

Issue No. 3
Tuesday, 17th September 2019

## ENGLISH EXPRESS



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| Bemmuda Bow |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| After Round 6 |  |  |
|  | TEAM | VP |
| 1 | ENGLAND | 92.37 |
| 2 | SWEDEN | 90.46 |
| 3 | NORWAY | 85.83 |
| 4 | USA I | 79.63 |
| 5 | AUSTRALIA | 78.38 |
| 6 | CHILE | 77.43 |
| 7 | CHINA | 75.55 |
| 8 | ITALY | 74.60 |
| 9 | NETHERLANDS | 73.95 |
| 10 | CHINA HONG KONG | 71.26 |
| 11 | INDONESIA | 66.49 |
| 12 | ISRAEL | 64.16 |
| 13 | BANGLADESH | 60.71 |
| 14 | CANADA | 58.34 |
| 15 | POLAND | 56.57 |
| 16 | RUSSIA | 56.38 |
| 17 | SINGAPORE | 49.12 |
| 18 | EGYPT | 47.08 |
| 19 | ARGENTINA | 46.96 |
| 20 | USA 2 | 43.68 |
| 21 | INDIA | 40.64 |
| 22 | NEW ZEALAND | 24.76 |
| 23 | GUADELOUPE | 13.28 |
| 24 | MOROCCO | 10.37 |


We have added some new things to the Youth Website that you might
be interested in:
Youth Rankings and Masterpoints:
http://youth.worldbridge.org/new-youth-rankings-and-master-points/
. Some boards played by young players participating here in China:
http://youth.worldbridge.org/44th-world-team-championships-september-15th-some-boards/
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. http://youth.worldbridge.org/world-open-youth-championships-participation-certificates/


## Championship offer

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| Venice Cup |  | d'Orsi Trophy |  |  | Mixed |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| After Round 6 |  | After Round 6 |  |  | After Round 6 |  |  |
| TEAM | VP |  | TEAM | VP |  | TEAM | VP |
| 1 CHINA | 82.73 |  | CHINESE TAIPEI | 86.08 |  | ENGLAND | 90.65 |
| 2 ENGLAND | 81.14 | 2 | 2 INDIA | 79.48 |  | USA I | 84.38 |
| 3 POLAND | 77.46 | 3 | 3 DENMARK | 78.60 |  | LATVIA | 78.18 |
| 4 JAPAN | 75.91 |  | 4 AUSTRALIA | 77.22 |  | CHINA | 76.38 |
| 5 NORWAY | 73.26 |  | 5 ENGLAND | 77.07 |  | FRANCE | 75.18 |
| 6 RUSSIA | 73.00 | 6 | 6 USA I | 75.84 | 6 | USA 2 | 75.14 |
| 7 SCOTLAND | 71.07 |  | 7 TURKEY | 73.15 |  | ROMANIA | 70.68 |
| 8 USA 2 | 70.98 |  | 8 FRANCE | 71.20 |  | INDONESIA | 70.41 |
| 9 FRANCE | 69.62 | 9 | 9 POLAND | 67.16 |  | ITALY | 67.05 |
| 10 CANADA | 69.54 | 10 | O NETHERLANDS | 66.43 | 10 | CANADA | 66.96 |
| 11 SWEDEN | 69.18 |  | NORWAY | 63.64 | 11 | RUSSIA | 64.61 |
| 12 NEW ZEALAND | 68.71 | 12 | 12 USA 2 | 63.53 | 12 | NEW ZEALAND | 63.21 |
| 13 NETHERLANDS | 68.54 | 13 | SWEDEN | 62.10 | 13 | DENMARK | 61.52 |
| 14 DENMARK | 66.12 | 14 | CANADA | 59.83 | 14 | POLAND | 60.88 |
| 15 USA I | 62.23 | 15 | 5 CHINA HONG KONG | 58.70 | 15 | AUSTRALIA | 60.79 |
| 16 CHINESE TAIPEI | 58.73 |  | JAPAN | 53.92 | 16 | 16 SWEDEN | 52.02 |
| 17 INDIA | 54.26 | 17 | CHINA | 53.49 | 17 | BRAZIL | 51.24 |
| 18 BRAZIL | 52.62 | 18 | 8 ITALY | 49.46 | 18 | EGYPT | 48.50 |
| 19 PAKISTAN | 43.93 | 19 | I INDONESIA | 43.15 | 19 | CHINESE TAIPEI | 47.18 |
| 20 AUSTRALIA | 41.92 | 20 | UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | 41.51 | 20 | INDIA | 44.90 |
| 21 CHINA HONG KONG | 33.53 | 21 | I BULGARIA | 40.27 | 21 | THAILAND | 41.62 |
| 22 TRINIDAD \& TOBAGO | 26.07 | 22 | 2 IRELAND | 38.94 | 22 | MOROCCO | 39.43 |
| 23 SOUTH AFRICA | 25.22 | 23 | REUNION | 34.47 | 23 | BARBADOS | 36.47 |
| 24 TUNISIA | 24.23 | 24 | 4 NEW ZEALAND | 21.76 |  | PAKISTAN | 11.62 |



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The ranking lists can be found at: http://robot.wbfmasterpoints.com/ and these give details of the titles achieved and the master point awards.

At the end of 2019 the leading three players in the 2019 overall ranking, determined on their best results achieved over a minimum of 100 tournaments will be invited to participate in the 2020 World Championships with a partner of their choice.

