



16TH WORLD BRIDGE SERIES



DAILY BULLETIN

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CENTENNIAL HALL | WROCLAW | 19TH AUGUST-3RD SEPTEMBER 2022

Issue No. 16

Saturday, 3rd September 2022

THE GOLDEN GLOW OF SUCCESS



Mixed Teams podium:
Gold: Ferm
Silver: Minitier
Bronze: Coriandre and Donner

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In the Mixed Teams final, **Ferm** won a hard fought match against **Minitier** by 237-184.

The Mixed Pairs saw **Justyna Żmuda** and **Michał Klukowski** secure a comfortable victory ahead of **Kārlis Rubins** and **Jelena Alfejeva** and **Chris Willenken** and **Sally Brock**.

After an exciting final day **Piotr Bizoń** and **Marek Blat** won the Senior Pairs ahead of **Krzysztof Martens** and **Pierre Zimmermann** and **Jeff Meckstroth** and **David Berkowitz**, the latter becoming a Senior World Grandmaster. **Mark Lair**

has also become a Senior World Grandmaster.



The first celebration after victory



Roll of Honor

Rosenblum Bowl

Gold:

NICKELL: Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Ralph Katz, Bobby Levin, Nick Nickell,
Steve Weinstein (USA), Jill Levin (NPC)

Silver:

VENTIN: Joaquín Pacareu (CHI), Guy Mendes de Leon, Thibo Sprinkhuizen (NED), Antonio Palma
(POR), Juan Carlos Ventín (ESP), Frederic Wrang (SWE)

Bronze:

ROBINSON: David Gold (ENG), David Berkowitz, Daniel Korbel, Zia Mahmood, Jeff Meckstroth,
Eric Robinson (USA)

and

TEAM BLACK: Andrew Black, Gunnar Hallberg, Andrew McIntosh, Thomas Paske (ENG),
Peter Bertheau, Simon Hult (SWE)

Gunnar Hallberg is a real veteran: he won two World Senior Teams titles in 2009 and '10, long before his team-mate Simon Hult won the World Junior Teams in 2018. Guy Mendes de Leon and Thibo Sprinkhuizen won bronze at those same championships.

Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson previously won the Rosenblum in 2010.

Several of the American players have won seven medals in their careers. Nick Nickell has nine already. Zia Mahmood is up to 13, Jeff Meckstroth already 14.

These are the first world medals in history for players from Chile and Portugal. Juan Carlos Ventín remains the only player registered in Spain to have medalled, having won bronze in the 2014 Rosenblum.

Daniel Korbel is a Canadian but he is now registered for the USA.

Open Pairs

Gold: Krzysztof Buras - Piotr Lutostański (POL)

Silver: Nabil Edgtton (AUS) - Michael Whibley (NZL)

Bronze: Geir Helgemo (NOR) - Fredrik Nyström (SWE)

The **Final B** was won by Victor Melman (USA) and Mirosław Miłaszewski (POL)

The first **Side Event** was won by Marek Kozłowski and Zbigniew Sosna (POL)

McConnell Cup

Gold:

BRODY: Fischer Brigitta (HUN), Marion Michielsen, Cecilia Rimstedt, Sandra Rimstedt (SWE),
Joan Brody (USA)

Silver:

TRI POLAR: Nevena Senior, Nicola Smith (ENG), Kathrine Bertheau, Jessica Larsson (SWE),
Disa Eythorsdottir, Janice Seamon-Molson (USA)

Bronze:

BAKER: Sally Brock, Fiona Brown (ENG), Lynn Baker, Karen McCallum, Jill Meyers,
Kerri Sanborn (USA)

and

EDMONDS: Katarzyna Dufprat, Danuta Kazmucha, Anna Sarniak, Justyna Żmuda (POL),
Jodi Edmonds, Irina Levitina (USA)

This is a veritable Who's Who of Women's Bridge. Together, these women have won 22 McConnell Cups, 21 Venice Cups and 8 Olympiads/Series. They have won a total of 168 World Championship medals. Nicola Smith is the most voracious of them with now 21 medals, Sally Brock has 17, Kerri Sanborn 16 and Jill Meyers 14. Karen McCallum joins the prestigious list of players with 10 medals or more, Irina Levitina and Janice Seamon-Molson (both 11) are already on that list.

Women Pairs

Gold: Jill Meyers - Kerri Sanborn (USA)

Silver: Sarah Bell (ENG) - Marie Eggeling (GER)

Bronze: Hjordis Eythorsdottir - Janice Seamon-Molson (USA)

Kerri Sanborn previously won the World Women Pairs in 1990 and 2002. This is her 17th world medal in all. Jill Meyers has also already won the World Women Pairs, in 1998. She has a total of 15 world medals. Janice Seamon-Molson has 12 medals. All four American women win a second medal at these championships.

Marie Eggeling won a bronze medal earlier this year in the Wuhan Cup.

There was no B-final, but non-qualified women were allowed to enter the "side event". Özlem Kandolu and Tuna Elmas (TUR) was the highest placed women's pair in that event.

Rand Cup

Gold:

VYTAS: Wojciech Olański, Vytautas Vainikonis (LTU) Apolinary Kowalski, Michał Kwiecień,
Jacek Romański, Włodzimierz Starkowski (POL)

Silver:

GOODMAN: David Berkowitz, Andy Goodman, Mark Lair, Jeff Meckstroth, Mike Passell (USA)

Bronze:

PENFOLD: Paul Hackett, John Holland, Alan Mould, Kay Preddy, Norman Selway,
Brian Senior (ENG)

and

ZIMMERMANN: Marc Bompis, Philippe Soulet (FRA), Krzysztof Martens (MON), Piotr Gawryś,
Piotr Tuszyński (POL), Pierre Zimmermann (SUI), Fernando Piedra (NPC)

Włodzimierz Starkowski wins the Rand Cup in the same year as the D'Orsi Trophy
(both for Senior teams).

Apolinary Kowalski and Krzysztof Martens both score their tenth medal in World Championships,
but they have never appeared on the same team. Kowalski's regular partner Jacek Romański has a
medal less, because Kowalski has a gold medal in Mixed pairs. Jeff Meckstroth is already up to a tally
of 15 world medals, Pierre Zimmermann to 11.

Senior Pairs

Gold: Piotr Bizoń - Marek Blat (POL)

Silver: Krzysztof Martens (MON) - Pierre Zimmermann (SUI)

Bronze: Jeff Meckstroth - David Berkowitz (USA)

Meckstroth, Zimmermann and Martens add yet another medal to their tally that already exceeds 10.

There was no Final B, eliminated pairs were allowed to play in the Side Event. The highest placed
Senior pair in that event was Lech Ekert (POL) and Maciej Raczkiewicz (USA)

Mixed Teams

Gold:

FERM: Christina Lund Madsen (DEN), Daniela von Arnim (GER), Simon de Wijs (NED), Sjoert Brink,
Bas Drijver (SUI), Barbara Ferm (USA)

Silver:

MINITER: Geir Helgemo (NOR), Sanna Clementsson, Jessica Larsson, Fredrik Nyström (SWE), Joe
Grue, Gillian Miniter (USA)

Bronze:

DONNER: Leslie Amoils (CAN), Per-Ola Cullin, Marion Michielsen, Cecilia Rimstedt (SWE), Kevin
Dwyer, Sandra Rimstedt (USA), Gary Donner (NPC)

and

CORIANDRE: Isabelle Bello, Aurélie Lorenzini, Cédric Lorenzini, Pierre Schmidt, Joanna Zochowska
(FRA)

Geir Helgemo wins the 20th world medal of his career, becoming only the fifth player in history to achieve that total (after Belladonna, Hamman, Wolff and Smith). Daniela von Arnim now has 11 medals, Bas Drijver 10.

Mixed Pairs

Gold: Justyna Żmuda (POL) - Michał Klukowski (SUI)

Silver: Kārlis Rubins - Jelena Alfejeva (LAT)

Bronze: Sally Brock (ENG) - Chris Willenken (USA)

Klukowski and Żmuda are the second married couple to win the World Mixed Pairs, after Pam and Jon Wittes in 1986.





















This is Latvia's second medal in world championships, after the U21 teams in 2006.

Sally Brock already has 18 medals, Michał Klukowski 10.

The **Final B** was won by Zhao Jinlong and Shimazaki Ayako (JPN)

The second **Side Event** was won by Sophia Bałdysz (POL) and Jacob Freeman (CAN)

Wrocław Medal Table

	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
	USA	2.37	1.67	4.67	8.7
	Poland	3.17		1	4.17
	England		0.83	2.67	3.50
	Sweden	0.6	1	1.33	2.93
	Switzerland	0.83	0.5	0.17	1.50
	France			1.33	1.33
	Latvia		1		1.00
	Germany	0.17	0.5		0.67
	Monaco		0.50	0.17	0.67
	Norway		0.17	0.5	0.67
	Netherlands	0.17	0.33		0.50
	Australia		0.5		0.50
	New Zealand		0.5		0.50
	Lithuania	0.33			0.33
	Hungary	0.2			0.20
	Denmark	0.17			0.17
	Chile		0.17		0.17
	Portugal		0.17		0.17
	Spain		0.17		0.17
	Canada			0.17	0.17
	total	8	8	12.00	28.00

The Solomon Trophy revisited

by Herman De wael

The World Bridge Series started in 1962 in Cannes as the World Pairs Olympiad. It contained three competitions: Open Pairs, Women Pairs and Mixed Teams.

The second edition was held in 1966 in Amsterdam, where the third competition was changed to a Mixed Pairs. At this championship a new Trophy was awarded, to the most successful national organization. It was called the Charles Solomon Trophy, named after Charles J. Solomon, who had been in 1956 a member of the (losing) American Bermuda Bowl team, and was in 1966 the president of the WBF.

The Solomon Trophy was first awarded to the United States. No other country has since been able to keep the US from winning it over and over again. The trophy is mentioned in 1970. In 1974 Italy was second and Great Britain third. Nothing is known about it in 1978, '82 or '86. But in 1990 and '94 it is mentioned by Alan Truscott in the New York Times. He informs us that Poland came second. In 2002 we find another mention, stating that Italy and France were second and third.

