set of the round of 32 together. And then Joaquín was made aware of a family emergency, and he decided to return to South America. Since then, team Ventín have played five-handed, with Guy Mendes de Leon and Thibo Sprinkhuizen playing throughout, and Antonio Palma alternating between Fredric Wrang and his captain.



Joaquín Pacareu

Joaquín informed us from Chile that, all things considered, everything is well and that he was very proud of his achievements (an average of more than +1 IMP in the Butler of the Swiss, and one set of the Knock-outs, won by 31 points). He is even more proud of the achievements of his teammates.

It has been confirmed by the WBF President that all six players in the team will receive medals and titles.

That means that Joaquín becomes the first world championship medal winner from his country, Chile. Portugal as well has now found their first medallist, while Spain has won just one world medal previously, by Juan Carlos Ventín himself, bronze in the Rosenblum in 2014.

Rosenblum Final

Ventin v Nickell - Set 4

by David Bird

The overnight score was NICKELL 100, VENTIN 84, with most of the IMPs coming in yesterday's first set. We'd better take our seats. They are about to start.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ Q 9 7 5	
	♥ 7 3	
	♦ J 10 9 8 3	
	♣ Q 5	
♠ 10 3	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ 6 4 2
♥ J 10 9 2		♥ Q 8 6 5
♦ Q 7 6 4		♦ K 2
♣ A J 2		♣ K 10 7 4
	♠ A K J 8	
	♥ A K 4	
	♦ A 5	
	♣ 9 8 6 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Ventin	Greco	Palma
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

South's 3♠ was alerted for some reason, and presumably 4♦ was a slam-try. As for North's 3NT, it must have been some response to the mysterious 3♠. Let's move on to the play.

Antonio Palma won the jack of hearts lead with the ace, and led a club to the queen and king. When Eric Greco returned a trump, declarer rose with the king. What would happen after a second club now? West would win and return a trump. Two ruffs would give declarer only nine tricks but, as the cards lie, he could run the ♦J and survive when East began with a doubleton honour.

Palma instead played ace and another diamond to East's king. A second trump was returned, won with the ace. West won the next trick with the club jack and returned a safe ♥10. Declarer was out of steam and went one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Weinstein	Mendes de Leon	Levin
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

North was declarer at this table and the ♥6 was led, won with dummy's ace. When a club was played, West rose with the ace and returned a heart to South's king. A club to the queen and king was followed by yet another heart,

ruffed in the dummy. The jack of diamonds was covered by the king and ace. A second diamond then set up that suit.

West led a third diamond, ruffed by East and overruffed with the ♠8. Declarer then ruffed the ♣9 high and claimed the last three tricks with his ♠AKJ. The contract had never been in trouble at this table, and it was 10 IMPs to Nickell.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ 10 7 6 5	
	♥ A 8	
	♦ 9 5 4	
	♣ Q J 10 5	
♠ A J 9 2	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ 8 3
♥ 10 9 4 3		♥ J 7
♦ K Q J 10		♦ A 8 7 6 3
♣ 4		♣ A K 7 3
	♠ K Q 4	
	♥ K Q 6 5 2	
	♦ 3	
	♣ 9 8 6 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Ventin	Greco	Palma
1♦	Pass	2♦*	2♥
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Dble	Pass	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass

3NT was the place to be. Only eight quick tricks, but there was every chance of North leading ace and another heart. In that case, declarer might establish a ninth trick in hearts (he would have to guess well on a trick-three spade switch from South). Having denied a heart stopper with his 2♠ bid, could West not have tried 3NT on the third or fourth round? This would show something like his actual holding, needing a singleton or doubleton honour opposite to create a stopper.

A club was led against the diamond game, South splitting his spade honours at trick two. Declarer lost a spade and two hearts for one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Weinstein	Mendes de Leon	Levin
1♦	Pass	2♣	2♥
Pass	Pass	5♦	All Pass

The auction for the Ventin team could not be described as exploratory. The ace and queen of hearts were taken, followed by a ♠K switch. It was a push board, but East-West at the other table must have thought they had missed a chance.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Ventin	Greco	Palma
—	—	2♣*	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Dble	4♦	All Pass	

East's 2♣ was natural and around 11-15 HCP. With nine tricks on top and a secure club stopper, 3NT was once again the place to be, this time for North/South. They reached it easily but Hampson then applied the frighteners, with a spoof penalty double.