| M7 |  | M8 |  | M9 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bermuda Bowl |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.00-12.20 |  | \| 3.30 - | 5.50 |  | 16.30-18.50 |  |
| ARGENTINA <br> ENGLAND <br> RUSSIA <br> NEW ZEALAND <br> POLAND <br> NORWAY <br> NETHERLANDS <br> SWEDEN <br> USA I <br> ITALY <br> ISRAEL <br> USA 2 | CHILE <br> CANADA <br> CHINA <br> GUADELOUPE <br> SINGAPORE <br> INDONESIA <br> MOROCCO <br> EGYPT <br> CHINA HONG KONG <br> BANGLADESH <br> AUSTRALIA <br> INDIA | CHILE CANADA SINGAPORE GUADELOUPE ARGENTINA ENGLAND MOROCCO POLAND NORWAY BANGLADESH NEW ZEALAND EGYPT | INDIA <br> ITALY <br> ISRAEL <br> RUSSIA <br> USA 2 <br> CHINA HONG KONG <br> USA I <br> NETHERLANDS <br> SWEDEN <br> INDONESIA <br> CHINA <br> AUSTRALIA | INDONESIA EGYPT <br> AUSTRALIA INDIA <br> ITALY <br> USA 2 <br> RUSSIA <br> CANADA <br> SINGAPORE <br> USA I <br> ARGENTINA ISRAEL | CHILE <br> NETHERLANDS <br> POLAND <br> GUADELOUPE <br> CHINA <br> NORWAY <br> MOROCCO <br> NEW ZEALAND <br> ENGLAND <br> BANGLADESH <br> SWEDEN <br> CHINA HONG KONG |
| Venice Cup |  |  |  |  |  |
| $10.00-12.20$ |  | 13.30-15.50 |  | 16.30-18.50 |  |
| TUNISIA <br> POLAND <br> ENGLAND <br> CHINESE TAIPEI <br> FRANCE <br> SOUTH AFRICA <br> BRAZIL <br> PAKISTAN <br> TRINIDAD \& TOBAGO <br> NEW ZEALAND <br> INDIA <br> CHINA HONG KONG | USA I <br> JAPAN <br> SCOTLAND <br> NETHERLANDS <br> DENMARK <br> AUSTRALIA <br> SWEDEN <br> NORWAY <br> RUSSIA <br> USA 2 <br> CANADA <br> CHINA | TUNISIA <br> NORWAY <br> RUSSIA <br> CHINESE TAIPEI <br> JAPAN <br> SOUTH AFRICA <br> CHINA <br> PAKISTAN <br> TRINIDAD \& TOBAGO <br> USA I <br> AUSTRALIA <br> CHINA HONG KONG | DENMARK <br> NETHERLANDS <br> ENGLAND <br> NEW ZEALAND <br> USA 2 <br> SCOTLAND <br> INDIA <br> CANADA <br> POLAND <br> BRAZIL <br> SWEDEN <br> FRANCE | POLAND <br> NETHERLANDS <br> FRANCE <br> ENGLAND <br> AUSTRALIA <br> BRAZIL <br> SWEDEN <br> NEW ZEALAND <br> JAPAN <br> RUSSIA <br> USA 2 <br> INDIA | TUNISIA SCOTLAND CHINA CHINESE TAIPEI NORWAY SOUTH AFRICA DENMARK PAKISTAN TRINIDAD \& TOBAGO CANADA USA I CHINA HONG KONG |
| d'Orsi Trophy |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.00-12.20 |  | \| 3.30 - | 5.50 |  | 16.30-18.50 |  |
| USA 2 <br> NETHERLANDS <br> REUNION <br> DENMARK <br> UAE <br> AUSTRALIA <br> USA I <br> POLAND <br> BULGARIA <br> CHINA <br> IRELAND <br> ITALY | CANADA <br> NORWAY <br> CHINA HONG KONG <br> JAPAN <br> INDIA <br> CHINESE TAIPEI <br> TURKEY <br> FRANCE <br> INDONESIA <br> ENGLAND <br> SWEDEN <br> NEW ZEALAND | JAPAN <br> INDIA <br> UAE <br> NEW ZEALAND <br> CHINESE TAIPEI <br> TURKEY <br> FRANCE <br> INDONESIA <br> ENGLAND <br> SWEDEN <br> ITALY <br> IRELAND <br> FRANCE | USA 2 <br> NETHERLANDS <br> REUNION <br> DENMARK <br> CHINA HONG KONG <br> NORWAY <br> CANADA <br> AUSTRALIA <br> USA I <br> POLAND <br> BULGARIA <br> CHINA <br> NEW ZEALAND | USA 2 <br> NETHERLANDS <br> REUNION <br> DENMARK <br> UAE <br> INDIA <br> POLAND <br> BULGARIA <br> CHINA <br> IRELAND <br> ITALY <br> SWEDEN | USA I <br> AUSTRALIA <br> CANADA <br> NORWAY <br> CHINA HONG KONG <br> JAPAN <br> CHINESE TAIPEI <br> TURKEY <br> FRANCE <br> INDONESIA <br> ENGLAND <br> NEW ZEALAND |
| Mixed |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.00-12.20 |  | \| 3.30-| 5.50 |  | 16.30-18.50 |  |
| CHINESE TAIPEI ENGLAND SWEDEN INDONESIA MOROCCO RUSSIA ITALY POLAND EGYPT CANADA BRAZIL LATVIA | ROMANIA <br> USA 2 <br> CHINA <br> BARBADOS <br> FRANCE <br> NEW ZEALAND <br> AUSTRALIA <br> THAILAND <br> PAKISTAN <br> DENMARK <br> INDIA <br> USA I | CHINESE TAIPEI ENGLAND SWEDEN INDONESIA MOROCCO RUSSIA ITALY BARBADOS CHINA USA 2 ROMANIA CANADA | FRANCE <br> NEW ZEALAND <br> AUSTRALIA <br> THAILAND <br> PAKISTAN <br> EGYPT <br> POLAND <br> DENMARK <br> INDIA <br> LATVIA <br> BRAZIL <br> USA I | CHINESE TAIPEI ENGLAND SWEDEN INDONESIA MOROCCO THAILAND AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND FRANCE BARBADOS CHINA USA 2 | PAKISTAN EGYPT POLAND ITALY RUSSIA DENMARK INDIA LATVIA BRAZIL CANADA ROMANIA USA I |

I

## Brent Manley

In the world of high-level bridge, the rivalry between the USA and Italy goes back decades. Along the way, there have been many epic battles between the two bridge powerhouses.
In the opening round of the Bermuda Bowl qualifying in Wuhan, the Italian and American teams met again.
The competitors were the team led by Martin Fleisher, playing as USA2. Fleisher and company won a tight contest against a French team in Lyon, France, two years ago, so in Wuhan he is shooting for a second straight win in the event.
Fleisher's team includes some new faces, notably Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson and Justin Lall. Brad Moss and Chip Martel round out the squad. Joe Grue is the team's coach. Jan Martel is npc.
Standing in the way on Saturday was the Italian team of Norberto Bocchi, Antonio Sementa, Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace and Agustin Madala. The non-playing captain is Maria Teresa Lavazza. Massimo Ortensi is coach.
The match started quietly with a push, and Italy scored an overtrick IMP on the second board,

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

- 19

ค 864
$\checkmark$ A 8
\& A Q 10762


- K 4
$\checkmark$ AKJ 732
K 43
-4 3
- 865
$\bigcirc$ Q 1095
$\triangleleft$ J 95
\% K 98

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Greco | Lauria | Hampson | Versace |
| - | 18 | 18 | Pass |
| 19 | 29 | 38 | All Pass |

Hampson lost two club tricks, two heart tricks and a diamond for one down. At the other table, Bocchi and Sementa got to 4 by West. That contract was also one down (the record of the play was not available). Italy scored an overtrick IMP on the second board, which was followed by a big swing to USA 2.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/WVul.
¢ J 3

- 10852

K 62
\& A 764


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Greco | Lauria | Hampson | Versace |
| - | - | - | Pass |
| 19 | Pass | 20* | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 3\%* | Pass |
| $3 \diamond$ | Pass | 3 | Pass |
| 3NT | Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 5 | Pass | 68 | All Pass |

Hampson's 2\% was an artificial game force. The 3\% bid agreed spades. Cuebids were followed by Blackwood, and when Greco showed two key cards without the queen, Hampson bid the small slam.
Lauria started the defense with a low diamond. After some thought, Greco played the $\diamond \mathbf{Q}$, and it was easy from there with the 2-2 trump split and 3-3 diamond break. Greco was soon claiming all the tricks for plus 1460 and a I3-IMP gain because Bocchi and Sementa did not get past 49.

Halfway through the match, USA 2 held a 22-7 lead, but it did not hold up. Over the final eight deals, Italy outscored the Americans 20-0 to win 27-22. This deal near the end helped Italy to the win.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bocchi | Fleisher | Sementa | Martel |
| - | - | Pass | $1 ヵ$ |
| Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass | $1 \triangleleft$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | $2 N T$ |
| Pass | $3 \vee$ | Pass | $3 N T$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Bocchi started with the $\diamond 5$ to the 2,9 and queen. Martel continued with the $\diamond 4$ and he played low when Bocchi followed with the 8 . Bocchi shifted to a low spade, taken in dummy with the ace. Martel then played the eq to Sementa's ace. On the club continuation, Martel played the IO, won by Bocchi with the jack. Now the 99 forced out declarer's king. Martel played the 10 to dummy's queen to play the $\varangle 4$ to the 2 , ace and 5. At that point, Martel conceded one down for -50 and a IO-IMP swing to Italy, because in the other room Lauria declared 3NT as North on a low club lead to the $4,9, \mathrm{Q}$. He returned the $\% 7$ and


Norberto Bocchi, Italy
let it run to the jack. A spade shift might still have left declarer with work to do, but Greco returned a diamond. Lauria ran this to the jack, set up his long club and the 8 Q was declarer's ninth trick eventually.

## The One and Only

by Mark Horton
This deal from the opening round saw many double-digit swings:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

|  | ¢ 87 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc 86$ |  |
|  | $\triangleleft$ K Q 105 |  |
|  | \% Q 72 |  |
| ¢ A 1064 | N | ¢ K 2 |
| $\bigcirc$ A 9752 | W E | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K}$ |
| $\diamond$ A 4 |  | $\diamond 986$ |
| 2 A 9 | S | \& KJIO 8543 |
|  | Q Q J 953 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ QJ 1043 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ J 7 |  |
|  | ¢ 6 |  |

On a bad day, you might go down in 3NT after a diamond lead, a fate that befell several players, including one multiple world champion.
6\% was attempted several times, but when a diamond was led no-one had enough information to get the trumps right.
A couple of declarers were favoured by the lead of the $\$ \mathrm{Q}$, after which only the overtrick was at issue.
At two tables, one in the Venice Cup, the other in the Bermuda Bowl, the opening lead was a heart. Declarer wins with the king and cashes the top trumps. When the $\%$ declines to put in an appearance you play a third round pitching a diamond, win the likely diamond exit, cash the $\vee A$, ruff a heart and continue with two more rounds of trumps to reach this position:


Fredrik Nyström, Sweden

When declarer plays the last trump South must part with a spade. Having done its work, the $\vee 9$ is discarded from dummy and declarer scores three spade tricks. In the match between Sweden and Israel the latter made 12 tricks after a diamond lead but they were only in 5\%, and Sweden's Fredrik Nystrom (partnering Johan Upmark) followed this line to pick up a big swing.
Alas, the other declarer could not find the winning line.