Nothing more is heard of the Solomon Trophy, although it could be assumed that the USA would have won it also in all the years since.

I have decided to bring new life into this Trophy and performed a calculation Based on the results in the eight events here. In order to meet the deadline of the Daily Bulletin, I have made calculations Based on the standings after the first session on the final Saturday. (I will of course recalculate during the following week.)

Surprise, surprise, the United States would have won the trophy yet again.

1 USA	8566
2 Poland	5139
3 Sweden	2879
4 England	2011

I have also calculated a combined score for the zones of the WBF and equally unsurprising the combined strength in Europe beats the North American zone.

Europe	1	18303
North America	2	8849
South Pacific	7	1438
Asia & Middle East	4	210
Asia Pacific	6	161
South America	3	91
Africa	8	0.21
Central Am & C	5	0.00000013

(All results yield points, but for the low places a large number of decimal places are needed)

Cumulative Medal Table for all World Championships

(after Wroclaw 2022)

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
USA	102.72	83.97	64.58	251.27
FRA	25.17	33.67	41.92	100.75
POL	30.67	31.17	23.25	85.09
CHN	17.50	26.67	35.33	79.50
ITA	39.27	19.83	16.83	75.93
NED	15.67	18.25	26.25	60.17
ENG	16.77	20.50	21.25	58.52
SWE	15.77	9.17	17.90	42.83
NOR	9.83	8.33	12.75	30.92
CAN	2.82	11.12	11.75	25.68
GER	5.75	6.50	11.32	23.57
DEN	5.33	2.67	13.67	21.67
ISR	10.07	6.17	5.00	21.23
AUT	8.73	7.17	2.00	17.90
RUS	3.33	4.50	7.00	14.83
BRA	4.33	3.00	6.00	13.33
AUS	0.00	6.50	5.00	11.50
INA	0.00	5.00	5.00	10.00
IND	2.75	2.00	4.00	8.75
BUL	1.20	2.00	5.00	8.20
MON	2.47	3.50	2.17	8.13
ARG	0.17	2.00	4.00	6.17
SUI	3.67	1.17	0.17	5.00
GRE	2.50	0.00	1.25	3.75
JPN	1.50	2.00	0.00	3.50
TUR	0.17	2.00	1.17	3.33
HUN	1.20	1.00	1.00	3.20
TPE	1.00	1.67	0.33	3.00
ISL	2.67	0.00	0.33	3.00
HKG	0.00	0.00	3.00	3.00
CRO	1.00	0.00	2.00	3.00
NZL	1.00	1.50	0.00	2.50
RSA	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00
SGP	0.00	1.00	1.00	2.00
PAK	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00
VEN	0.00	1.00	1.00	2.00
SRB	1.00	1.00	0.00	2.00
SCO	1.00	0.50	0.33	1.83
ROU	0.00	0.00	1.75	1.75
LTU	0.33	0.00	1.00	1.33
EGY	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
FIN	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
LAT	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00
URU	0.00	0.50	0.50	1.00
BEL	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
CZE	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
EST	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
IRL	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
ESP	0.00	0.17	0.20	0.37
THA	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33
BLR	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
CHI	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
POR	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
	339.836667	335	358	1032.84

(53 different NBOs)

Let me ask you how would you play this hand?

On today's deal, you, playing as South, become declarer in 6♥, after West, on the left, leads the ♠7.

What is the best line of play?

♠ A Q 6
♥ 6 4
♦ A 5 3
♣ K 10 8 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ 9 4
♥ A K Q J 10 3
♦ K 7 6
♣ A 4



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Farewell to Arms

As we come to the end of these wonderful Championships, I want to thank everyone who has been involved with the production of the Bulletins. Here in Wroclaw, **Barry Rigal** (*Our American Cousin*) and **Ron Tacchi** (*El Gordo*) ably assisted by **Herman De wael** (*Secretary Bird*), made frequent visits to the tables to report in the 'old style' that existed before the dawn of BBO.

Meanwhile our off-site reporters, **Brian Senior** (*Grumpy*), **Jos Jacobs** (*Dutch Uncle*), **David Bird** (*The Abbot*) and **Marc Smith** (*Spock*) presented a series of reports that included some astonishingly brilliant deals.

Herman was also our main proof reader, and we also got invaluable assistance in that regard from **Peter Eidt** (*Klein Adlerauge*).

Our wonderful Polish hosts provided us with some fabulous copy – a huge thank you to **Tomasz Wolfke**, **Lena Leszczyńska** and **Marek Malysa**.

Everyone's labours would come to naught were it not for the efforts of our production team. **Monika Kümmel** (*Navigator*) was responsible for the *Daily Bulletin*, while **Francesca Canali** (*Regina*) presented the *Live News*, constantly updating the watching world and the players. They were both supplied with the images that are an indispensable part of the process by our tireless photographer, **Claudio Fossati** (*Barone*).

We're off on the road to Morocco. Care to join us?

*Men and Women wanted for hazardous work.
Low wages, long hours indoors. Late nights
inevitable. Honour and recognition in the unlikely
event of success.*

The Maestro

Good Bye !

your lay-out editor

WBF PRESIDENT FAREWELL

Mr. Marek Michałowski, President of the Polish Bridge Union, Authorities, Mr. Jan Kamras, WBF President Elect, Mr. Eric Laurant, EBL President, dear colleagues of the WBF, ladies and gentleman, dear friends.

We have thus reached the end of the championship. Another wonderful adventure of our journey through the magical world of bridge has ended. I hope that you enjoyed your stay and your play.



Gianarrigo Rona

This charming city of Wrocław, with its great tradition of history, art and culture once again welcomed us with open arms and hosted us with great warmth and friendship. In the moments of pause from the play we were able to enjoy its hospitality, the beauty of its squares, its rivers, its monuments and, last but not least, its restaurants, really high quality. In these moments we could fully enjoy what is a peculiarity of our discipline, the socialization which is its special essential label.

I am delighted, and I hope you share my sentiment, that the championship has proved to be successful, despite all the vicissitudes and difficulties we have had to face in its preparation and organisation, due to the still complicated international situation.

The Polish Bridge Union, under the leadership of its President, Marek Michałowski, with the able assistance of Igor Chalupiec and the Organising Committee, led by Bubu Gołebiowski, assisted by Marek Malysa and Beata Madej, has done a sterling job in organizing this event, which under the coordination of the WBF Championship Committee has gone very smoothly from all points of view, and I would like you all to know just how much we appreciate your efficiency, professionalism and dedication.

We must, of course, thank all the sponsor friends for their generosity in supporting the Championship. We owe a huge debt of thanks to the City of Wrocław, the Silesia Region and the Ministry of Sport for their particular support. Our sincere thanks go to the Hala Stulecia and its staff coordinated by Mikolaj Chorazykiewicz.

I would like to thank my colleagues and friends of the Executive Council for their diligence and attention at our meetings. I would like to thank the Delegates to the Congress for the great contribution to its success.

I would like to thank the entire staff operators, Polish and coming from all over the world and working harmoniously together before and during these Championships, enabling its success.

I would like to call all of you, one by one, to receive the deserved applause. You will find all your names in the Daily Bulletin. Please stand so we can applaud and thank you for your marvellous job.

First of all, I would like to thank all the Polish volunteers. You have done a truly wonderful job and made our stay here in Wrocław most memorable.

The Championship Committee with Jan Kamras, Marc De Pauw, Maurizio Di Sacco, David Harris, Eitan Levy, Marek Malysa, Antonio Riccardi.

The Rules & Regulation Committee chaired by Jan Kamras with Maurizio Di Sacco, Eitan Levy and Anna Gudge. The Systems & Convention Cards managed by Laurie Kelso with Marc van Beijsterveldt and Anna Gudge. The Investigation Committee with Eric Laurant and

Georgia Heth. The Medical & Antidoping here managed by Claudio Muccioli and Jaap Stomphorst. The Protocol coordinated by Sevinç Atay and Silvia Valentini.

The Hospitality & Registration made a superb job of a very difficult task and our sincere appreciation goes to Silvia Valentini, Gildana Caputo, Virginia Chediak, Barbara Karczewska and Joanna Wreczycka.

The Reviewers Ton Kooijman and Herman De wael. The Tournament Directors who have worked unstintingly headed by Antonio Riccardi ably assisted by Laurie Kelso, Dimitris Ballas, Jeanne van den Meiracker, Marc van Beijsterveldt, Ken Horwedel, Rahmi Iyilikci, Gustavo Chediak, Waleed El Menyawi, Jakub Kasprzak, Jacek Marciniak, Ihsan Qadir, Marieke Quant, Gordon Rainsford, Andrzej Bojda, Jakub Kozak, Jakub Lenkiewicz and Tomasz Radko.

The Secretariat ran smoothly with Marina Madia, Arianna Testa, Dirk De Clercq and Cippi Todeschini. The Communications section was run by Anna Gudge. The Daily Bulletin and the Live News have been coordinated by Mark Horton, with Ron Tacchi, Monika Kümmel, Francesca Canali and Claudio Fossati with help from David Bird, Jos Jacobs and Marc Smith. The IBPA here represented by Barry Rigal, Per Jannersten and Jan Swaan who acted as Press Room Manager. The Filming coordinated by Simon Fellus with Mario Chavarria Kauffman, Christian Cuchian, Letizia Contu, Fernando Lema and Sandra Leal.

The Main Office and Caddies were overseen by Gianluca Barrese: for all of them we have to buy new shoes for the hundred of kilometres they walked. The duplication team, responsible for duplimating no less than 50,000 boards was overseen by Monica Gorreri with Luca Saglia and their marvellous polish assistants, Jakub, Zdzislaw, Katarzyna, Grzegorz and Piotr.

The PZBS Office was run by Beata Madej with Michal Wittenbeck and the ubiquitous On-Site Organizer Marek Malysa.