As I see it, North has no reason whatsoever to remove to 4♦. He has good diamonds and a precious ace. That is good value for his single raise and will make a splendid dummy. Game is also easy in diamonds, with nine top tricks and two club ruffs.

The bidding stopped in 4♦. After a club lead and a spade return, declarer ruffed two clubs and discarded a spade on the ♥A. It was a splendid success for Hampson's double, as it turned out, but a great disappointment for North/South.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Weinstein	Mendes de Leon	Levin
—	—	1♣	1♦
Dble*	3♦	4♥	All Pass

West's double showed 4+ hearts. Only three top losers were on view in the heart game, but the contract had little chance of succeeding, particularly with a 4-1 trump break. Guy Mendes de Leon ruffed the king of diamonds lead and played the ♠7 to the jack. Levin won the next spade and cashed the bare king of trumps. The ♦2 switch went to North's queen, ruffed by declarer. All roads led to two down, and that was 2 IMPs to Nickell.

There were six double-digit swings in my piece yesterday, on the first session of this match. You will have noted already that lightning did not strike twice in my favour here. Ah well, let's end with board 31.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Ventin	Greco	Palma
—	—	—	1♥
Dble	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

After the pre-emptive 4♥ raise, there was no question of South's second action being a forcing pass. Despite the vulnerability being against him, Juan Carlos Ventin took a splendid view when he advanced to 5♦. Could eleven tricks be made in the resultant 5♥, do you think?

Hampson led the ♠4 to the jack, queen and ace. Palma advanced his singleton diamond and Hampson rose with the ace. Declarer was pleased to see the ♣A hit the table next, followed by a second club to dummy's queen. The queen of trumps was covered by the king and ace, declarer then ruffing a spade in dummy. After discarding the ♣9 on the king of diamonds, Palma ruffed a diamond with the ♥8 and drew the last two trumps. A trump remained in dummy to ruff the ♠10 and that was +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Weinstein	Mendes de Leon	Levin
—	—	—	1♥
Dble	3NT*	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

Levin did well to double the spade game. The ♦5 was led to dummy's queen, North's king and declarer's 4. Weinstein returned the ♥7 to king and ace, South playing a second round to North's queen. When the jack of diamonds was returned, Levin could have achieved four down by ruffing. He preferred to discard a heart and dummy's ace won.

After a trump to the jack, queen and ace, declarer escaped for three down, losing 500. That was 4 IMPs to Ventin and the set ended with 16 IMPs apiece and no change to Nickell's 16-IMP lead. How will this Herculean two-day struggle end?

Open Pairs

Follow this session with Me

by Mark Horton

With three titles to be decided on Saturday we could leave coverage of the Rosenblum to our offshore reporters, David, Marc & Jos. That left the rest of us to follow the fortunes of those hoping to win one of the Pairs titles on offer.

As usual there will be a lot of guess work when it comes to the interpretation of some of the bids.

The luck of the draw saw the leaders and their closest rivals meet in the opening round:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ A 7 5 3		
	♥ A 7		
	♦ K 10 9 5		
	♣ A J 10		
♠ 10 9 8 2	<div>♠ N ♥ W ♦ S ♣ E</div>	♠ Q	
♥ K 8 6		♥ Q J 5 2	
♦ A J 8 3 2		♦ 7	
♣ K		♣ 9 7 6 5 4 3 2	
	♠ K J 6 4		
	♥ 10 9 4 3		
	♦ Q 6 4		
	♣ Q 8		
West	North	East	South
Lorber	Lutostanski	Gartaganis	Buras
—	1♣*	Pass	1♥
Dble	Rdbl*	Pass	Pass
2♦	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	


1♣ Polish Club
Rdbl Strong



Krzysztof Buras and Piotr Lutostański

West led the ♦3 and when dummy's nine held declarer continued with the five to the queen, West winning as East pitched the ♣6. Declarer had an easy route to ten tricks, and he ducked a heart, East winning and switching to the ♠Q. Declarer won with the king and took his tricks, +430 and 48/8 as few pairs bid this game.


Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ 10 6 4		
	♥ 9 7		
	♦ A J 8 7 5 4		
	♣ 10 2		
♠ A K J 8 2		♠ 7	
♥ K 10 3		♥ Q 8 4	
♦ Q 10 9		♦ 3	
♣ J 3		♣ A K Q 9 8 7 6 4	
	♠ Q 9 5 3		
	♥ A J 6 5 2		
	♦ K 6 2		
	♣ 5		
West	North	East	South
Lorber	Lutostanski	Gartaganis	Buras
—	—	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♥A and when North followed with the seven he switched to the ♦2. That gave the defenders seven tricks, -150 and 46/10.

A great start for the leaders!


Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

		♠ A 8 5	
		♥ A 10 5 4 2	
		♦ A K 8 4	
		♣ 10	
♠ Q J		♠ K 10 9 3	
♥ K Q 7		♥ J 8	
♦ Q J 10 9 5		♦ 6	
♣ 8 6 4		♣ A K 9 7 5 3	
		♠ 7 6 4 2	
		♥ 9 6 3	
		♦ 7 3 2	
		♣ Q J 2	
West	North	East	South
<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Zhao</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	2♣	Pass
2NT	Dble	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

East led the ♣A and switched to the ♠3, declarer ducking West's jack. West returned the ♦Q and declarer took the ace and ducked a heart, East winning with the jack. The

♠10 was taken by declarer, but he was running out of ammunition and had to go three down, -150, which was worth 25/31.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

		♠ Q 6			
		♥ A 7 6 3			
		♦ A 8			
		♣ Q 10 7 6 3			
♠ A K 10 8 7 3		♠ J 2			
		♥ K 9			
		♦ Q 10 3			
		♣ K J 9 8 5 4			
		♠ 9 5 4			
		♥ J 8 5 4 2			
		♦ K J 7 6			
		♣ A			
West		North		East	South
<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Zhao</i>		
2♠	All Pass				

North led the ♣3 for the jack and ace and South switched to the ♥4, North taking the ace and playing two rounds of diamonds. That gave the defenders three tricks in the suit and a fourth diamond promoted North's ♠Q. That left declarer with seven tricks, -100 and 31/25.



Bogdan Szulejewski

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

It is not rocket science to deduce that 2♦ promised a three-suited hand. 2NT was some kind of enquiry and whatever 3♠ meant it was enough for West to ask for key-cards before settling for 6♠.

South led the ♣3 and declarer took North's king with the ace, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a diamond, cashed the ♠A, ruffed a club to set up the suit, drew trumps and was soon claiming the rest, +1010 for a dead average 28/28.

Many pairs bid a grand slam – making 7♠ was worth 11/45.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

		♠ K 9 8 6		
		♥ K Q J 7		
		♦ A Q 7 2		
		♣ 10		
♠ A Q 10 4	<div>♠ N</div> <div>♥ W</div> <div>♦ S</div> <div>♣ E</div>	♠ 7 5 3		
		♥ 8 3		
		♦ 5 3		
		♣ A Q J 9 8 2		
		♠ J 2		
		♥ 9 6 5		
		♦ J 10 8 4		
		♣ 7 6 5 4		
West		North	East	South
Mesbur		Szulejewski	Garvey	Bartkowski
—		—	Pass	Pass
INT		2♣*	2NT*	Pass
3♣	All Pass			
2♣	Majors			

Declarer ducked the lead of the ♥K, took the next round and drew trumps. A spade to the ten set up a ninth trick, +110 and 45/11. The pairs who bid 3NT collected 17/39.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Vainikonis	Black	Arlovich	Bertheau
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

East led the ♥5 and declarer took his time before playing dummy's eight. He unblocked the ♥A and played a diamond to the ace. After cashing the king and queen, pitching a club and spade from dummy, he cashed the ♥K, West discarding the ♣8 and exited with the ♦10, West winning as East pitched the ♣J. Another spade had gone from dummy, so West switched to the ♠A and continued the suit and when East won and played back the ♥9 declarer emerged with an overtrick, +150 and 37/19.