My selection from this round is the potential slugfest between two of the pre-tournament favourites, NETHERLANDS and USAI. Both had started unconvincingly, the Dutch with a 17-IMP loss to ENGLAND (giving them just 5.61 VPs ), whilst the Americans sneaked a 4 -IMP win (II.20VPs) against EGYPT in their opening match. With a further 21 matches to be played in the Round Robin stage, one can read little into the early standings, but the first meeting of these two highly-rated teams may provide some indication of form. Of course, we also get to watch eight players who have all previously won world championships, some of them many times. We kick off with the first deal of the match:

Board I7. Dealer North. None Vul.

> Q Q 84
> \& A 1043
> $\diamond$ Q 964
> $\&$ Q 10

| - K 10962 | N | - AJ 753 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 92$ |  | $\bigcirc 765$ |
| $\checkmark 12$ | W E | $\checkmark 8$ |
| - A983 | S | ¢ J 542 |
|  | , - |  |
|  | ¢ K Q 8 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AK 10753 |  |
|  | \& K 76 |  |

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Levin | De Wijs | Weinstein | Muller |
| - | Pass | Pass | $1 \diamond$ |
| I $\diamond$ | Dble | $4 \uparrow$ | $4 N T^{*}$ |
| Pass | $5 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |



Bauke Muller, Netherlands


Bobby Levin, USA I
The first surprise was Bauke Muller's decision to open this South hand with a nebulous ( $11-15 \mathrm{HCP}, 2+\diamond$ ) One Diamond rather than with a Tarzan Precision strong One Club. Bobby Levin overcalled One Spade, Simon De Wijs made a negative double, and Steve Weinstein jumped to Four Spades. Correctly judging that the penalty would be insufficient (only +300 ), Muller now advanced with 4NT, showing two places to play. De Wijs chose diamonds (in case his partner held both minors), but slam was never really in the picture for either Dutchman.
There were an easy twelve tricks available in either red suit, so N/S +420 looked like a poor start for the Dutch. Could the legendary Meckwell, apparently playing together for the final time as part of the NICKELL team, capitalize?
Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nab | Rodwell | Drijver | Meckstroth |
| - | Pass | $2 \wedge$ | Dble |
| 4 | Dble | Pass | 5 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

If the pre-emptive efforts at the other table had made things difficult for the Dutch N/S pair, Bob Drijver's opening Two Spades (weak with spades and a minor) made things even tougher for Meckwell. N/S +420 here too and the scorecard remained blank. But both E/W pairs perhaps may anticipated that they might already be ahead.
We did not have to wait long for the next slam deal, and this time the respective N/S pairs both had the auction to themselves.

| Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - AKQ |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc$ A Q 7 |  |  |  |
| $\diamond$ AQ 975 |  |  |  |
| \% K 10 |  |  |  |
| ¢ 105 |  | N | ¢ 1832 |
| $\bigcirc$ K 1086 |  |  | $\bigcirc 95432$ |
| $\checkmark 83$ W $\quad$ E $\quad \checkmark 4$ |  |  |  |
| Q Q 876 | S |  | \% 532 |
|  | ¢9764 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 1$ |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ KJ 1062 |  |  |
|  | \& A 94 |  |  |
| Closed Room |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Nab | Rodwell | Drijver | Meckstroth |
| Pass | 18* | Pass | 2** |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3\% |
| Pass | 3 | Pass | 38 |
| Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ | Pass | 49 |
| Pass | 4NT | Pass | $6 \diamond$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Eric Rodwell began with a Strong (15+ HCP) One Club, and Jeff Meckstroth's Two Clubs was game-forcing with at least five diamonds. Alas, even the great Al Hollander was at a loss to explain the subsequent auction: we both thought Four Hearts would be RKCB for diamonds, but then the Four Spade response suggested not. Whatever happened, though, they failed to diagnose the true extent of the fit and stopped in the small slam with an easy thirteen tricks available: N/S + 1390.Would Tarzan Precision fare better?

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Levin | De Wijs | Weinstein | Muller |
| Pass | 1\% | Pass | 18 |
| Pass | 14* | Pass | 2®* |
| Pass | 24* | Pass | 2NT* |
| Pass | 3\%* | Pass | $3 \diamond *$ |
| Pass | 3)* | Pass | 3NT* |
| Pass | $7 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

You bet! After his initial Strong One Club opening, North simply relayed every time it was his turn. Muller showed a positive response with at least four spades (I®), four spades and $5+$ diamonds (2 $\vee$ ), short hearts (2NT) and precisely 4-I-5-3 shape (3 $\diamond$ ). North now asked for controls, and 3NT showed three (ace=two and king=one). As the partnership does not count a singleton king as a control, South was marked with the ca and the $\Delta K$, so Simon De Wijs was able to jump all the way from Three Notrump to Seven Diamonds. Most impressive! N/S +2I40 and first blood to the Dutch, ahead 13-0.
The Americans clawed their way back into the match with a series of small gains, and with five boards left they had
nudged ahead, 16-14. Then came another bidding test for N/S:

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

$$
\text { \& Q J } 4
$$

© KJIO
$\diamond$ K 65
\& KJ 5


Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Levin | De Wijs | Weinstein | Muller |
| Pass | 1\% | Pass | 18 |
| Pass | 14* | Pass | INT* |
| Pass | 2** | Pass | 2 $\square^{*}$ |
| Pass | 24* | Pass | 30* |
| Pass | $3{ }^{*}$ | Pass | 49* |
| Pass | $4 \diamond^{*}$ | Pass | 5\%* |
| Pass | 61 | All Pass |  |

Another Tarzan relay auction from De Wijs/Muller: South showed four or more spades (I®), longer hearts (INT), exactly $4 \Phi / 5 \vee(2 \vee)$ and $4-5-2-2$ shape (3\%). De Wijs now showed a minimum with Three Hearts, asking partner if he had extra values. Four Clubs said "Yes, at least 13 HCP and exactly five controls".
De Wijs now knew that they were off an ace and his Four Diamond was an 'honour scan', Muller bypassing each suit


Eric Rodwell, USA I
in which he held an honour. Five Clubs therefore confirmed honours in every suit except clubs. So, what did De Wijs know? \$Kxxx $\vee$ Axxxx $\diamond$ Ax ${ }^{2} x$ for a start, but also that his partner must hold at least one of the red queens to make up his $13+$ HCP. He could have asked again and passed Five Hearts when Muller denied holding the $\oslash \mathbf{Q}$, but he knew that Six Spades would be no worse than a club guess (if partner held the Q Q) or a heart guess (opposite the $\diamond$ Q), and would be cold opposite both. With the actual heart position, of course, there was no guessing to be done: N/S + 1430 .
Of course, Meckwell's famed constructive bidding is just as efficient, except...

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nab | Rodwell | Drijver | Meckstroth |
| $2 \boldsymbol{e}^{*}$ | $2 N T$ | Pass | $3 \boldsymbol{2}$ |
| Pass | $3 \boldsymbol{s}$ | Pass | $4 \boldsymbol{e}$ |

All Pass
Once again, the aggressive Dutch pre-emptive style put the cat seriously amongst the Meckwell pigeons. Bart Nab's Two Club opening was either strong and artificial or a weak two in diamonds. Perhaps Americans reading this are waiting for a third possibility, something that actually describes this West hand. Well, I have to tell them that this is the type of hand that passes for a first seat nonvulnerable weak two in parts of Europe, where weak twos are viewed as destructive rather than constructive weapons, and it is a style of which David Bird, my BBO VuGraph co-commentator, knows I wholly approve. It had certainly earned the Dutch two excellent boards in this match: N/S +7IO and 12 IMPs to NETHERLANDS, back ahead, 26-16.
The very next deal had plenty of potential too:

| Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | ¢ 108743 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ K Q 10973 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ - |  |
|  | $\text { 2 J } 4$ |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{K} \mathrm{~K} 92 \\ & >5 \end{aligned}$ | N | ¢ Q 65 |
|  |  | - J 6 |
| $\diamond 10876$ |  | $\checkmark$ AJ 42 |
| \% Q 1096 | S | \& $\mathrm{A} K 7$ |
|  | ¢ A |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 842 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K Q 95 |  |
|  | \& 8532 |  |