The Technological Services worked like a Swiss watch with Hans van Staveren, Fotis Skoularikis, Manolo Eminent, Chicco Battistone, Peter Eidt, Aleksander Krych as well as the broadcasting group chaired with mastery by Traian Chira, assisted by Jurica Maricic and Georgi Parvanov, with Pawel, Maciej, Aleks, Giulio, Giuse, Camilla, Kajetan, Szymon, Lukasz, the two Jans, the three Jakubs, the three Wojciechs, Adam, Maksymilian, Natalia and Marta.

To all of you, I would like to express my warmest appreciation.

But above all, on behalf of the WBF and personally, I am pleased to congratulate you, the players, the true protagonists, and to express to all of you our gratitude. With your behaviour, creating an unforgettable atmosphere, you guaranteed the success of this event showing, once again, the values of fair play, friendship, harmony and solidarity.

Dear friends, going back home I will bring with me the memory of this great event, of you, of the old and new friends I met, and the enrichment of another extraordinary experience. And I am confident that you too will share my sentiments.

As you know this is my last championship as WBF President after 12 years since my first in Veldhoven in 2011. It was a great honour and pride for me, a great privilege to receive the stick from the giants who preceded me in an ideal relay that is perpetuated over time.

I was lucky enough to always have a great team to administrate and manage the Federation. I always tried to do my best and I hope to have been up to the task assigned to me.

I have always held up the flag of the WBF. Our flag, which I am sure will fly higher and higher and that I am happy and proud to pass, in the ideal relay I mentioned above, to the new President of the WBF, my dear friend Jan Kamras. I am sure that our flag, like the future of bridge, is in good hands.

The curtain falls. I am proud and happy to close here this wonderful race through the world championships. At the IBPA meeting I learned that journalists have nicknamed me Volcano: the volcano has finally stopped erupting.

Thank you dear friends. Enjoy this night. Have a safe trip back home bringing with you the memory of this new exciting stage of your bridge life.

Un abbraccio to you all.

Gianarrigo Rona



Mixed Pairs Final Session 2

by Ron Tacchi

A smorgasbord of the first part of session two of the Mixed Pairs Final. I shall try to follow four tables in real time. As and when the final results are posted I will add the matchpoints for N/S / E/W. My first deal featured three different scores ranging from -100 (40 MP) to -500 (0 MP) with -140 (20 MP) taking the middle ground.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Helness</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Seale</i>	<i>Welland</i>
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♦*	Pass	2♥	Dble
Pass	3♦	All Pass	
1♦ Hearts			



Roy Welland

N/S were adventurous in a typical pairs auction and perhaps E/W could have pushed a little harder. The upshot was that N/S were allowed to drift peacefully two off for what looks to be an excellent score (40/12). Had the defence been a little more dynamic then there was the possibility of three off and I suspect -150 (3 MP) would have scored significantly more for E/W.

West	North	East	South
<i>Millens</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Cooper</i>
—	—	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

It looks as though East may have ‘borrowed’ a point for the no-trump opener, but this sort of thing happens in mixed pairs events. With the hearts kindly positioned declarer came swiftly to nine tricks and I suspect somewhere about average – we shall see when I input the matchpoints later (20/32).

West	North	East	South
<i>Majcher</i>	<i>Buras</i>	<i>Zalewska</i>	<i>Sobolewska</i>
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Dble
Pass	2♠	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

E/W were less tolerant of the interference and got their red cards out. After cashing a top club East switched to a



Sabine Auken

spade and when diamonds were broached he took his ace and played another spade. West now led a club back so as to receive a spade ruff. Another club and then the ace of hearts was taken. The defence had seven of the first nine tricks. That was 500 out for a poor score (0/52).

Board 23 was a dull affair, East either making 4♥ +1 or +2 depending on whether the defence led a diamond or not.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Manara</i>	<i>Meyerson</i>	<i>Attanasio</i>	<i>Meyerson</i>
1♠	2♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

The question here was whether North could escape for just two down. On the unlikely lead of a small heart it is trivially three off as West can cash three spades and then switch to a diamond. At the table East cashed a high heart and continued the suit. Declarer now played the ♦K and when East fell from grace by playing the ace, he was now effectively thrown in. He tried a small club round to declarer's ♣10. Declarer exited with queen and another diamond. East could still not lead another heart as that would give declarer eight tricks by ruffing with his small trump. He tried the queen of clubs which declarer took in hand. Declarer exited with a spade and West took three rounds. In the pretty four card ending declarer could not be denied two tricks for two off. -300 (47 MP) and a good score.

The other tables were playing in Four Hearts and should, according to my finessing friend, have taken twelve tricks (31 MP). One of the ways you can succeed is to ensure you breach clubs by leading an honour, as that will prevent a subsequent trump lead. The other possibility is if a club is not led then take three rounds of spades, ruff the fourth round high, draw trumps finishing in dummy. Cash the now established spade and lead a diamond and play for North to have the king and queen. Very few players only made eleven tricks.

Board 25 was flat at all four tables I watched.

Board 26 was another major-suit game deal for E/W which depended on the opening lead. What are normally called 'safe' leads gave declarer one or two extra tricks, the 'unsafe' leads gained points.

Board 27 was yet another flattish major-suit game, but this time the first in the set for N/S.

Board 28 continued the ennui of dull easily bid and made games, again for E/W.

At last a board with some potential interest.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Tutty</i>	<i>McCallum</i>	<i>Beauchamp</i>	<i>Johannsson</i>
—	2♦*	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
4♣	5♦	Pass	5♥
All Pass			
2♦ Multi			

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Fischer</i>
—	4♥	Pass	Pass
4♣	Pass	Pass	5♥
Dble	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Edmonds</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
—	2♥	Pass	2NT
3♠	Pass	Pass	4♥
Dble	All Pass		

Three different openings and three different contracts and three different scores 680 (33 MP), 850 (44 MP) and 990 (52 MP).

When the multi was opened North eventually admitted to a second suit and this may have deterred West from using the Red Card.

The Four Hearts opening acted, as is usually said in these columns, as a transfer to Four Spades and when South upped the ante West decided he warranted a double.

When North started proceedings with a weak two South made a forcing enquiry of 2NT and West stepped in with an overcall of Three Spades. After South's raise to game as East I would have regarded West's subsequent double as primarily takeout – you know he is not very strong as he would have doubled first and then bid spades. Five Clubs is cold when played from the East hand!

Did you get it right?

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

We have:

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

♠ A Q 6
♥ 6 4
♦ A 5 3
♣ K 10 8 3 2

♠ 8 7 5 3
♥ 9 8 2
♦ Q 10 8 4
♣ J 5

N
W
E
S

♠ K J 10 2
♥ 7 5
♦ J 9 2
♣ Q 9 7 6

♠ 9 4
♥ A K Q J 10 3
♦ K 7 6
♣ A 4

The 12th trick can come either from the ♠ finesse or managing to get the ♣ suit working. It appears that if ♣ split 3-3 or 4-2, we will get the job done.
But is that the case? Let's say we naturally take the ♠ finesse and if it doesn't win, the opponents continue with a ♠ which seems like a natural play. We have to now take the trick with the Ace in dummy, draw trumps, play 3 rounds of ♣, ruffing in hand and if the suit is not 3-3, we have only one more entry to dummy, the ♦ A. **That doesn't sound good.**
 If we instead win the lead with the Ace, this doesn't change things significantly as we have the same entries left.
The best line of play is to start with a low ♠ from dummy! East is forced to take the trick with the ♠10 or ♠J, otherwise we'd win the 9. They cannot play ♠ back safely because that will give us the 12th trick. Any lead East makes we can win in hand, draw trumps and go for the ♣ suit, making the contract even if ♣ split 4-2.

Do you want to see more of these puzzles?

 [IntoBridge.com](https://www.intobridge.com)

Championship Diary

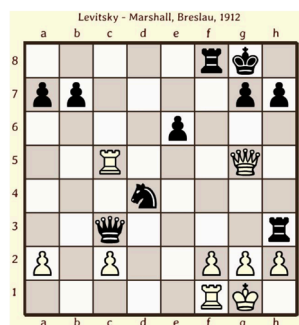
Fernando Lema has been nagging me to be more active on Instagram, so despite having no time whatsoever I have decided to make the odd post. Today's is a photo-graph Pony Nehmert sent me of a young star from Germany, Kathrin Schwalbach. If you want to follow me, try markhorton5341.



Kathrin Schwalbach

In 2025 it will be 75 years since the inaugural Bermuda Bowl took place. It has been the norm for the World Championships to return to the island to celebrate each anniversary, but there are rumours that the traditional venue, the Southampton Princess Hotel, might not be big enough to accommodate all the events. Discussions are ongoing.

The concept of 'music while you work' reached new heights yesterday evening when the beer festival got into full swing.



In former times Wroclaw was known as Breslau and the city hosted many important chess tournaments. One game has become legendary, that between Stefan Levitsky and Frank Marshall, played in 1912.

If you find that you are missing the experience of this wonderful city when you get home, Press Room Manager, Jan Swaan suggests you watch *The Plagues of Breslau*, a murder mystery thriller which was filmed in Wroclaw and released in 2018. It is available on Netflix.



10th EUROPEAN TRANSNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

STRASBOURG
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Mixed Teams Final Miniters v Ferm - S2

by Marc Smith

I expect large partisan crowds in the BBO VuGraph rooms, with numerous countries represented in this final: USA, Netherlands, Switzerland and Germany on the Ferm team and USA, Sweden and Norway for Miniters. I am also delighted to see that the BBO expert bidding panel is guaranteed at least one more gold medal from these championships, with Jessica Larsson in the Miniters team and both Simon de Wijs and Sjoert Brink playing for Ferm.

Just one problem for you today. With only your side vulnerable, you are South with:


♠ K 8 4 2
♥ A J 10 8 6
♦ 5
♣ 7 6 3

West	North	East	South
2♥	4♣*	5♦	?

West opens a natural weak 2♥ and North's jump to 4♣ is Leaping Michaels, showing a good hand with both black suits. What action, if any, do you take?