If West wanted to play spades, anything is better than the ace. However, the simplest defence is to switch to the ♣K and then play a second club, squeezing declarer, who has to throw the master diamond. Then it is safe for East to exit with a heart and the defenders get the rest for one down. That would have netted 11/45.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Vainikonis	Black	Arlovich	Bertheau
Pass	1♣	Pass	Pass
2♥	3♣	Dble	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

North led the ♠A and the contract was swiftly three down for -500 and 56/0. As far as I can see 3♣x would have been one down, and -100 would have 11/45.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

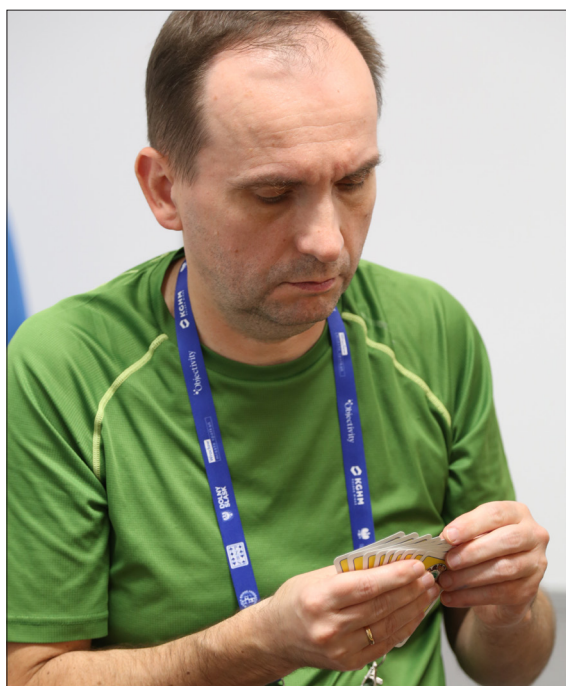
♠ Q J 10 2		♠ A K 7
♥ 10 7 5		♥ A Q 3
♦ A 9 8 5		♦ K 6
♣ Q 2		♣ K 10 7 6 4
	W N E	♠ 9 6 5 4 3
	S	♥ J 9 6 4
		♦ 3
		♣ A 5 3
		♠ 8
		♥ K 8 2
		♦ Q J 10 7 4 2
		♣ J 9 8

West	North	East	South
Multon	Kotorowicz	Zimmermann	Miechowicz
—	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♠6 and declarer won with the ace and played on diamonds, West taking the second round and returned the ♠Q at which point declarer claimed, +430 and 31/25.



Jakub Kotorowicz



Pawel Miechowicz

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

<p>♠ A 4 3 ♥ A K Q 9 6 ♦ K 10 6 ♣ 4 3</p>		<p>♠ Q 10 8 ♥ J 8 7 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ A 8 7 2</p>		<p>♠ K J 6 2 ♥ 5 4 2 ♦ Q J 3 ♣ J 9 5</p>	
<p>♠ 9 7 5 ♥ 10 3 ♦ 9 8 7 5 ♣ K Q 10 6</p>		<p>♠ 9 7 5 ♥ 10 3 ♦ 9 8 7 5 ♣ K Q 10 6</p>			
West	North	East	South		
Multon	Kotorowicz	Zimmermann	Miechowicz		
—	—	Pass	Pass		
INT	All Pass				

North led the ♣2 and the defenders took the first five tricks, declarer taking the rest, +120, 41/15.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Trenka	Xu	Kemeny	Huang
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

East led the ♣Q and declarer won with the ace and played a spade for the queen and king. West returned the ♣9 and when East ruffed with the ♠10 declarer played dummy's king. Two rounds of hearts saw West win and give his partner another club ruff, and the ♦A meant two down, -100 and 5/1.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ A K 3 2 ♥ J 9 6 ♦ K 5 ♣ A Q 3 2</p>		<p>♠ 7 ♥ A Q 10 5 ♦ Q 10 9 7 ♣ 10 9 8 7</p>	
<p>♠ J 10 9 5 4 ♥ K 8 7 ♦ 8 6 ♣ K J 6</p>		<p>♠ Q 8 6 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ A J 4 3 2 ♣ 5 4</p>	
<p>♠ J 10 9 5 4 ♥ K 8 7 ♦ 8 6 ♣ K J 6</p>		<p>♠ Q 8 6 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ A J 4 3 2 ♣ 5 4</p>	
West	North	East	South
Trenka	Xu	Kemeny	Huang
Pass	INT	Pass	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♣*	All Pass

When you see bids like West's 2♠ you begin to understand why Pairs is not everyone's cup of tea.