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nab | Rodwell | Drijver | Meckstroth |
| - | Pass | INT | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | $2 \diamond$ | Dble |
| $3 \diamond$ | $4 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |



Bob Drijver, Netherlands
Eric Rodwell passed as dealer, but backed in over East's One Notrump with a double, showing either a singlesuited hand with a minor or both majors. Drijver took the opportunity to introduce his five-card suit, allowing Meckstroth to show values via a double.West competed in diamonds but now Rodwell liked his hand enough to jump to game in his good six-card suit.
The defense began with three rounds of clubs. Declarer could have ensured ten tricks as long as trumps were 2-I by drawing trumps and conceding a diamond to the ace, setting up his tenth trick in the process. However, as the Dutch bidding had made it certain that spades would break 4-3 (who could possibly hold five?), Rodwell simply unblocked the $\Phi$ A and crossruffed spades and diamonds. Ruffing the fourth round of spades with the $\triangle \mathbf{A}$ established the 10 as a winner, and he finally drew trumps by playing dummy's last small trump to his remaining K-Q. N/S +650 could hardly be a poor result for the Americans on their combined I9-count, could it?
Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Levin | De Wijs | Weinstein | Muller |
| - | $3 \triangleleft$ | Dble | $4 \varnothing$ |
| $4 \varsigma$ | Pass | Pass | 5 |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

Of course, there was no question of the Dutch North passing in first seat: De Wijs opened with the 'obvious' Three Hearts and Muller raised to game over East's takeout double. Getting into the spirit of things, Bobby Levin ventured a somewhat adventurous Four Spades that
was booked for -800 on any lead. No doubt happy to have cajoled the opponents into a contract that they probably couldn't make, De Wijs passed quietly on the North cards. He need not have worried that the opponents might have escaped to somewhere safer, though: Five Diamonds doubled costs the same 800 as long as South opens with his singleton ace of spades.
Of course, Muller had no clue that spades were lying so disastrously for E/W, so his decision to press on to the fivelevel is quite understandable. Who knew who could make what? It is not obvious that Levin has quite the hand to express an opinion about the viability of his opponents' five-level venture, but had he not done so then surely Weinstein would have doubled it anyway.
After the same three rounds of clubs, it was possible on this auction that spades might be splitting 5-2. However, since it would be West who held the length declarer could still safely play on a crossruff, ruffing all four spade losers in dummy if necessary. Of course, then a trump switch at trick three would have beaten the contract, but with the spades 4-3 there was no winning defense. N/S +850 and another 5 IMPs to NETHERLANDS.
With three deals left, the Great Dealer still had time for one more devilish concoction:

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

- 7432
$\vee$ AJ 1072
$\diamond$ Q 62
$\%$
- J 1096

Q Q 843
$\triangleleft A K 85$

- A

- A 86
$\bigcirc 96$
$\checkmark$ J 10
\& K Q 8752

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nab | Rodwell | Drijver | Meckstroth |
| - | - | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond *$ | Pass | $3 \boldsymbol{e}$ |
| Pass | $3 N T$ | All Pass |  |

Jeff Meckstroth opened a Precision-style, natural and limited (II-I5 HCP) Two Clubs, and showed a minimum without a four-card major in response to his partner's Two Diamond inquiry. Despite the lack of fit, Rodwell was never going to pass Three Clubs and thus the unappetizing 3NT was duly reached.
Drijver led a diamond, covered by ten, queen and king. Rodwell unblocked the $\stackrel{\wedge}{\mathrm{A}}$, crossed to dummy with the $\diamond$ J, and cashed the 9 K to get the bad news in that suit. Now he decided that his only chance was subterfuge: he pitched a spade on the second club and played a heart to the queen. Winning with the 8 K , Drijver had an easy club exit now, and when Rodwell won and then returned to the well by playing a second heart, the roof fell in. That was three down: N/S -300.
Could the Dutch see through the Great Dealer's evil intentions? No, they reached the same game after an identical auction, and here too East led a diamond, covered all round. If declarer plays a spade at trick two, then things become much easier but, like Rodwell, De Wijs also unblocked the club, crossed in diamonds, and cashed a big club. Seeing the one remaining chance, though, De Wijs pitched a heart on the second round of clubs and played a low spade from dummy.
East won with the $\Phi \mathrm{K}$ but he knew the spade position, so he switched desperately to king and another heart. West won with the $\vee A$ and shifted back to diamonds but, remarkably, declarer had enough tricks now. N/S +600 and another II IMPs to NETHERLANDS.
NETHERLANDS won the match 42-20 (I4.88-4.I2 VPs) to move back into a mid-table position. More importantly, though, was the manner of their victory today. Many top teams will take note that here lies a very dangerous opponent, and one whom no team will relish facing when the pointy end of the competition rolls around.


## 3NT x 2

by Brian Senior
There were a couple of tricky 3NT contracts during the first day's play.

Round 2. Board 19. Dealer South. E/WVul.

and declarer can take his pick whether to play ace and another heart or a spade, as either will endplay West to give the ninth trick in the other major. The problem with the original line of play was that North had no spade left to lead in the ending so West could afford to keep heart winners and bare the A .
Across the four championships, a heart lead saw 3NT made six times and defeated 12 times. Of course, not every declarer will necessarily have had the same information from the auction as above.

Round 3. Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.


South was usually declarer in 3 NT , often after opening INT and via a Stayman sequence. Far more often than not, 3NT succeeded after a spade lead to the jack and queen. Declarer plays three rounds of diamonds, West winning the queen and, unless West now finds a challenging defence and declarer gets the position wrong, declarer comes to a ninth trick easily enough.
Trinidad and Tobago were well beaten in their Venice Cup match with England, but they picked up a IO IMP swing on this deal when their West player, Alana Xavier, won the third diamond and switched to the eight of hearts. Declarer played low from dummy so East, Deborah

Fletcher, won and switched to a spade. The spades were established before the ek could be knocked out. So down the contract went.
From the opening lead declarer can see that spades should be five-four, one-way round or the other, in which case the defence should always be able to both establish and cash out the suit. Declarer cannot afford to allow East to gain the lead, so has to hope that, if the club finesse loses, the heart position is one which does not permit the defence to cash three heart tricks. Declarer should rise with the ace of hearts and take the club finesse. On the actual layout the hearts are blocked so the contract is made. Lucky, maybe, but ducking the heart should never succeed if the club is offside.

## World Championship Book 2019 Pre-ordering

The official book of these World Championships in Wuhan will be out around April or May next year. It will comprise approximately 400 full colour large pages as in previous years.
Principal contributors will be Ron Klinger, Maurizio Di Sacco, Barry Rigal, Brian Senior and GeO Tislevoll.
The book will include many photographs, a full results service, and extensive coverage of the major championship events.
The official retail price will be US\$35 plus postage but you can pre-order while in Wuhan at the special price of US $\$ 30 / 200$ Yuan post free (surface mail). The books will be posted from England before your local retailer has a supply. The pre-order can be done in either of two ways:
I.Through Jan Swaan in the Press Room, which can be found opposite the bottom right-hand exit from the vugraph theatre.
2. By email from Brian Senior, the editor, and pay by PayPal.
The address is bsenior@hotmail.com


The Venice Cup team from Trinidad and Tobago


## Venice Cup RR - R3

## China v USA I

There are many wonderful bridge championships around the world, but who can doubt that the greatest of them all is now underway in Wuhan? Marc Smith and I took our seats to watch two of the world's finest women's teams face each other.As always, I will be concentrating on the big swings that arose. These are the deals where most can be learnt, also usually the ones with the best entertainment value.

| Board 3. Dealer South. E/WVul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - 3 |  |  |  |
| ค A 1063 |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark 10872$ |  |  |  |
| - AQJ8 |  |  |  |
| - K 854 | N |  | - J 9762 |
| PK8 | N |  | J 752 |
| $\checkmark$ Q 65 |  |  |  |
| 2 10753 | S |  |  |
| - A Q 10 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc 94$ |  |  |  |
| $\diamond$ AKJ 94 |  |  |  |
| ¢ 642 |  |  |  |
| Open Room |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Sanborn | Zuo | Levitina | Nan Wang |
| - | - | - | INT |
| Pass | 24 | Pass | $2 \checkmark$ |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass |  |