Ferm had the best of the opening stanza and led by 27 IMPs (52-25) after the first of the six 16-board sets. The kibitzers were still finding their seats when the action in the second segment began.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
—	Pass	Pass	3♦
Dble	4♦	Dble	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	All Pass


Fredrik Nyström chose to pre-empt in third seat. Thereafter, East/West's focus seemed to be more on finding the right strain than on level. This was not a deal on which to prefer the 4-4 fit, against which there was a potential ruff, but there was no spade ruff available against a heart contract, so 5♥ was not quite high enough. E/W +480.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Rather than taking away bidding space from her opponents, Christina Lund Madsen chose to try convincing the Scandinavian pair that she had more values than she did. However, cue-bids from both sides of the table quickly established that East/West had most of the high cards. Facing a maximum pass, even one with wasted diamond values, Geir Helgemo decided his hand was worth playing in slam, and he offered Jessica Larsson a choice of strains. Helgemo was no doubt delighted when she chose his strong five-card suit, and equally pleased with the result when it came time to score. E/W +980 and 11 IMPs to Miniters.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
—	—	INT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

Simon de Wijs' jump to 3♣ was not alerted/explained in the hand records, but was likely to show diamonds. The upshot was that Daniela von Arnim played the diamond slam from the short side.

South led a low trump, won the third round of the suit, and exited safely with a fourth diamond. This meant that declarer could unblock the hearts, cross to her hand in spades, and cash the ♥Q. Returning to dummy with the ♠A, Von Arnim then cashed her remaining diamond winners. She had to judge from the play which defender held the thirteenth heart, but it looked like it was North,

in which case he was destined to be caught in a show-up squeeze. When declarer finally played a club from dummy at trick twelve, North followed with the last low club, but his remaining card was assumed to be a heart, so Von Arnim rose with the ♣A and down came South's king. E/W +1370.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
—	—	INT	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

The auction was even quicker here, but South's spade lead seriously hindered declarer's entries. Larsson won in hand and started on diamonds, South taking the second round and continuing spades. The primary difference is that declarer has been unable to cash the ♥Q before running her diamond winners. However, South threw what was perhaps a tell-tale heart on the fifth round of diamonds. When the last diamond winner was cashed, North then had to discard from ♥10-x and ♣10-x. Drijver knew he had to keep his heart guard, so he threw a club. Reading the hand perfectly, Larsson pitched the low heart from her hand and played a club to the ace. Cue loud applause from the peanut gallery: E/W +1440 and 2 IMPs to Minitier.

Minitier blanked their opponents 34-0 over the first nine deals of the set, but then Clementsson/Nyström reached an overambitious slam to edge Ferm back ahead in the match. Then came a potentially explosive deal on which both South players had to deal with the bidding problem posed at the top of this article.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
2♥	4♣*	5♦	5♠
All Pass			

Clementsson showed a good hand with at least 5-5 in the black suits with her jump to 4♣, and then Nyström had to decide how many spades to bid over Von Arnim's 5♦ bid. When the Swede opted for what sounded like just a competitive 5♠, both opponents perhaps decided to let

sleeping dogs lie. With the clubs lying well for declarer, there was nothing to the play: N/S +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
2♥	4♣*	5♦	5♠
6♦	Dble	All Pass	

In the same position, Lund Madsen also essayed 5♠. Geir Helgemo demonstrated once again, though, that he is not afraid to stir the hornets' nest. Perhaps he had already decided that we would save at the seven-level if North bid a sixth spade, although I suspect that Larsson would have been there in front of him on that East hand. With no red ace, Drijver could hardly commit to making 12 tricks, so he doubled and the Scandinavians had found a cheap save. N/S +500 and 5 IMPs to Minitier.

There was one firecracker left in The Great Dealer's locker:

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
—	—	—	Pass
INT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Many might have upgraded the West hand, but Helgemo settled for a 15-17 INT. Larsson perhaps had enough to make a slam try but, with a poor suit and no guarantee of safety at the five-level facing a minimum, she just settled for offering a choice of games. With trumps 3-2, there were 12 easy tricks: E/W +480.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♥	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

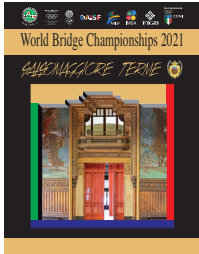
Simon deWijs did open 1♠, presumably intending to treat his hand as 18-19 balanced, but he was then able to agree hearts at the three-level after Von Arnim's game-forcing 2/1 response. The primary question had now become 'which slam?' Hearts certainly needs trumps to break 3-2, and that is also the main chance in a no-trump slam. The best slam, but also the most difficult to reach, is 6♠, where you have 11 top tricks (assuming trumps split no worse than 4-2) and a club ruff provides the twelfth trick. With hearts behaving, though, simply getting to the six-level was sufficient: E/W +990 and 11 IMPs to Ferm.

Miniter won the stanza 39-33, but Ferm still held the early advantage, leading by 85-64 with 64 boards remaining in this final.

WCB 2021

The World Championship Book from Salsomaggiore 2021 is now available 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.




Mixed Teams Final Miniter v Ferm - S3

by Jos Jacobs

After two of the six scheduled segments, Ferm were leading 85-64, an average of 4.66 IMPs per board in the match. The previous segments thus had been pretty high scoring, so the question was whether the Great Dealer would keep up this pace of swingy deals. To be honest, the answer is NO. The first six boards were all flat and, what is more, not of any great interest. So, to my regret it is not going to be an XXL report like the one I was able to produce for you yesterday. The only exception was Board 2 where the choice of opening lead was decisive for the result:


Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 6 4 ♥ A 10 ♦ J 9 6 5 ♣ Q 9 7 4		♠ A 10 5 ♥ J 6 5 ♦ K 4 3 2 ♣ A 6 3	
♠ K 9 3 2 ♥ K 7 4 2 ♦ Q 7 ♣ K 5 2			
West De Wijs Helgemo — INT	North Clementsson S. Drijver — All Pass	East Von Arnim Larsson 1♣	South Nyström Lund Madsen Pass

The contract was the same at both tables, not surprisingly and both Norths led a heart. With the clubs behaving very well for declarer, 7 tricks were now easy enough. A lead of the ♠Q would have made the board a different story. Anyone for it? A swing of just 4 IMPs is worthwhile in this type of close matches. Could we call this a missed chance?

After a long quiet period, the boards woke up at about halfway through the set:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
2♦	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The natural weak two made it easy for E/W to arrive at the right contract. A heart lead might have given declarer a problem but after the actual club lead from South, she had a perfect safety play available against a possible 4-0 diamond break: just run the ♦10.

When she called for the ♣Q first and the ♦Q next, she had to fall back on the line needed after the heart lead: ♦9, spade to the jack, ♦K overtaken by the ace and a finesse of the ♠9. This way, she came to nine tricks after all. Ferm +400.

In the Closed Room, no safety play was needed:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	S. Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
2♦	Pass	3NT	4♣
Dble	4♦	Dble	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Well, Four Clubs might have gone down three on a heart lead by West but it seemed to me that 4♥ would not have fared any better on repeated diamond leads. The actual trump lead by West certainly was helpful to declarer as she could now win the ace and immediately play a club to the king and a club back. East's best continuation now would probably still have been a diamond, but when she continued a trump, declarer could draw trumps, concede one more club and escape for just two down. Miniter +300 and 3 IMPs to Ferm.

The next board was a lesson in dealing with pre-empts:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
—	3♦	Dble	4♦
4♥	All Pass		

West's 4♥ looks the logical action but the contract had no play. Two down, Miniter +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	S. Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
—	3♦	Dble	4♦
All Pass			

At the other table, the auction went the same but Helgemo as West found a well-timed pass. The contract also went two down for another +100 and 7 IMPs to Miniter.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♥	All Pass		

On the next board, Simon de Wijs became the victim of his own aggressive style of overcalling. He might even consider himself lucky to have escaped the double. Down two, Miniter +200.

At the other table, the auction started at a level not reached in the Open Room:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	S. Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
—	—	Pass	2♠
All Pass			


West led the ♥J, which ran to the ace. A heart came back immediately, taken by West's king. Helgemo now found the excellent shift to the ♦J but declarer took dummy's ace and played the ♥Q from dummy. When East ruffed with the ♠10, a diamond was discarded. The defence continued diamonds, so declarer scored one of her small trumps in the third round of the suit. The ♠Q then went to East's king and her club return went to the queen and ace. West tried a winning heart on which East shed a club, but declarer again scored a small trump now. After this, she could draw the outstanding trumps and cash her clubs for her contract. Ferm +110, so only 3 IMPs to Miniter after all.



Sanna Clementsson

On the next board, N/S in the Open Room had a clear misunderstanding:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Dble	2♣
All Pass			

It looks to me that 1♥ was intended to show spades, hence the 1♠ rebid. About 2♣ I don't have a clear idea and probably, I am not the only one... Down three, Ferm +150.