South led the ♣4 and North played three rounds of the suit, declarer winning with dummy's king and playing the ♠J. North took the ace and exited with his last club which cost his side a trick, three down, -150 and 44/12.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

<p>♠ A 9 6 2 ♥ A K 9 ♦ A 6 5 ♣ J 9 4</p>		<p>♠ 4 ♥ 10 6 3 2 ♦ K 8 7 4 ♣ 10 8 6 2</p>	
<p>♠ K Q 10 8 3 ♥ J 8 ♦ Q J 10 3 ♣ K 5</p>		<p>♠ J 7 5 ♥ Q 7 5 4 ♦ 9 2 ♣ A Q 7 3</p>	
<p>♠ K Q 10 8 3 ♥ J 8 ♦ Q J 10 3 ♣ K 5</p>		<p>♠ J 7 5 ♥ Q 7 5 4 ♦ 9 2 ♣ A Q 7 3</p>	
West	North	East	South
Nunn	Szczepanski	Dalley	Majcher
—	INT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

East led the ♣6 and West won with the king and switched to the ♦Q. Declarer ducked twice so West went back to clubs and declarer cashed his winners for +120 and 29/27.


Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nunn	Szczepanski	Dalley	Majcher
—	—	Pass	1♥
2♦	Dble*	3♦	3♥
Pass	4♦*	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

West led the ♦9 and East won with the ace and switched to the ♣10. (A second diamond will lead to two down.) Declarer won with dummy's jack and played a heart to the ten and king. When West played back a club declarer won in dummy and tried to cash another club, West's ruff meaning he was two down, -100 and 3/53.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Akgul	Gold	Aslan	Zia
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3NT*	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	6♠	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

2♥ Kokish

I would love to tell you what was happening after 2NT, but there is simply no time to find out.

South led the ♠5 and with no miracle in the club suit the best declarer could hope for was one down. When he tried for more, playing a low heart to dummy's queen followed by a club, North put up the queen and declarer eventually finished three down, -150 and 55/1.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

	♠ K Q J	
	♥ K 9 8 5 2	
	♦ J 10 7 5	
	♣ J	
♠ 8 7 4	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ A 9 6 3
♥ J 6 4 3		♥ 10 7
♦ A		♦ K Q 3
♣ K Q 10 8 5		♣ A 7 4 3
	♠ 10 5 2	
	♥ A Q	
	♦ 9 8 6 4 2	
	♣ 9 6 2	

West	North	East	South
Akgul	Gold	Aslan	Zia
Pass	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♦*	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♥A and followed it with the queen. He switched to the ♦6 and declarer won in dummy and claimed when the clubs behaved, +600 and 3/53 as virtually everyone else stopped short of game.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 10 8 7 5 3		♠ K Q 4 2	
♥ A K 10 7 4		♥ 8 3	
♦ A 7		♦ Q 10 6 5	
♣ 8		♣ K 6 2	
	<div>♠ N ♥ W ♦ S ♣ E</div>		
		♠ J 6	
		♥ Q J 6	
		♦ K J 8 3	
		♣ Q 7 5 4	
		♠ A 9	
		♥ 9 5 2	
		♦ 9 4 2	
		♣ A J 10 9 3	

West	North	East	South
M. Rimstedt	Kowalski	O. Rimstedt	Sielicki
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	All Pass

North led the ♦5 and when the king held South continued with the three, declarer taking the ace and playing a spade to the nine and jack. He ruffed the diamond return, played a spade to the ace, a heart to the ace and a spade. North

won, drew the last trump, cashed the $\diamond Q$ and exited with the $\clubsuit 2$. Declarer won with dummy's ace and played a heart to the king, but South had the last two tricks, -100, 55/1.

Suppose declarer goes down a different route, after taking the diamond ruff? He cashes the top hearts, plays a club to dummy's ace, ruffs a club, crosses to dummy with the $\spadesuit A$ and ruffs another club to get up to eight tricks. That scores 25/31.

That appears to be simple enough, but when I went to check the matchpoints it says E/W took eight tricks for +110. It also says the lead was the $\diamond 3$, so I suppose anything is possible.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

\spadesuit A Q 9 2		\spadesuit K 4 3
\heartsuit Q J		\heartsuit A K 10 9 8 6 4
\diamond A K 10 8 7		\diamond Q
\clubsuit 6 4		\clubsuit J 5
\spadesuit 8 6 5	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">N W S E</div>	\spadesuit J 10 7
\heartsuit 7 5		\heartsuit 3 2
\diamond 9 6 3		\diamond J 5 4 2
\clubsuit K Q 8 7 3		\clubsuit A 10 9 2