Nan Wang opened with a 13-15 point INT and ended in 3NT, Kerri Sanborn leading the 4 . Declarer won East's jack of spades with the queen and now needed to develop extra tricks from the minor suits. With an easy entry to dummy, she might have crossed for a finesse of the jack of diamonds. This would be an avoidance play to keep East, who could play spades effectively, off lead.
With no safe entry to dummy, Wang decided to play diamonds from the top. West won the third round (East discarding the $\vee 5$ and $\vee 2$ ) and switched to the $\triangle 8$. Declarer rose with the heart ace and played the ace and queen of clubs. East was in and the hearts were blocked. After a spade shift, declarer settled for the nine top tricks, not risking a finesse of the 8 .
Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Shen | Stansby | W FWang | Shi |
| - | - | - | INT |
| Pass | 29 | Pass | $2 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $32^{*}$ | Pass | 3 |
| Pass | 38 | Dble | $3 N T$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

JoAnna Stansby decided to investigate some game other than 3NT. This might well have been a good idea if competing in a Bridge World bidding challenge. It did not work out so well here. Wen Fei Wang was able to double $3 \bigcirc$ and her partner then led the king of hearts against 3NT. Sylvia Shi won with dummy's ace and led the $\diamond 10$ to her ace.
King and another diamond put West on lead and she continued with her last heart, after the $\vee 5$ discard from East. Wang won with the heart jack and switched to a spade. The queen of spades lost to the king and the next trick mirrored this action in clubs. That was one down and 9 IMPs to China.
No IMPs were exchanged on my next deal, but the bidding was worthy of note:

## Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.



Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sanborn | Zuo | Levitina | $N$ Wang |
| - | - | 28 | 3 |
| 38 | 31 | Pass | 4\% |
| Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ |
| Pass | 4 | Pass | $5 \diamond$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Even at favourable vulnerability, it would have been wild to overcall 4NT on the South cards. The defensive values outweigh the playing strength of the hand. Wang bid 3 . instead. West's $3 \checkmark$ was not invitational and North was just about worth her 3s bid. How should South interpret partner's return to $4 \diamond$ over $4 \AA$ ?
I don't see why it should be forcing. North might well have introduced spades, just in case there was a fit there (or South held a strong hand). Wang not only read $4 \diamond$ as forcing, she looked for a slam with a control-bid in hearts! Sanborn was so impressed with this dazzling display of strength that she omitted to double $5 \diamond$. Surely she should have doubled. She was looking at two trump tricks and had honor cards in every side suit, with her partner's weak $2 \nabla$
to come. The fortunate lie of the club suit allowed declarer to escape for two down.
Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Shen | Stansby | W FWang | Shi |
| - | - | $2 \diamond *$ | $4 N T$ |
| Pass | 5 | All Pass |  |

There was more cause to bid 4NT when East's multi had not revealed her major suit. Qi Shen did not hold a clearcut double on this auction. Wang led the ace of hearts to put the club game two down and no IMPs were exchanged.
On Board 9, for reasons that I make clear later, we will look only at the action from the Closed Room:


Shen bid a bold 3NT and South doubled, despite having no club stopper. Shen won the diamond lead, finessed the queen of clubs successfully and led a spade, South winning with the king. Diamonds were cleared and a second round


Xiaoxue Zuo, China
of clubs produced the glorious sight (Americans would choose a different adjective) of the club king from North. That was +950 to the China account.
What happened at the other table, you may wonder. Ah well, that causes me a slight problem. In a bulletin report for the World Junior championships recently, I expressed my dislike of low part-scores. I offered a reward of \$100 to any reader who ever found me reporting contracts of either INT or $2 \triangleleft$. I must therefore say merely that East did not overcall at the other table and North stopped in some part-score, going one down.

Board IO. Dealer East. All Vul.

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Q } 952 \\ & \diamond \text { Q } 1082 \\ & \diamond \text { A } 103 \\ & \& \text { K } 5 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\text { \& } 87$ | N |  | Q K 1043 |
|  |  |  | $\bigcirc 5$ |
|  |  | E $\diamond$ | $\checkmark 98654$ |
| \& A Q J 32 | S |  | \% 864 |
|  | , J 6 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AKJ97643 |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ - |  |  |
|  | \& 1097 |  |  |
| Open Room |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Sanborn | Zuo | Levitina | - N Wang |
| - - | - | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ |
| Dble | Pass | 44 | Pass |
| Pass | $5 \vee$ | All Pass |  |

West had an awkward decision whether to double or to bid 4NT. What action would you have taken? Marc Smith, my co-commentator, favoured 4NT. Probably that's right, but it's a close decision.
The heart game was cold and Irina Levitina did well to remove the double. The text-books claim 'A double of $4 \bigcirc$ should be prepared for spades.' It's easy to say that, but you also have to double on other very strong hands.
Four Spades on a 4-3 fit would not have played well, but Xiaoxue Zuo cannot be blamed for bidding 5 $\vee$, which had three top losers. Indeed, why should anyone wish to blame her when the king of diamonds was led and one of the spade losers went away. It was +650 for China.
Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Shen | Stansby | W F Wang | Shi |
| - | - | Pass | $4 』$ |
| Dble | Pass | $4 \uparrow$ | Pass |
| Pass | 5 | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

Shen's double looks an obvious move to me.As does her choice of lead, the king of diamonds. With dummy holding the diamond ace opposite declarer's void, Sanborn's second decision of the match not to double at the five-level
brought her a reward of 5 IMPs.
There has been precious little cardplay content in this report. Sorry about that, but I can't think that any reasonable reader will blame the poor writer for the boards that were dealt.
My last deal is... let me see.. ah, it's another bidding board.
Board I4. Dealer East. None Vul.
, AK IO 9653
$\bigcirc 7$
$\diamond$ Q 643
97

- J 2

คQJ965
$\diamond A 92$
986

$\bigcirc$ AK 82
$\diamond$ JIO 85
\& 10532

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Sanborn | Zuo | Levitina | N Wang |
| - | - | INT | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ | $3 s$ | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

INT showed I5-I7 points. Three Spades doubled cannot be beaten, since a diamond ruff will consume East's natural trump trick. Four Hearts would be only one down. So, who shall we blame for this awful minus 530 ?
West was arguably light for her double, it is true. However, it was East's decision to pass the double with three-card heart support that cost a barrel of IMPs. Her splendid club suit was likely to be useful in $4 \checkmark$ and might be worth little in defense against a spade contract. If West had been a bit stronger, 3s would have gone one down. Yes, but then $4 \checkmark$ might well have been a make.
Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Shen | Stansby | W F Wang | Shi |
| - | - | INT | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ | $3 @$ | All Pass |  |

The China East had no opportunity to display her excellent bidding judgement, because West did not re-open with a double. Does this imply that Shen showed better judgement than Sanborn at the other table? No, because the INT opening was two points lighter.
The match drew to a close with a score of China 38 USAI 8. It was a very well played session for the China team, who conceded only 8 IMPs to one of the best women's teams in the world. Well done to them!

## How to read your opponents' cards

by Povl Sommer (captain of the Danish mixed team)

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

- 87
$\bigcirc 86$
$\diamond K$ Q 10532
\& Q 72


| N | ¢ K 2 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K}$ |
| W E | $\checkmark 986$ |
| S | ¢KJ108543 |
| - QJ 953 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ QJ 1043 |  |
| $\checkmark$ J 7 |  |
| 96 |  |


| West | North |
| :--- | :--- |
| Krefeld |  |
| I | Pass |
| 2NT | Pass |


| East | South |
| :--- | :--- |
| Hammelev |  |
| 20 | 24 |
| 3NT | All Pass |

Whenever you make a bid, you 'write' a story for your opponents to 'read'. On this deal from the first round Denmark's Johan Hammelev sat West. His 2NT rebid showed around 15-17 HCP and partner, Camilla Bo Krefeld, duly raised to game.
North led the king of diamonds and South played the jack. Hammelev, of course, ducked, and North continued with the $\diamond \mathbf{Q}$ declarer's ace. Hammelev cashed the ace of clubs then paused for a couple of minutes to 'read' the cards. It was important to keep the dangerous North out, so he then played the nine of clubs to dummy's ten and claimed 12 tricks shortly thereafter.
At the other table, Henrik Caspersen also led the $\checkmark K$, and Stense Farholt signalled with the seven. He continued with the $\diamond 2$ to declarer's ace. Declarer didn't see anything better than trusting the old 'nine never' and played A and 99 to the king. That meant -2 and II IMPs to Denmark against Brazil.
In the Venice Cup, the Danish pair of Bilde/Rasmussen bid to the OK $6 \%$ in unopposed bidding and had no guideline to take the club finesse so were down. After any lead but a diamond, declarer might recover via a major-suit squeeze on South.