Daniela von Arnim

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	S. Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	INT	2♥	All Pass

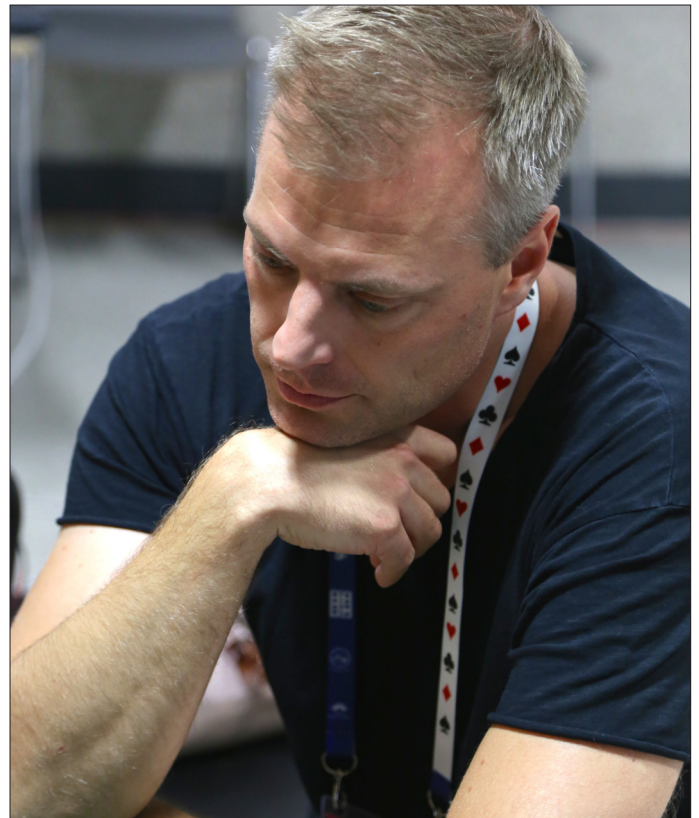
In the other room, the 2♥ overcall implied a five-card minor but neither denomination would have been very successful. Down two, another +100 and 6 IMPs to Ferm. Another part score struggle occurred on the next deal:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2♠	All Pass		



Fredrik Nyström

North's 1♦ of course showed hearts. When East protected, West immediately expressed the full values of his hand. North led a heart to the king and declarer's ace and a spade went to South's ♠10. Heart back to North's queen and a club to the jack and declarer's queen. ♠A and a spade to North and another heart exit to declarer's ♥10. Next came the ♣10 ducked and a club to South's ace. When he continued the ♦K, declarer ducked and thus had his contract because South had only diamonds left. Ferm +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	S. Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	Pass	INT
Dble	All Pass		

In the other room, East found a light opening bid in third position so it was South who had to do the balancing job. Helgemo had an obvious double available and found the best lead: a low club to the king. When this held, East might have continued the suit but she wanted to attack dummy's entries first by continuing the ♠J. Dummy won the ♠K and a heart went to declarer's king. West took his ace and, unsure about what was going on, continued the ♣Q. Declarer could now win her ace and simply duck a heart. She could not be denied a diamond trick in the end and thus was able to even make her contract for another +180 and a surprise 7 IMPs to Ferm.

Two boards later, E/W found a phantom sacrifice...

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
—	—	1♣	1♠
2♥	3♣	Pass	3♦
4♣	4♦	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass

E/W might have tried 5♣ but when they did not, they quickly scored +100 for one down. Heart lead followed by three rounds of diamonds.

In the other room, they did indeed bid 5♣ :

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	S. Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
—	—	1♣	1♠
2♥	2NT	3♥	4♠
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

North's 2NT was a mixed raise.

South might have led her heart singleton to pave the way for a ruff but when she tried a more normal ♦J instead, declarer's spade loser disappeared... One overtrick, the ace of trumps being the only trick for the defence. Minitier +650 and 11 IMPs to them.

The last board of the set produced curious contracts at both tables:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim	Nyström
Pass	1♦	Dble	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Dble	2♦
2♥	All Pass		
2♣	more diamonds		

Would East's second double show clubs? West was unsure, apparently, and settled for what turned out to be a 4-2 fit.

However, when North led a spade and persisted with spades after winning the ♥A at trick two when dummy led the ♥K, declarer could continue trumps to South's queen. Finally, the defence played diamonds but when South happened to hold the last trump and no more diamonds, the contract even came home. Ferm +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	S. Drijver	Larsson	Lund Madsen
Pass	1♦	Dble	1♠
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Helgemo's gambling 3NT for once was mistimed, when partner did not produce even half a diamond stopper. Down three, Ferm another +300 and 9 IMPs to them to eventually win the set 27-23. They would enjoy an overnight lead of 25 IMPs: 112-87.

Mixed Teams Final Minter v Ferm - S4

by David Bird

Many of the semi-finals and finals of this championship have been close affairs. The mixed event is no exception. After one day's play FERM leads MINITER by 112 to 87. The players who have reached this summit are: MINITER (Gillian Minter, Sanna Clementsson, Joe Grue, Geir Helgemo, Jessica Larsson & Fredrik Nyström) and FERM (Barbara Ferm, Sjoert Brink, Simon de Wijs, Bas Drijver, Christina Lund Madsen & Daniela von Arnim). We wish them good luck as the action begins!

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Simon de Wijs	Sanna Clementsson	Daniela von Arnim	Fredrik Nyström
—	—	Pass	2♣
2♠	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠*	Dble	4♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

When North started thinking over partner's 2NT, I observed on commentary that I had rarely seen a more obvious raise to 3NT. Eventually, 3♠ flicked up on the screen. Von Arnim opted to double on her singleton ♠Q and Nyström then bid 4♣, raised to 5♣.

What on earth was going on? Some pairs do play that 3♠ is a transfer to 3NT, but in that case South should have bid 3NT. If instead 3♠ was some sort of check on the best contract, it seems inappropriate.

I received some unwelcome messages from an upcoming English international, advising me that I should know what 3♠ meant. Kind of you, but the convention cards are not published on the website for this event. On Google, you can rarely find cards for mixed partnerships, only for the big stars' long-standing normal partnerships. "You should ask the players," he continued. Does he not realize that I am in Chandlers Ford, rather than at the table side?

As my blood pressure gradually returned to normal, the play in 5♣ was underway. A spade lead went to the

10, queen and ace. Nyström continued with the ace and queen of trumps, finding the 4-1 break. He finessed the ♣10 and drew the last trump. The ace of diamonds was followed by a diamond to the queen (declarer recalling West's bid), losing to the king. He won the heart return and played a spade, West rising with the king and returning a spade to the jack. When a diamond ruff brought down the jack, the ♥K provided an entry to the established ♦10. It was a somewhat lucky escape, after the auction we had seen.

At the other table they bid 2NT-3NT, making +660 on a spade lead for a 2-IMP swing.

We will bypass some nondescript boards, arriving here:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Simon de Wijs	Sanna Clementsson	Daniela von Arnim	Fredrik Nyström
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♦	2NT*	3♦	Pass
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2NT Four-card spade raise

Two top diamonds were followed by a trump switch to the jack and king. It is necessary to ruff a diamond now, but dummy's ♥Q acted as a distraction. When a low heart was led, West rose with the king and returned a heart to the queen (the best exit). Ace of clubs and a club ruff were followed by the heart ace and a diamond ruff with the 6. The third round of clubs was ruffed with the 7 and overruffed by West. That was one down.



Maybe declarer could do better at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Gillian	Barbara	Joe	Sjoert
Minitier	Ferm	Grue	Brink
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♦	3♦*	4♦	4♠
All Pass			

Minitier cashed the ♦AK and continued with a club switch to dummy's ace. A trump to the king was followed by... yes, a heart again, instead of the winning diamond ruff. It was one down for a push board.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Simon de Wijs	Sanna Clementsson	Daniela von Arnim	Fredrik Nyström
—	—	Pass	1♦
1♠	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

If West leads a spade, declarer winning and playing the queen of clubs to the king, West needs to find a heart switch. De Wijs spared himself this dilemma by leading a heart. Nyström won in dummy and played five rounds of diamonds. When he then led the ♣Q to West's king, von Arnim overtook with the ace. Four hearts were then cashed to take the game one down.

West	North	East	South
Gillian Minitier	Barbara Ferm	Joe Grue	Sjoert Brink
—	—	Pass	1♦
1♠	2♠*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Brink won the ♠Q lead with the ace, crossed to the queen of diamonds and led the ♣4. Grue rose with the ace, crashing his partner's king. Declarer ended with three overtricks for +690, and that was a 13-IMP swing to FERM.

We will end with the penultimate board of the set.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Simon de Wijs	Sanna Clementsson	Daniela von Arnim	Fredrik Nyström
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	All Pass

The cautious pass of 2NT was justified by events. A diamond lead went to the jack and king. The ace and jack of clubs were ducked and von Arnim led the ♠9 to South's king. A diamond to the queen won the next trick, Clementsson returning the ♦9 to declarer's ace. Declarer took his spade tricks and was one down.

West	North	East	South
Gillian Minitier	Barbara Ferm	Joe Grue	Sjoert Brink
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Brink led the ♦6 to the jack and ace. According to the record, the ace of clubs drew the 3, 5 and 10. The ♣7 to the 8 was allowed to win, and the ♠Q was then run to South's king. Brink switched to the ♥10, won by declarer's king. The play record stops there, with +430 announced. Presumably the clubs were cleared next. A heart return would have beaten the game, but perhaps North played back a diamond. Sorry if my surmises are wrong; it's a pity to end on this unsatisfactory note. It was 10 IMPs to MINITER and they won the set 32-25, narrowing the gap to 137-119.

May I end by congratulating the championship organisers. From my viewpoint in Chandlers Ford, everything went wonderfully smoothly, with not a mention of COVID. I thank also all those behind producing the bulletin. It was packed with reports and photos, a fine record of a great championship.

Mixed Teams Final Minter v Ferm - S5

by Marc Smith

Ferm came into the penultimate set of this final with their noses in front, but the margin is only 18 IMPs (137-119), and we have already seen teams come from much further behind than that in knockout matches at these championships.

Just one problem for you today. With only your side vulnerable, you are South with:

♠ 10 5 3
♥ K 10 9 7 2
♦ 5 3
♣ A 7 2

West	North	East	South
1♥	Dble	Pass	INT
2♣	2♥	4♣	Pass
Pass	4♦	Pass	?

What action, if any, do you take?

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Von Arnim</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Simon de Wijs started with Michaels, showing spades and a minor, and Daniela von Arnim gave simple preferences to spades at the minimum level. De Wijs showed his massive strength with a jump cue-bid, but Von Arnim was not interested. Declarer had to lose a diamond, a spade and a heart: N/S what looked like a fairly straightforward +620.

However, things were far from straightforward in the other room, where Jessica Larsson was called upon to solve the problem posed at the top of this article.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lund Madsen</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Larsson</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	Dble	Pass	INT
2♣	2♥	4♣	Pass
Pass	4♦	All Pass	

I don't know whether Geir Helgemo had a two-suited bid to show these suits, as some partnerships prefer to play a cue-bid as showing specific suits, usually clubs and the other major. One thing I do know for sure - once he had started with a double on the North cards, thing became much more difficult for the Scandinavian pair.