West	North	East	South
M. Rimstedt	Kowalski	O. Rimstedt	Sielicki
—	—	1 \heartsuit	Pass
INT	Dble	3 \heartsuit	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3 \spadesuit
All Pass			

West led the $\heartsuit 7$, but with trumps 3-3 the defenders could only score four tricks, +140 and a massive 55/1.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

\spadesuit Q 9 6 2		\spadesuit —
\heartsuit A 6 3		\heartsuit J 8 7 5 2
\diamond K 7 2		\diamond Q J 8
\clubsuit A 8 6		\clubsuit 9 7 4 3 2
\spadesuit A 3	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">N W S E</div>	\spadesuit K J 10 8 7 5 4
\heartsuit Q 10 4		\heartsuit K 9
\diamond 10 9 5 3		\diamond A 6 4
\clubsuit K Q J 10		\clubsuit 5

West	North	East	South
Padon	Grue	Birman	Moss
—	—	—	1 \spadesuit
Pass	2 \heartsuit *	Pass	4 \spadesuit
All Pass			

West led the $\clubsuit K$ and declarer claimed 11 tricks, +450 and 28/28. Six pairs attempted 6 \spadesuit for 5/51.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

\spadesuit 9 2		\spadesuit K J 10 7 5
\heartsuit 10 9 8 7 4		\heartsuit K Q
\diamond A Q 6		\diamond K J 9 5
\clubsuit 10 8 4		\clubsuit A 3
\spadesuit Q 8 6 3	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">N W S E</div>	\spadesuit A 4
\heartsuit 6 2		\heartsuit A J 5 3
\diamond 8 7		\diamond 10 4 3 2
\clubsuit K Q 7 5 2		\clubsuit J 9 6

West	North	East	South
Padon	Grue	Birman	Moss
Pass	Pass	1 \spadesuit	Pass
3 \diamond *	Pass	4 \spadesuit	All Pass

South led the $\spadesuit A$ and switched to the $\diamond 3$. North took the ace and continued with the queen, a grateful declarer claiming 11 tricks, +650 and 6/50. Taking three tricks was worth 35/21.