## Ron Tacchi

After two rounds, Scotland was exactly average with 20 VPs, Australia was less than half a victory point behind. Whilst the race is a marathon and not a sprint, a good start can deliver momentum and create self belief, whereas a poor beginning can sow the seeds of doubt and cause a loss of confidence. Thus, both teams would be eager to score well and launch themselves into the top half of the table.
The two Australian pairings are playing a strong no-trump with five-card majors and two-over-one.
For the Scottish, Liz McGowan and Fiona McQuaker play four-card majors with a weak no-trump, whereas Sam Punch and Paula Leslie favour five-card majors and a 14 -16 no-trump.
I shall deviate from the standard of showing the Open Room action prior to that of the Closed as throughout the match the Open Room was always behind, as much as three boards at one point. So my report is based on the timeline I actually witnessed.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

|  | $\pm$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| \& KJ763 |  | 4 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 983 |  | - $\quad$ - | 74 |
| $\diamond 3$ |  | E $\diamond$ | Q 4 |
| * K Q J |  | 9 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Closed Room |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| McQuaker | Ichilcik | McGowan | Kaplan |
| - | - | 18 | Pass |
| 2NT* | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |  |  |
| 2NT GF four | -card raise |  |  |

With the Scottish pair playing a weak no-trump and fourcard majors East's normal opening was $I \mathbb{\$}$. West showed her game going hand with four trumps and then had nothing further to say after East showed some extra strength.
South led the ten of diamonds, which declarer took with the ace. She played the ace of trumps and another, ensuring a maximum of one loser if the suit broke 4-I. South took the second round with her king and exited with her last trump. A small club towards dummy was ducked by South. Now a small spade from the table towards the queen lost
to the ace. South continued with a diamond, which allowed declarer to discard dummy's two clubs and thus bring home the contract with an overtrick.
Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Zets | Leslie | Mundell | Punch |
| - | - | INT | Pass |
| 20* | pass | 2 | Pass |
| 49* | Pass | $4 \diamond *$ | Pass |
| 49* | Pass | 5 | Pass |

$58 \quad$ All Pass
West made a Stayman response to the 15-I7 no-trump opening bid and when she learnt of the four-card heart suit opposite made a forward move by cue-bidding her club control, and naturally East showed her diamond control. Was West justified in pushing her side to the five-level? After all, it is an aceless collection and you will need a very special hand opposite to make a slam a good proposition. If partner has such a hand she might continue after a simple $4 \diamond$ over her $4 \diamond$. South was not going to go bed with one of her aces and the contract failed. II IMPs to Scotland.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

|  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| - A 4 |  |  | 1832 |
| $\bigcirc$ QJ 109 |  |  |  |
| $\diamond$ K Q 6 |  |  |  |
| \& K 982 |  |  | Q 1054 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 75 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Closed Room |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| McQuaker | Ichilcik | McGowan | Kaplan |
| - | Pass | $1 \%$ | Pass |
| 18 | Pass | 14 | Pass |
| $2 \diamond *$ | Pass | 29 | Pass |
| 3\% | Pass | 3)* | Pass |
| 34* | Pass | 49 | Pass |
| 49 | Pass | 4NT* | Pass |
| 5 ${ }^{*}$ | Pass | 6\% | All Pass |

There is always debate as to which suit to open when 55 in the black suits. It is very much a matter of partnership agreement; here the club suit (always natural, at least four cards) was the choice. By using a fourth-suit forcing bid and
then showing her club support West showed a strong hand. A cue-bidding/Blackwood sequence saw the slam bid. Not the world's finest but if the spade finesse works then it becomes odds on. As you can see the spade king was not well-placed for declarer and she failed by a trick.
Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Zets | Leslie | Mundell | Punch |
| - | Pass | $1{ }^{1}$ | Pass |
| 2** | Pass | 3 | Pass |
| 30 | Pass | 4\% | Pass |
| 49 | All Pass |  |  |

2\% GF, maybe artificial
In this room East elected to start with I 4 .After the gameforcing 2 response I am as ignorant as you as to the meaning of the $3 \triangleleft$ bid, the convention cards describes ongoing bids as 'mainly natural', I am confident that $3 \triangleleft$ is not natural (so probably splinter). The club fit was not located and the auction subsided into the major-suit game. After a diamond lead declarer was able to discard her losing heart and with the favourable lie of the trump suit made an overtrick. II IMPs to Australia.

## Board IO. Dealer East. All Vul.



Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| McQuaker | Ichilcik | McGowan | Kaplan |
| - | - | Pass | $4 \varnothing$ |
| Dble | Pass | $4 \varrho$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | Pass | Pass |
| 4NT* | Dble | $5 \diamond$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

Here we have a relative of the Biltcliff coup. If you are an avid reader of one of the other contributing journalists who writes regularly about the monks of St Titus in A New Bridge Magazine you will know he is a great fan of the Biltcliff coup. Basically, this is when a part-score could have been passed out but a protective bid propels the opposition into game which is doubled and then made. On this hand, North, who had obviously got a very good deal on a job lot of red cards, declined to leave the opponents in a failing contract but doubled, allowing them to escape
into a making contract, but doubled that as well.As to what relative this is, I am not sure but a great aunt seems to me to be a fitting suggestion.
Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Zets | Leslie | Mundell | Punch |
| - | - | Pass | $4 』$ |
| $4 N^{*}$ | Pass | $5 \diamond$ | All Pass |

Notice in this room that West decided to treat her hand as two-suited; if partner decides to bid spades it will almost certainly be at least a five-card suit. For this deal, however, it was a simple case of showing the diamond suit. The same eleven tricks were taken but 4 IMPs were lost.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.

- 103

『86542
KJ 83

- 73


Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| McQuaker | Ichilcik | McGowan | Kaplan |
| - | - | - | 19\% |
| Dble | 18 | 14 | 20 |
| 4** | Pass | $4{ }^{1}$ | All Pass |

4e splinter agreeing spades
After West doubled the opening 10 bid, North with her powerhouse showed her heart suit. This allowed East to freely admit to a spade suit. West had hopes of bigger things but East applied the brakes and the spade game became the final contract. With the spades breaking kindly and the queen of hearts dropping, declarer was not pushed to take II tricks.
Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Zets | Leslie | Mundell | Punch |
| - | - | - | 18* |
| Dble | Pass | 18 | 2\% |
| 3\% | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |  |  |
| 13. at |  |  |  |

Here North did not value her hand as highly as in the other room and quietly passed. Now East showed her heart suit and when South competed by repeating her
clubs West decided on a forcing 3 bid. It would not have been my choice; perhaps another double would have got across that she held diamonds and spades as she obviously could support hearts if she had them. The upshot was that East, with a club stopper, elected to try 3NT but West, not realising ten tricks were available in the NT game took out to $4 \bigcirc$.
South led the king of clubs taken in hand by the ace and the $\vee \mathrm{J}$ was covered by the queen and king. When East now took another round of trumps she was without resource. A simple count of tricks would have revealed that if two rounds of spades stand up and North has two clubs then a cross ruff will bring home ten tricks. Any other approach is doomed by the unkind trump split. A fortunate II IMPs to Scotland.

Board I3. Dealer North. All Vul.
4 63
$\bigcirc 975$
$\diamond$ J 642
\& Q 753

- J 7
$\bigcirc$ AK 8
$\diamond$ AK 983
- J 84


Avril Zets, Australia


Fiona Mc Quaker, Scotland Closed Room
West
McQuaker
-
INT
$2 \diamond^{*}$
$3 N T$

One of those hands with a combined 25 -count and no game makes. Notice that E/W do not play Smolen and when they bid their NT game I went away to watch the other table. I knew the contract must fail as not only there were just eight tricks but the lead was a club. Imagine my surprise when I came back and found that the contract had succeeded. North led her 3 . South won with the king and then switched to the king of spades. Declarer took the ace, cashed three rounds of diamonds and took her remaining heart tricks. On the fourth round, South discarded a club and now either a small spade or a club from dummy would give West her contract.
Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Zets | Leslie | Mundell | Punch |
| - | Pass | Pass | $1 \%$ |
| INT | Pass | $2 \mathbf{N}^{*}$ | Pass |
| $2 \diamond *$ | Pass | $3 \$^{*}$ | Pass |

The auction started in a similar fashion but here Smolen was available. A fatally flawed contract was reached where it would take a monumental effort to fail to defeat the contract. The defence did go slightly awry and only took it two off. An expensive error in the other room gave another 13 IMPs to Scotland.
On Board I5 both teams managed to bid a slam missing the ace and king of the trump suit. It will not surprise you to know that neither of them succeeded in their contract.
At the end of the match Scotland had won by 47-23 or I5.74-4.26 VPs. Scotland would sleep sounder in their beds and might enjoy a Tsingtao before retiring (other brands of Chinese beer are also available).