Christina Lund Madsen took the opportunity to get her second suit into play, perhaps paving the way for a paying sacrifice if North/South did get to 4♠ but, perhaps more importantly, allowing Bas Drijver to jam the auction with a pre-emptive jump to the four-level. When that came back to Helgemo, he bid his longest suit, leaving Larsson to try to unravel a very tricky conundrum. In commentary on BBO VuGraph, I suggested that it was more likely that she would raise to 5♦ than bid 4♠. In the end, she passed, which at least produced a plus score to save a couple of IMPs. N/S +130 and 10 IMP to Ferm. Then came:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Von Arnim</i>
INT	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

I don't recall ever seeing an auction quite this symmetrical. Sanna Clementsson's 3♦ was alerted and was likely a re-transfer, showing either a game try or a slam try with at least six hearts. The Swedes climbed into the danger zone

where, looking at just the East/West hands, a club ruff might potentially have beaten them. Indeed, De Wijs led the ♣3 against 5♥, but there was no ruff available: E/W a relieved +650.

At the other table, Bas Drijver grabbed the opportunity to channel his inner-Zia.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lund Madsen	Helgemo	Drijver	Larsson
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♥	All Pass

After the same transfer start, Drijver advanced with an auto-splinter, showing short spades and setting hearts as trumps. Madsen waited with 3NT, suggesting no club control, so Drijver continued with a spoof cue-bid on J-x-x and then Blackwooded his partner to slam. With the club control, presumably the king, known to be in dummy, it was certainly possible that Helgemo would underlead the ♣A, in the hope of inducing a misguess. Not this time: he opened a sedate ♠10 and Madsen was soon claiming her 12 tricks. E/W +1430 and 13 IMPs to Ferm.

Like great comedy, bridge is so much about timing. Drijver's ruse on this deal gained a slam swing for his side as well as the admiration of the huge crowd watching live on BBO VuGraph. Spare a thought for Joe Grue, though, who tried something similar a couple of days ago, and was derided in the next day's Bulletin when the slam swing went in the other direction. Talking of timing...



Geir Helgemo

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q J 7 2
♥ A K Q
♦ A 9 8
♣ J 5

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	De Wijs	Clementsson	Von Arnim
—	—	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

De Wijs started with a transfer to hearts and Von Arnim broke to 3NT, setting the suit. A couple of cue-bids followed and then De Wijs used Blackwood to discover that two key cards were missing. Clementsson led a spade to her partner's ace and, seeing J-x of clubs in dummy, Nyström switched to a low club in the hope of a misguess if East held the ♣Q. It was not to be, and declarer now had the rest of the tricks: N/S +480.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lund Madsen	Helgemo	Drijver	Larsson
—	—	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠*
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

There are no explanations in the hand records, but Larsson alerted her 4♠ bid and I wonder if this was a Blackwood accident. Whatever the reason, the Scandinavian pair found themselves in slam off two top tricks. It may have worked for their opponents a couple of boards earlier but, as I already mentioned, timing is everything, and this was not the right time. N/S -50 and another 11 IMPs to Ferm.

Over the first half of the set, Ferm whitewashed their opponents 47-0. There have been some impressive comebacks at these championships but, now 65 down with only 24 boards remaining, Minter will need to top them all to claim gold from here

Video Corner



You can access our full playlist here:



Today, we have 2 new videos:



System on with Krzysztof Martens



Thank you Mr.Rona

Statistics

There have been 69,876 boards played at this Event. That compares unfavorably with Verona 2006 (147,542) Philadelphia 2010 (144,677), Orlando 2018 (103,422) and Sanya 2014 (81,275) but at those championships some junior events were often included.

In North-American terms, this corresponds to 2912 tables. No board was used more than once, and Monica Gorreri and her team duplicated 73692 boards.

Fotis tells us that 1037 players attended these championships. They came from 52 different NBOs, in all eight zones.

The 16 editions of the Bulletin included 428 pages of text. Not printing them for 1037 players means we saved 30 trees.

Collected by Herman De wael

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Mixed Pairs Final S4
Six of the best
 by Barry Rigal

The last day of a world championships is always a rush to get reporting in. The first six deals of the day all included stimulating points and I was lucky enough to be seated in a corner of the room where I could see a series of pairs in contention fight it out. So I got to see some stimulating differences in valuation in the auction and some fine points in the play.

Having said that there were more differences than similarities, all three E/W pairs did bid our first deal to the best spot, 6♥.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 4 ♥ K 6 ♦ A K Q 4 3 ♣ A 10 9 5 4	♠ K 9 7 3 ♥ A 9 ♦ 10 9 8 6 5 ♣ 7 6	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 8 5 2 ♥ Q J 10 7 5 4 3 ♦ — ♣ K 3
	♠ Q J 10 6 ♥ 8 2 ♦ J 7 2 ♣ Q J 8 2		

All three tables (Zmuda/Klukowski, Cathy Baldysz/Kalita and Wasiak/Moszczynska) had an unopposed sequence



Zach Grossack

which started 1♥-2♦-2♥-3♣-3♥-3♠-4♥. Two tables then used keycard Blackwood, while Wasiak jumped to slam. All three Souths led ♠Q, and declarer competently won ♠A and ruffed a spade, pitched their spades on top diamonds and led dummy's remaining top trump. Cronier ducked his ♥A, the others won it, but either way declarer had 12 tricks and a solid if unremarkable 29/52 MP.

There was far more disparity on the second deal. All three above-mentioned pairs play Polish Club, and one of the main weaknesses of this system is that high pre-emption against a Polish Club when opener has the strong hand often does not allow responder to compete, knowing his partner has extras, as opposed to 12-14 balanced. Similarly, opener needs to differentiate moderate extras with primary clubs from, for example real two- or three-suited hands or those hands with clubs and a second suit. The three E/W pairs were about to encounter different levels of pre-emption and deal with it in different ways.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 6 ♥ K 9 8 3 ♦ Q 9 8 7 3 ♣ J 8 4	♠ 10 ♥ Q 10 ♦ A J 6 4 2 ♣ 9 6 5 3 2	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A Q 9 3 ♥ A J 6 5 4 2 ♦ 5 ♣ A K
	♠ K J 8 7 5 4 2 ♥ 7 ♦ K 10 ♣ Q 10 7		

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Botta	Moszczynska	Z. Grossack
—	—	1♣	3♠
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
Kalita	P. Cronier	C. Baldysz	B. Cronier.
—	—	1♣	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Klukowski	H Bakhshi	Zmuda	D. Bakhshi
—	—	1♣	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Zach Grossack played 3♠ on a diamond lead and won cheaply to lead a low spade from hand. He lost three spades, a heart and just two clubs when his RHO cashed the ace and king prematurely. – 200 earned him 46/52.

Baldysz made 12 tricks in some comfort in 4♥ on a spade lead into the tenace, and that was worth 32/52. But David Bakhshi found the low club lead to give declarer a problem in her slam. Zmuda won and led a low diamond from hand to Bakhshi's king. Back came a club and declarer crossed to the ♥K, advanced the ♦Q covered and ruffed, then drew the trump, played ♠A and ruffed a spade, and ran the ♦9 to establish a diamond for her 12th trick. Nicely done and 50/52 for her pains.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ A K Q J 10 7 3

♥ —

♦ K 6

♣ K 9 8 4



♠ 9

♥ K Q J 9 3 2

♦ A J

♣ A Q 10 3

♠ 8 5

♥ 8 6 4

♦ 9 8 4 3 2

♣ 6 5 2

♠ 6 4 2

♥ A 10 7 5

♦ Q 10 7 5

♣ J 7

West	North	East	South
<i>Botta</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Z. Grossack</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	Dble	Rdbl
5♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>P. Cronier</i>	<i>Majcher</i>	<i>Cronier B.</i>	<i>Zalewska</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♦*
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
1♦	5-7		

It is almost impossible to believe that the two East players above were bidding the same cards, isn't it? It looks hard for declarer to come to more than 10 tricks without some defensive help but Arkadius Majcher showed no help was necessary. He thoughtfully ruffed the top heart lead with an intermediate trump, then drew trump and led a low diamond towards dummy. Had East ducked, declarer would have won the ♦Q and pitched his diamond on the ♥A. So Cronier took the ♦A and returned the suit, and declarer crossed to dummy in spades and got rid of three clubs on the three red suit top cards. That was only 19/52 (as opposed to 8/52 for 420) because of the number of tables where E/W had gotten into serious problems.

As Zach Grossack discovered, live by the sword...his actions with the East cards would have looked excellent if the South and West hands had been switched. Not today, though. 5♥x went for 800 – still 8/52 whereas -590 would have been almost an average. So Klukowski's redouble really paid off.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ K Q 5

♥ J 5 2

♦ K 10 9

♣ K Q 9 4



♠ J 9 7 6

♥ 9 7

♦ A J 7 6

♣ 5 3 2

♠ A 10 8 4

♥ A 10 7 4

♦ Q 4

♣ A 8 6

♠ 3 2

♥ K Q 8 3

♦ 8 5 3 2

♣ J 10 7

West	North	East	South
<i>Botta</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Z. Grossack</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♦
1♠	Dble	2♠	All Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>P. Cronier</i>	<i>Mucher</i>	<i>B. Cronier.</i>	<i>Zalewska</i>
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♦
1♠	Dble	2♠	All Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>Beauchamp</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Tutty</i>	<i>C. Baldysz</i>
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♦
1♠	2♣	2♠	3♣
All Pass			



Georgia Botta

Philippe Cronier and Georgia Botta both got to declare 2♠ on a low heart lead. Cronier ducked and Zalewska won to shift to ♣J, which effectively held declarer to eight tricks with no realistic chance of an overtrick. Georgia Botta seemed to give herself a better chance when she rose with ♥A and passed the ♦Q to North. At this point Zmuda thoughtfully shifted to ♠Q, and the defenders could play three rounds of trumps to hold declarer to four trumps and four plain-suit winners. That was still 30/52 but the overtrick would have carried an extra 15MP.