Dariusz Kowalski

Open Pairs Finals

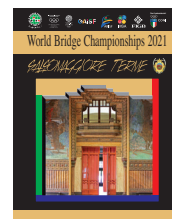
Final A after 2 Days

Rank	Players	Nationality	%
1	BURAS Krzysztof	LUTOSTANSKI Piotr	POL - POL 60.24
2	EDGTTON Nabil	WHIBLEY Michael	AUS - NZL 55.86
3	HELGEMO Geir	NYSTROM Fredrik	NOR - SWE 55.31
4	MULTON Franck	ZIMMERMANN Pierre	MON - SUI 55.07
5	BIRMAN Alon	PADON Dror	ISR - ISR 54.28
6	STAMATOV Jerry	ZHAO Jie	BUL - CHN 53.80
7	BERTHEAU Peter	BLACK Andrew	SWE - ENG 53.59
8	ANKLESARIA Keyzad	TEWARI Rajeshwar	IND - IND 53.33
9	BESSIS Thomas	LORENZINI Cedric	FRA - FRA 53.01
10	RIMSTEDT Mikael	RIMSTEDT Ola	SWE - SWE 52.99
11	GOLD David	MAHMOOD Zia	ENG - USA 52.99
12	HANLON Tom	VOLCKER Frederic	IRL - FRA 52.78
13	BARTKOWSKI Mariusz	SZULEJEWSKI Bogdan	POL - POL 52.69
14	JANSMA Jan	WILLENKEN Chris	NED - USA 52.62
15	PIETRASZEK Marek	ZNAMIROWSKI Jacek	POL - POL 52.40
16	MESBUR Adam	GARVEY Tommy	IRL - IRL 52.39
17	GILL Peter	HANS Sartaj	AUS - AUS 51.94
18	MULLER Bauke	DEWIJS Simon	NED - NED 51.84
19	KOTOROWICZ Jakub	MIECHOWICZ Pawel	POL - POL 51.61
20	BERKOWITZ David	MECKSTROTH Jeff	USA - USA 51.22
21	GRUE Joe	MOSS Brad	USA - USA 51.08
22	GARTAGANIS Nicholas	LORBER Michel	CAN - CAN 51.03
23	TOLEDANO Oren	ZAMIR Ami	ISR - ISR 50.96
24	JASSEM Krzysztof	PATREUHA Patryk	POL - POL 50.68
25	NUNN Tony	DALLEY Paul	AUS - AUS 50.54
26	MANNO Andrea	DI FRANCO Massimiliano	ITA - ITA 50.53
27	CAMMARATA Michele	VALSEGA Cristiano	ITA - ITA 50.36
28	MARTEL Chip	FLEISHER Martin	USA - USA 50.12
29	HALLBERG Gunnar	HULT Simon	ENG - SWE 49.95
30	DONATI Giovanni	PERCARIO Giacomo	ITA - ITA 49.76
31	AKGUL Mustafa	ASLAN Bulent	TUR - TUR 49.56
32	MIELNIK Krzysztof	LONSKI Adam	POL - POL 49.53
33	VERBEEK Tim	NAB Bart	NED - NED 49.45
34	AUKEN Sabine	WELLAND Roy	GER - GER 49.41
35	ROBSON Andrew	ALLFREY Alexander	ENG - ENG 49.30
36	BAKKEREN Ton	BAKKEREN Frank	NED - NED 49.07
37	ROBINSON Eric	KORBEL Daniel	USA - USA 48.95
38	GOTARD Thomas	ALTER Florian	GER - GER 48.81
39	SZCZEPANSKI Radoslaw	MAJCHER Arkadiusz	POL - POL 48.80
40	HUANG Shan	XU Zemin	USA - CAN 48.73
41	KWIECIEN Michal	STARKOWSKI Wlodzimierz	POL - POL 48.65
42	KOWALSKI Dariusz	SELICKI Tomasz	POL - POL 48.54
43	LANZAROTTI Massimo	FRANCHI Arrigo	ITA - ITA 48.53
44	HOYLAND Jim	HOYLAND Sven Olai	NOR - NOR 48.00
45	HOFTANISKA Thor Erik	CHARLSEN Thomas	ENG - NOR 47.92
46	SAKOWICZ Ryszard	PLOCKI Pawel	POL - POL 47.37
47	WILDAVSKY Adam	ZUR-CAMPANILE Migry	USA - USA 47.32
48	PATREUHA Jakub	SOBCZAK Mateusz	POL - POL 46.87
49	SILVERSTEIN Aaron	ROSENTHAL Andrew	USA - USA 46.70
50	KHARE Ajay	TOLANI Raju	IND - IND 46.20
51	FRIEDLANDER Ehud	YEKUTIELI Asaf	ISR - ISR 46.15
52	TRENKA Peter	KEMENY Gyorgy	HUN - HUN 45.68
53	MOLLER Rachael	GURVICH David	USA - USA 45.62
54	GROSSACK Adam	LEBOWITZ Laurence	USA - USA 45.26
55	ARGELAZI Eliran	ROSENTHAL Lee	ISR - ISR 44.66
56	VAINIKONIS Erikas	ARLOVICH Andrei	LTU - LTU 44.46
57	WALCZAK Piotr	WITTENBECK Pawel	POL - POL 43.02
58	IAVICOLI Federico	CAFFI Cristoforo	ITA - ITA 42.48

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.