## American Nightmare <br> by Brian Senior

Two USA teams have reason to have nightmares about Board 22 of Round 4. To them, the action on the board reads like some kind of weird horror story, while to most neutrals it appears to be more a form of slapstick comedy.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/WVul.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 108 } \\
& \diamond \mathrm{J} 86 \\
& \diamond- \\
& \text { J } 10987642
\end{aligned}
$$

| ® $A K 954$¢ 1052 | N | - Q 763 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | N | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K} 9743$ |
| $\checkmark$ J 93 | W E | $\checkmark 1075$ |
| - 43 | S | * Q |
|  | - J 2 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A Q |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AK Q 8 |  |
|  | \& K 5 |  |

First, let's look at the action from USAI v Canada in the d'Orsi Bowl.
For the Americans, Gaylor Kasle opened the South hand with $3 N T$.That concluded the auction and E/W cashed the first six tricks for down two and -100. OK, that's not the best result in the world, but a lot of $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{Ss}$ went minus on the deal so no worries.
This was the auction from the other table:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Woolsey | Kirr | Bramley | Carruthers |
| - | - | Pass | 18 |
| $1{ }^{1}$ | Pass | 3 | $4 \checkmark$ |
| Pass | 59 | Pass | 5 |
| Pass | 68 | All Pass |  |

For Canada, John Carruthers opened with a strong club and Kit Woolsey overcalled 14. The pre-emptive raise bullied Carruthers into introducing his diamonds at the four level and Martin Kirr tried 5\%. Looking at what could well prove to be a solid suit, Carruthers repeated the diamonds and, looking at his own eight-card suit and a diamond void, Kirr 'corrected' to 6\%, at which point Carruthers gave up.
Now you or I or next door's cat would lead a top spade and down would go the contract, but Woolsey read something into the oppositions' auction which convinced him that something more imaginative was required. He led the three of clubs! And Carruthers wrote +920 on his scoresheet; 14 IMPs to Canada.
And so we move on to the Bermuda Bowl match between USA2 and the Netherlands. Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson must have been pretty happy with their result:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Hampson | $v$ Prooijen | Greco | Verhees |
| - | - | Pass | 18 |
| Is | Dble | 38 | $4\rangle$ |
| Pass | $5 \$$ | Pass | $5\rangle$ |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

One Club was strong and I believe that Verhees/van Prooijen reverse the normal meanings of Pass and Double such that the Double of ls showed a bad hand, Pass showing some values. Three Hearts was a fit jump and forced Louk Verhees to introduce his suit at the four level. Ricco van Prooijen tried $5 \%$, Verhees went back to diamonds, and Hampson doubled.
Hampson cashed the top spades then switched to ace and another club. Greco ruffed and played back the $\varphi \mathrm{Q}$, and Verhees could ruff and draw trumps but then had to concede a heart for down three and -500 . It would have been good to be a fly on the wall during the American scoring up: ‘Plus 500!’. 'Fourteen away.' 'What!'
This was the auction in the other room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| de Wijs | Fleisher | Muller | Martel |
| - | - | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 30 | Pass | 3NT |
| Pass | 5\% | Pass | 5 |
| Pass | 6\% | Pass | $7 \diamond$ |
| Dble | 78 | Dble | 7NT |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

Chip Martel judged 2NT to be the least bad option with the South cards and Marty Fleisher responded 3s, either clubs or both minors. Martel rebid 3NT and Fleisher jumped to $5 \%$. That looks to be to play, but there was a suggestion that Fleisher had shown both minors, and that Keycard was involved at some point - presumably $5 \diamond$, and 6\% would then have shown two with the trump queen, which would explain the jump to $7 \diamond$. All rather weird anyway. A case of both being fluent, but in different languages.
Simon de Wijs was pretty confident that $7 \diamond$ wasn't making so expressed that opinion via a double, and now Fleisher, assuming that to be based on trump tricks, ran to 78 . Bauke Muller knew what to do to that, and Martel ran to 7NT. DeWijs was even more confident that this grand slam was not making so doubled again, and there was nowhere left to run. That was a cool -1400 and 14 IMPs to the Netherlands.
So, my question is, which of the featured American players will be having the worst nightmares tonight?


## Brian Senior

Matches between geographical neighbours always seem to have that little added spice, so for Monday's morning match I decided to watch the Bermuda Bowl match between Bangladesh and India, both of whom had had moderate opening days, lying 14th and 19th respectively.
India struck first, scoring 3 IMPs on the opening deal of the day by defeating partscores at both tables for a pair of +50 s . The first major swing, however, went in favour of Bangladesh.

Board I8. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

- J 82

Q QJ 742
$\diamond$ J 1092
\& 8


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ahasan | Bhattacharjee | Chowdhury | Santra |
| - | - | Pass | 18 |
| Dble | 3 | 34 | 48 |
| 4 | All Pass |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Tewari | Rahman | Anklesaria | Kamruzzaman |
| - | - | Pass | 18 |
| I | 48 | 4 | All Pass |

Do you double or overcall with the West cards? The different choices made by our two Wests led to the same contract being reached but from different sides of the table and, crucially, different opening leads.
For Bangladesh, Mohammed Ahasan doubled and Mohammad Chowdhury bid the spades over Aniruddha Bhattacharjee's pre-emptive heart raise so became declarer in 41 from the East seat. Dipak Santra made the natural lead of a top heart but that was ruffed and Chowdhury led a spade to the queen and ace, won the club return in hand and played a second spade to the king.Next, he came back to hand with a club to lead a diamond up and Santra simplified things by rising with the ace. There was the d to be lost but that was all; +420 .
In the other room, Rajeshwar Tewari overcalled Is and Keyzad bid 4s over Mohammed Rahman' 48 raise. With Tewari as declarer, the singleton club was on lead and Rahman duly led it. Tewari won with dummy's ace and led
a spade up. Though that caught the bare ace so that there was only one trump loser by force, Tewari was soon defeated as Kamruzzaman gave his partner a club ruff, was put back in with the ace of diamonds, and gave him a second ruff; down one for -50 and IO IMPs to Bangladesh.
On Board 19, Santra treated:

- 85
©AJIO854
$\diamond 542$
- K 8
as a weak two bid while Kamruzzamma opened a level higher. The natural continuations from there saw Santra's opponents play in 34, Kamruzzaman's a level higher, and both made eight tricks for down one and two respectively. Kamruzzaman's enterprising opening therefore gained 3 IMPs for Bangladesh, increasing the lead to I3-3.
Bangladesh picked up a couple of overtrick IMPs on Board 21 but India recouped those on the next deal:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\text { Q } 186$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ - |  |
|  | \& J 10987642 |  |
| - AK 954 | N | - Q 763 |
| $\bigcirc 1052$ |  | QK9743 |
| $\checkmark 193$ |  | $\checkmark 1075$ |
| - A 3 | S | * Q |
|  | - J 2 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A Q |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AK |  |
|  | * K 5 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ahasan | Bhattacharjee | Chowdhury | Santra |
| - | - | Pass | $2 N T$ |
| Pass | $3 \boldsymbol{e}$ | Pass | $4 \boldsymbol{e}$ |
| Pass | $5 \boldsymbol{e}$ | All Pass |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Tewari | Rahman | Anklesaria | Kamruzzaman |
| - | - | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