Since 3♣ came to eight tricks, even after a trump lead, Kalita/Baldysz scored 35/52 MP for -100.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>F. Helness</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Seale</i>
—	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4♦*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

3NT Five hearts
4♦ Transfer

West	North	East	South
<i>Majcher</i>	<i>Beauchamp.</i>	<i>Zalewska</i>	<i>Tutty</i>
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4♦*	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♣*	All Pass		

3NT Five hearts
4♦ Transfer
6♣ Explained by the player making the call as '???'

West	North	East	South
<i>Botta</i>	<i>Kazmucha</i>	<i>Z. Grossack</i>	<i>Hutyra</i>
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♣	Dble	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

The declarers in 4♥ had to cope with the trumps to make 12 tricks but the entries do not permit it against accurate defence. Zmuda won Seale's spade lead and advanced the ♥K ducked all round. Then she crossed to a club to pass the ♥10, (also mistakenly ducked) and now she had the timing right to play a third trump since the ♦A had not been dislodged.

Hutyra's prospects were even less rosy after a diamond lead but after declarer ruffed a diamond, ran the ♠10, then came to hand in spades to ruff a diamond, crossed to the ♣A and advanced the ♥K, North mistimed the defence, shortening declarer by leading the fourth diamond. Now declarer ruffed, cashed the second top spade, went to the second club and led the ♠J, with the timing right in the three-card ending for the trump coup.

Of course no-trump on a diamond lead has only 10 tricks at best. +480 was worth 39, but the second overtrick was worth a third of a board.

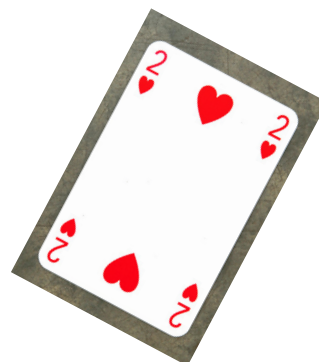
And what of 6♣? Credit Jody Tutty for finding the singleton lead (Garozzo would have been proud of her) to beat the slam on a ruff. There was virtually a full board at stake on the lead.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Everybody's slam you'd think? But getting to 6♥ rather than 6♠ might be beyond most of us after South's 1♠ opening bid? So would the defenders find their ruff against 6♠ after a diamond lead?

Two of our three tables didn't shine here. One N/S pair bid to 7♠ after a Blackwood miscount; one E/W pair let through slam after the ♦Q lead. And one E/W pair covered themselves in glory after a keycard auction had disclosed the missing ace. Klukowski doubled the slam as West and led the ♦10, hitting his partner with the hammer in case she needed the hint. 6♠x down one was 50/52.




Seniors' Pairs final, session 1

by Jos Jacobs

After all the teams events, this Saturday morning finally the time has come to have a look at the pairs. Rather than visiting the mixed pairs, I decided to have a look at the more exquisite seniors pairs event. Below, you will find a round-up of what I saw and thought during this first session of the day.

Right in the opening round, this board drew my attention.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ AKQ86 ♥ 864 ♦ AK5 ♣ 84		♠ 74 ♥ AK53 ♦ 1084 ♣ K1072	♠ J952 ♥ 1092 ♦ 732 ♣ QJ3
♠ 103 ♥ QJ7 ♦ QJ96 ♣ A965			

The normal contract is 3NT by East and you, South, would lead the ♦Q. Declarer wins it and plays on spades, partner North winning the fourth round and returning a diamond. In the meantime, you had to discard a few times. You have to get rid of your hearts or you will be endplayed to lead away from your ♣A. If you blank your




Neil Ewart

♣A, declarer might make 3NT by playing for it and duck a club. At four out of our nine tables, 3NT was made either this way or another.

On the next board, one pair was very lucky.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.


♠ AJ104 ♥ 9732 ♦ K6 ♣ QJ7		♠ KQ8 ♥ KQ105 ♦ Q982 ♣ K4	♠ 96532 ♥ J4 ♦ 74 ♣ A832
♠ 7 ♥ A86 ♦ AJ1053 ♣ 10965			

West	North	East	South
Russyan	Ewart	Witek	I. Robinson
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Not only did they not reach the normal 4♥, which would go down on the spade ruff, but they were also treated to the ♥J lead by North, good for one priceless overtrick and all the matchpoints.

On the last board of the second round, one pair managed to change a shared zero into a complete one...

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ — ♥ K10653 ♦ J843 ♣ AQJ3		♠ AK63 ♥ QJ9 ♦ Q7 ♣ K1094	♠ QJ952 ♥ A82 ♦ AK105 ♣ 8
♠ 10874 ♥ 74 ♦ 962 ♣ 7652			

West	North	East	South
B. Gotard	Vainikonis	T. Gotard	Olanski
—	—	INT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	3♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	4♠
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

Once N/S found the sacrifice, E/W were doomed, because only one other N/S pair found it...

In Round 3, the then leaders earned themselves a good score when their opponents overbid a little.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kasprzak	Berkowitz	Chindelewicz	Meckstroth
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dble
1♥	Dble	1♠	2♥
2♠	3♥	Pass	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Defending 3♥ would have earned E/W a nice plus score but declaring 3♠ definitely did not. South led a club to dummy's ace and declarer played another club to North's ♣Q. Berkowitz next cashed his ♠Q and got off play with a diamond to declarer's ♦J. Next came yet another club, on which South shed a diamond. Dummy ruffed this and tried to cash two more diamonds but Meckstroth could now ruff the second one and cash his two top trumps. He then had to give declarer the ♥K, but declarer still had a club to lose for down three and no matchpoints at all.

On the board below, a slam came home...

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

...because the defence did not lead hearts but tried the ♠A instead. After that, finding the ♦K doubleton on side was all declarer needed ☺. The trump lead found at another table had the same effect when North immediately took his ace when given the chance. Ducking it would have improved

his chances of beating the contract considerably...

Near the end of the session, we saw a board very suitable for the classic pairs' tigers.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

In a team match, you ought to be in 5♦ but in pairs, 3NT is always an option. This time, it would even have worked! The hearts are 6-2, which you might know from the auction, and the vital missing ace is with North, who is out of hearts. With the ♠Q also helpful, you would make 11 tricks for 12 MP. Meanwhile, scoring +600 in 5♦ would only bring you 5 MP. There is no justice anywhere...

The last board of this penultimate round might bring N/S a good score by bidding and making game.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.


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

Three N/S pairs were in fact in 4♥ and they all got the lead of ♠AK and a spade ruff. When you guess the trumps right from here, you are home. Two of our three declarers did, for a shared top score.

On the last boards, the pairs' tigers should not be too greedy.



Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.


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

If you are in 4♣ and get a club lead, it's a matter of counting to ten. The ♣K wins and a top diamond comes next. East wins and what can he do? If he plays, say, a club, you win the ace shedding your heart loser and play another diamond. Next, you ruff out the nine, cash ♠K and ♠A and play on diamonds. The defence only gets two more trump tricks.

3NT is not so good, except if you are the lucky declarer who was treated to a spade lead by West...

On the last board, they were once again in slam, at no fewer than two tables.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Believe it or not: at both these tables the slam was made. South led the ♣A and apparently failed to play a trump... What a board to finish my contributions to these Bulletins!

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



Farewell, Muggles!

by Nicolas Hammond

Wrocław had some interesting geocaches. We found a nice micro cache outside the Cathedral, another micro cache close to the old prison and there is a larger geocache outside Hala Stulecia. Muggles are humans that do not know about geocaching. You have to be careful to avoid Muggles when geocaching so they do not ruin the sport. The last two weeks were difficult, as there were lots of Bridge playing Muggles and occasional tourist buses full of Muggles outside the building.



Nikolas Bausback signing log with Anna Makarewicz

Yesterday, Per Jannersten donated some used playing cards for the geocache and after play we added them to the Hala Stulecia geocache (GC6WQVY). Larger geocaches have small gifts inside with the concept of 'bring one, take one' so the legacy of these games will last for some time.



New contents of geocache

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Mixed Teams KO Brackets

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WILSON 51
CORIANDRE 59

GILLIS 62
VALUE MEDIA TEAM 89

VALUE MEDIA TEAM 70
MINITER 105

CORIANDRE 101
EDMONDS 93

CORIANDRE 88
REASON 42

ROSENTHAL 59
CROCODILE 87

ZALESKI 51
HEADS OR TAILS 94

MINITER 110
CROCODILE 14

EDMONDS 100
HEADS OR TAILS 33

MINITER 101
BLAKSETS BIN 44

MINITER 139
DONNER 115

FERM 147
CORIANDRE 126

EDMONDS 106
CZERBIA 41

DONNER 70
SEOUL 12

BROS1005 53
SIEJA 60

DONNER 41
WOLFSON 35

Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
MINITER	25	39	23	32	25	40	184
FERM	52	33	27	25	65	35	237