Side Event

Rank	Players		Nationality	%
1	KOZLOWSKI Marek	SOSNA Zbigniew	POL - POL	59.30
2	TIHOLOV Todor	VOS John-Henry	ENG - ENG	58.79
3	TURSKA-MARCINOWSKA Malgorzata	MARCINOWSKI Adam	POL - POL	58.40
4	CIBOROWSKI Konrad	KEDZIERSKI Maciej	POL - POL	58.10
5	KOISTINEN Kauko	SALONEN Jari	FIN - FIN	56.68
6	PASELL Mike	GOODMAN Andy	USA - USA	56.05
7	KEAVENEY Gay	GLYNN Enda	IRL - IRL	55.91
8	KLUBINSKI Piotr	BROSCH Marek	POL - POL	55.77
9	KOCON Wlodzimierz	SZKUDLAREK Leszek	POL - POL	55.14
10	PSZCZOLA Jacek	JASZCZAK Andrzej	USA - POL	54.65
11	GOTARD Barbara	BOCHENSKI Adolf	GER - POL	54.57
12	DELLE CAVE Giuseppe	VROUSTIS Vassilis	ITA - GRE	53.62
13	STRANDBERG Gudrun	HANSEN Kjeld	SWE - DEN	53.52
14	CZUBAK Edmund	SUWIK Adam	POL - POL	52.79
15	JANECZEK Marta	BUNIKOWSKI Andrzej	POL - POL	52.56
16	CIESLAK Sylwester	KROL Stanislaw	POL - POL	52.04
17	AIMALA Antti	KOIVU Oskari	FIN - FIN	51.65
18	BALDYSZ Marek	LEWANDOWSKI Krzysztof	POL - POL	51.50
19	AITCHISON Susan	FORSYTH James	SCO - SCO	51.25
20	JADCZAK Bernard	FECHNER Mirosław	POL - POL	51.18
21	VOLHEJN Vit	MEDLIN Ales	CZE - CZE	50.73
22	NAIDOO Bindiya	SINHA Priya Ranjan	IND - IND	50.33
23	MOORE Nikolas	LANGDON Rachel	AUS - AUS	49.73
24	GOLDBERG Jerry	SEAMAN Eleanor	USA - USA	49.25
25	KOZIKOWSKI Andrzej	GORSKA Anna	POL - POL	49.23
26	NOWAK Zbigniew	POMARANSKI Artur	POL - POL	48.75
27	BROGELAND Boye	AUSTAD Jostein	NOR - NOR	48.68
28	SZCZERBOWSKI Jacek	ZWOLAK Ryszard	POL - POL	48.57
29	MUKHERJEE Sumit	MASKARA Subodh	IND - IND	48.33
30	MORIMURA Shunsuke	ZHAO Jinlong	JPN - JPN	48.26
31	CHELSTOWSKI Krzysztof	NOWICZ Agata	POL - POL	47.96
32	CHAN Richard	SHENG Ming	CAN - USA	47.53
33	TJARNEMO Hakan	CARBONNIER Pierre	SWE - SWE	46.88
34	FREEMAN Jacob	THORPE Stefan	CAN - NED	46.76
35	MICHELIN Marjorie	KISLITSYNA Irina	USA - USA	46.62
36	GROSS Susanna	ROBINSON Claire	ENG - ENG	46.34
37	GREENWOOD Fiona	PALMER Julia	SCO - SCO	46.22
38	JAROSZ Aleksandra	STANISZEWSKA Urszula	POL - POL	46.18
39	KANDOLU Ozlem	ELMAS Tuna	TUR - TUR	45.85
40	AGICA Marius	SAFTA Florin	ROM - ROM	45.56
41	TJARNEMO Jonas	OHLSSON Bjorn	SWE - SWE	44.98
42	LIPOWSKI Krzysztof	GLOWINSKI Dariusz	POL - POL	43.89
43	GAN Grzegorz	PIETRZAK Marek	POL - POL	43.83
44	BOLESTA Slawomir	BLINSKI Tomasz	POL - POL	43.57
45	O'SHEA William	BAUER Tracey	AUS - USA	41.64
46	CHMIELEWSKA Joanna	TOMCZUK Ela	POL - POL	39.70

Women Pairs

Final after 4 sessions

Rank	Players		Nationality	%
1	MEYERS Jill	SANBORN Kerri	USA - USA	59.86
2	EGGELING Marie	BELL Sarah	GER - ENG	55.42
3	EYTHORSDDOTTIR Hjordis	SEAMON-MOLSON Janice	USA - USA	55.37
4	PYYKKO Ylva	JOHANSSON Lena	SWE - SWE	51.30
5	BAKER Lynn	McCALLUM Karen	USA - USA	50.73
6	SMYKALLA Gisela	VECHIATTO Claudia	GER - GER	50.67
7	SARNIAK Anna	KAZMUCHA Danuta	POL - POL	50.14
8	ARNOLDS Carla	KOLEN Sandra	NED - NED	49.53
9	BALDYSZ Cathy	BALDYSZ Sophia	POL - POL	49.46
10	DHONDY Heather	NETTLETON Diana	ENG - ENG	47.96
11	SOBOLEWSKA Ewa	BREWIAK Grazyna	POL - POL	47.57
12	YAVAS Dilek	OZGUR Hatice	TUR - TUR	46.13
13	BROCK Sally	SMEDEREVAC Jovanka	ENG - FRA	46.04
14	TAGLIAFERRI Vera	CUZZI Monica	ITA - ITA	39.48

Rosenblum KO Brackets

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
 VENTIN	64	9	11	16	45	19	164
 NICKELL	48	13	39	16	19	51	186

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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