SIEJA 25
FERM 71

WOLFSON 87
MCINTOSH FUNCLUB 49

TECZA SZCZECINEK 72
DONNER 92

BRIDGE24 121
FERM 140

FERM 119
DINKIN 38

MILLENS 53
FORMIDABLES 90

BRIDGE24 86
APA HEILI 74

TECZA SZCZECINEK 50
FORMIDABLES 50

ZADRA 34
BRIDGE24 88

TECZA SZCZECINEK 73
ORCA 67

ZADRA 65
AARDVARKS 62

Mixed Pairs Final A

Rank	Players	Nationality	%
1	ZMUDA Justyna	KLUKOWSKI Michal	POL - SUI 58.38
2	RUBINS Karlis	ALFEJEVA Jelena	LAT - LAT 55.58
3	BROCK Sally	WILLENKEN Chris	ENG - USA 55.47
4	WASIAK Artur	MOSZCZYNSKA Zuzanna	POL - POL 55.01
5	HUANG Shan	MILLENS Joan	USA - USA 54.63
6	CAPPELLETTI JR Mike	HOWARD Allison	USA - USA 54.54
7	BESSIS Thomas	BERTHEAU Kathrine	FRA - SWE 54.20
8	KALITA Jacek	BALDYSZ Cathy	POL - POL 54.17
9	BEAUCHAMP David	TUTTY Jodi	AUS - AUS 53.95
10	MAJCHER Arkadiusz	ZALEWSKA Joanna	POL - POL 53.23
11	BUUS THOMSEN Signe	RIMSTEDT Mikael	DEN - SWE 53.16
12	BOTTA Giorgia	GROSSACK Zachary	USA - USA 53.14
13	BASARAN Berk	ELMAS Tuna	TUR - TUR 53.12
14	ZATORSKI Piotr	DUFRAT Katarzyna	POL - POL 52.87
15	ZACK Yaniv	BENIN-BARR Ronnie	ISR - ISR 52.62
16	KLEMS Erik	PEPIC Selena	CZE - SER 52.50
17	GROSSACK Adam	KOLESNIK Emma	USA - USA 52.17
18	PELLEGRINI Carlos	GAMIO Claudia Valerie	ARG - ARG 52.12
19	AUKEN Sabine	WELLAND Roy	GER - GER 52.10
20	BURAS Krzysztof	SOBOLEWSKA Ewa	POL - POL 51.35
21	SAELENSMINDE Erik	FUGLESTAD Ann Karin	NOR - NOR 51.07
22	CRONIER Philippe	CRONIER Benedicte	FRA - FRA 50.94
23	THOMPSON Ben	COOPER Renee	AUS - AUS 50.86
24	LORENZINI Cedric	BELLO Isabelle	FRA - FRA 50.70
25	ZUR-CAMPANILE Migry	ROSENTHAL Andrew	USA - USA 50.66
26	PIETRZYK Agnieszka	PAWLAK Andrzej	POL - POL 50.60
27	McCALLUM Karen	JOHANNSSON Axel	USA - AUS 50.59
28	BERTHEAU Peter	ANDERSSON Ann-Sophie	SWE - SWE 50.58
29	KAZMUCHA Danuta	HUTYRA Maciej	POL - POL 50.33
30	WINCIOREK Tomasz	DANCEWICZ Renata	POL - POL 50.20
31	ROMANOVSKA Maija	BENDIKS Janis	LAT - LAT 49.83
32	SEALE Catherine	HELNESS Fredrik	ENG - NOR 49.51
33	KARLYKOV Petro	REITMANN Marina	UKR - UKR 49.24
34	ATTANASIO Dario	MANARA Gabriella	ITA - ITA 49.08
35	NETTLETON Diana	PASKE Thomas	ENG - ENG 48.86
36	FISCHER Brigitta	RIMSTEDT Ola	HUN - SWE 48.80
37	McINTOSH Andrew	MORAN Sara	ENG - ENG 48.42
38	MAJ-RUDNICKA Marta	LASZCZUK Jaroslaw	POL - POL 48.32
39	BURN David	SMEDEREVAC Jovanka	ENG - FRA 47.50
40	BLAAGESTAD Lise	PEDERSEN Jan	NOR - DEN 47.36
41	SAPORTA Pierre	SAPORTA-TWORZYDLO Renata	FRA - FRA 47.26
42	MEYERSON Elianna	MEYERSON Adam	SUI - SUI 46.93
43	YUEN Sebastian	GEROMBOUX Christy	AUS - AUS 46.85
44	PSZCZOLA Jacek	SAKR May	USA - USA 46.62
45	BERTHIAUME Louise	FERGANI Kamel	CAN - CAN 46.60
46	DINKIN Sam	TEBHA Anam	USA - USA 46.03
47	VOZABAL David	ZORANOVIC Jovana	CZE - SER 45.90
48	BAKHSI David	BAKHSI Heather	ENG - ENG 45.38
49	DZIEKANSKI Krzysztof	DZIEKANSKA Ewa	POL - POL 45.24
50	WOOLDRIDGE Joel	EDMONDS Jodi	USA - USA 44.80
51	BOHNSACK Susanne	BOHNSACK Sandro	GER - GER 43.56
52	Iavicoli Federico	DI LORENZO Anastasia	ITA - ITA 43.03
53	YAVAS Dilek	KAYA Emre	TUR - TUR 42.10
54	NAIDOO Bindiya	SINHA Priya Ranjan	IND - IND 41.41

Senior Pairs Final

Rank	Players	Nationality	%
1	BIZON Piotr BLAT Marek	POL - POL	58.45
2	MARTENS Krzysztof ZIMMERMANN Pierre	MON - SUI	55.70
3	MECKSTROTH Jeff BERKOWITZ David	USA - USA	54.51
4	BERG Thomas JORGENSEN Geert	DEN - DEN	53.24
5	BUCHLEV Nedju LESNICZAK Jacek	GER - GER	52.86
6	PRYOR Malcolm KENDRICK David	ENG - ENG	51.94
7	KASPRZAK Alan CHINDELEWICZ Pawel	POL - POL	51.91
8	VAINIKONIS Vytautas OLANSKI Wojtek	LTU - LTU	51.25
9	JANIK Stanislaw NOWAK Jerzy	POL - POL	51.05
10	RUSSYAN Jerzy WITEK Marek	POL - POL	50.63
11	GAWECKI Janusz PAJAK Stanislaw	POL - POL	50.42
12	MOULD Alan HOLLAND John	ENG - ENG	47.51
13	KOWALSKI Apolinary SIKORSKI Krzysztof	POL - POL	47.15
14	KALISH Avi GRINBERG Nir	ISR - ISR	46.90
15	HACKETT Paul D SENIOR Brian	ENG - ENG	46.16
16	GOTARD Barbara GOTARD Tomasz	GER - GER	44.85
17	EWART Neil ROBINSON Ian	AUS - AUS	43.56
18	LEKKI Janusz GOLINSKI Jan	POL - POL	41.15



Not many players left on the last day...

Side Event Pairs

Rank	Players	Nationality	%	
1	BALDYSZ Sophia	FREEMAN Jacob	POL - CAN	64.89
2	GOLD David	KNOTTENBELT Maggie	ENG - ENG	58.48
3	GURVICH David	MOLLER Rachael	USA - USA	56.31
4	MELMAN Victor	MILASZEWSKI Mirosław	USA - POL	56.20
5	NOSALSKA Anna	ZALESKI Tomasz	POL - POL	56.10
6	DUCKWORTH Christine	CALLAGHAN Brian	ENG - ENG	55.99
7	PASELL Mike	GOODMAN Andy	USA - USA	55.99
8	LA CHAPELLE Imogen	ROBINSON Claire	ENG - ENG	55.89
9	ZHAO Jinlong	SHIMAZAKI Ayako	JPN - JPN	55.15
10	BAKALARZ Adrian	LUCKA Dominika	POL - POL	55.07
11	KAMRAS Jan	CHEDIAK Virginia	SWE - NOR	54.01
12	HETZ Clara	PACHTMAN Ron	ISR - ISR	53.97
13	KAHYAOGLU Yusuf	OZGUR Hatice	TUR - TUR	53.66
14	ZABIEREK Maja	URBAN Hubert	POL - POL	53.07
15	EKERT Lech	RACZKIEWICZ Maciej	POL - USA	52.90
16	PLACKETT Richard Mark	DESCHEPPER Mia	WAL - WAL	52.49
17	BARDEN Paul	TOMMASINI Stefano	ENG - ENG	52.18
18	NAWROCKI Piotr	ROZMAN Malgorzata	POL - SCO	52.01
19	SOSNA Zbigniew	KOZLOWSKI Marek	POL - POL	51.82
20	MICHELIN Marjorie	FEIGENBAUM Ellis	USA - USA	51.47
21	TURSKA-MARCINOWSKA Malgorzata	MARCINOWSKI Adam	POL - POL	51.36
22	GILL Peter	SYLVESTER Elisabeth	AUS - AUS	50.92
23	POPLILOV Matilda	HETZ Nathan	ISR - ISR	50.65
24	GOLDBERG Jerry	SEAMAN Eleanor	USA - USA	50.23
25	BALDYSZ Mark	SZAFRANIEC Edward	POL - POL	50.15
26	GOTARD Thomas	SCHWALBACH Kathrin	GER - GER	50.03
27	SANDQVIST Niklas (Nick)	SHASHOU Nathalie	ENG - ENG	49.61
28	GORSKA Aleksandra	TUCZYNSKI Piotr	POL - POL	49.37
29	KOZIKOWSKI Andrzej	GORSKA Anna	POL - POL	49.14
30	FIJALKOWSKI Grzegorz	GORNIKOWSKI Andrzej	POL - POL	48.89
31	GORA Cezary	PETER Thomas	POL - GER	48.81
32	BOJARSKA Beata	PABICH Michal	POL - POL	46.67
33	HERRERA Gonzalo	HERRERA Patricia	MEX - MEX	46.65
34	GUVEN Metin	BAUER Tracey	TUR - USA	46.37
35	KRUPNIK Patrycja	CHLADOWICZ Jaroslaw	POL - POL	46.30
36	KACZMAREK Edward	WOJTAS Czeslaw	POL - POL	45.89
37	PATER Mariusz	STANISZEWSKI Jan	POL - POL	45.83
38	KARDASINSKI Piotr	SUFLIDA Lilliana	POL - POL	45.71
39	SZAKUN Marek	ROZMAN Radoslaw	POL - POL	45.43
40	ERICHSEN Espen	ERICHSEN Helen	ENG - ENG	44.66
41	SHERMAN David	SHERMAN Tracy	ENG - ENG	42.80
42	SABALA Zbigniew	SKOWRONSKI Wieslaw	POL - POL	42.52
43	SILBERBERG Gheorghe	POSZPICHIL Agnes	ROM - ROM	40.96
44	AITCHISON Susan	FORSYTH James	SCO - SCO	39.66
45	PYTKA Anna	PYTKA Tomasz	POL - POL	38.02
46	WALCZYK Marta	LUCZAK Agnieszka	POL - POL	34.81