No doubt that South hand was dealt with in several different ways around the room. Kamruzzaman's choice was to open a strong and artificial 2 then punt 3 NT and hope to have nine running tricks with just a little help from dummy. Rahman trusted his partner and did not attempt to play in his own eight-card suit, so 3NT it was. Alas, Tewari had an easy spade lead. He started with the ace, collecting and encouraging three from partner, so continued with
king and another, and the defence had the first six tricks; down two for -100.
Santra tried a $2 N T$ opening. The 3 response showed a single-suited minor hand and Santra replied with $4 \%$, when presumably he had the option of bidding 3NT, because he would have been worried about the spade situation. Bhattacharjee raised to $5 \%$ and, once again, the defence was not unduly challenged to take its winners. Here, however, there were just two top spades and the trump ace to lose, so Santra was down one for -50 and 2 IMPs to India, closing a little to 5-I5.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

| $$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Q Q } 6 \\ & \& \text { A Q } 1053 \\ & \diamond \text { Q } 32 \\ & \text { K } 62 \end{aligned}$ | 㖪 | ¢ 1942$\bigcirc 94$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\checkmark$ K 7 |  |
|  |  | \& AQJ93 |  |
|  | - 3 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 8762$ |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ J 10965 |  |  |
|  | +1087 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Ahasan | Bhattacharjee | Chowdhury | Santra |
| 18 | 14 | 20 | Pass |
| 3\% | $3{ }^{1}$ | Dble | Pass |
| 4* | All Pass |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Tewari | Rahman | Anklesaria | Kamruzzaman |
| 18 | 19 | Dble | Pass |
| INT | Pass | 2NT | All Pass |

Both Wests opened I $\vee$ and both Norths overcalled IS. Now, Keyzad Anklesaria doubled then raised Tewari's INT response to 2NT but Tewari declined the invitation. Rahman led the eight of spades, Tewari calling for dummy's nine, which held the trick. Tewari cashed five rounds of clubs then led a spade to the queen and king. Rahman played ace and another spade, establishing one extra winner for himself, won Tewari's next play of a diamond, and cashed the spade. Tewari had the last two tricks for nine in all and +150 .
Chowdhury bid his clubs over the overcall and Ahasan supported him. When Bhattacharjee now rebid hid spades Chowdhury doubled, which looks as though it at least suggested taking a penalty, but if so it was not read that way by Ahasan, who removed it to $4 \%$, where he played.
Three Spades doubled would not have been much fun to play, while $4 \%$ appeared to have four unavoidable losers. However...
Bhattacharjee led three rounds of spades, Santra ruffing and being over-ruffed. Chowdhury drew trumps then played the $\triangleleft K$ and Bhattacharjee found a reason to duck it. I'm not sure what that reason could be, particularly as his
partner's discard at trick two had been the $\diamond$ J, and his play came back to bite him. Chowdhury cashed the rest of the clubs then the jack of spades, and Bhattacharjee had to come down to $\vee \mathrm{KJ} \diamond \mathrm{A}$. Chowdhury played a diamond to the queen and ace, and the lead round to dummy's $\ulcorner A Q$ gave the contract; +I30 and just I IMP to India when it could have been five.

| Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - K 9 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc 107$ |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ J 107652 |  |  |  |
| - Q 95 |  |  |  |
| - A Q 3 | N |  | 7542 |
| PJ963 | W E $\stackrel{\ominus}{\diamond}$ |  | 8542 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \vee 98 \\ & * \int 1086 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
|  | 5 - |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ K 43 |  |  |
|  | \& K 7432 |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Ahasan | Bhattacharjee | Chowdhury | Santra |
| - | Pass | $1{ }_{1}$ | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 38 | Pass |
| 3 | All Pass |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Tewari | Rahman | Anklesaria | Kamruzzaman |
| - | Pass | $1{ }^{1}$ | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 38 | Pass |
| 48 | All Pass |  |  |

Getting a simple raise from partner, both Easts made a 38 game try. Ahasan, with neither a top heart honour nor heart shortage, judged to sign off in 34, while Tewari, with decent values and four-card heart support, raised to $4 \checkmark$ to offer a choice of games.
Santra led the six of spades against 34, costing his side a trump trick as Chowdhury could play low from dummy, losing to the king. Back came the ten of hearts. Chowdhury won the ace, cashed the ace and queen of spades, then played a second heart. Santra won that and led a diamond round to declarer's ace-queen so that was II tricks for +200 .
Kamruzzaman led a club against $4 \checkmark$. That went to the two, nine and ace. Anklesaria played ace and another heart to Kamruzzaman's king. To keep the defence in the game, Kamruzzaman needed to play another club, leaving declarer to take some losing finesses. In practice, however, he led away from the king of diamonds and that was the fourth defensive trick gone. Anklesaria lost two spades but that was all; +620 and 9 IMPs to India.
That levelled the match at 16-16. Bangladesh picked up two single-IMP swings for overtricks over the last three deals to sneak the win by 18-16 IMPs, converting to 10.6I9.39 VPs. Bangladesh moved up one place to 13 th, while

## RESULTS

## Bermuda Bowl

| ROUnd 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Match | IMPs |  | VPs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| RUSSIA | CHILE | 42 | 45 | 9.09 | 10.91 |  |  |  |  |  |
| POLAND | ARGENTINA | 25 | 26 | 9.69 | 8.31 |  |  |  |  |  |
| NORWAY | EGYPT | 53 | 21 | 17.03 | 2.97 |  |  |  |  |  |
| USA I | GUADELOUPE | 32 | 25 | 12.03 | 7.97 |  |  |  |  |  |
| NEW ZEALAND | ENGLAND | 19 | 41 | 4.62 | 15.38 |  |  |  |  |  |
| SWEDEN | AUSTRALIA | 17 | 6 | 13.04 | 6.96 |  |  |  |  |  |
| INDONESIA | MOROCCO | 70 | 36 | 17.31 | 2.69 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ISRAEL | ITALY | 38 | 30 | 12.29 | 7.71 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CHINA HONG KONG | CHINA | 29 | 67 | 2.15 | 17.85 |  |  |  |  |  |
| INDIA | BANGLADESH | 16 | 18 | 9.39 | 10.61 |  |  |  |  |  |
| NETHERLANDS | USA 2 | 30 | 26 | 11.20 | 8.80 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CANADA | SINGAPORE | 47 | 14 | 17.17 | 2.83 |  |  |  |  |  |


| Round 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| NORWAY | CHILE | 49 | 59 | 7.20 | 12.80 |
| NEW ZEALAND | RUSSIA | 8 | 54 | 1.23 | 18.77 |
| SWEDEN | ITALY | 40 | 35 | 11.48 | 8.52 |
| CHINA HONG KONG | GUADELOUPE | 48 | 15 | 17.17 | 2.83 |
| USA I | POLAND | 37 | 16 | 15.19 | 4.81 |
| ISRAEL | USA 2 | 37 | 37 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| AUSTRALIA | MOROCCO | 66 | 12 | 19.52 | 0.48 |
| NETHERLANDS | INDIA | 36 | 23 | 13.52 | 6.48 |
| CHINA | EGYPT | 43 | 37 | 11.76 | 8.24 |
| SINGAPORE | BANGLADESH | 36 | 29 | 12.03 | 7.97 |
| INDONESIA | CANADA | 56 | 11 | 18.66 | 1.34 |
| ARGENTINA | ENGLAND | 27 | 34 | 7.97 | 12.03 |


| ROUnd 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Match |  | IMPs | VPs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CHILE | NEW ZEALAND | 58 | 24 | 17.31 | 2.69 |  |  |  |  |  |
| SWEDEN | POLAND | 44 | 23 | 15.19 | 4.81 |  |  |  |  |  |
| USA I | USA 2 | 57 | 10 | 18.87 | 1.13 |  |  |  |  |  |
| GUADELOUPE | NETHERLANDS | 18 | 62 | 1.45 | 18.55 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ISRAEL | NORWAY | 28 | 43 | 6.03 | 13.97 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CHINA HONG KONG | INDIA | 56 | 19 | 17.72 | 2.28 |  |  |  |  |  |
| MOROCCO | ITALY | 8 | 48 | 1.91 | 18.09 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CHINA | CANADA | 44 | 31 | 13.52 | 6.48 |  |  |  |  |  |
| INDONESIA | AUSTRALIA | 17 | 11 | 11.76 | 8.24 |  |  |  |  |  |
| BANGLADESH | ARGENTINA | 36 | 29 | 12.03 | 7.97 |  |  |  |  |  |
| EGYPT | SINGAPORE | 42 | 22 | 15.00 | 5.00 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ENGLAND | RUSSIA | 84 | 23 | 20.00 | 0.00 |  |  |  |  |  |

Venice Cup

| ROUnd 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Match | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| ENGLAND | TUNISIA | 40 | 4 | 17.59 | 2.41 |
| FRANCE | INDIA | 29 | 35 | 8.24 | 11.76 |
| BRAZIL | USA 2 | 17 | 25 | 7.71 | 12.29 |
| AUSTRALIA | CHINESE TAIPEI | 12 | 68 | 0.31 | 19.69 |
| SWEDEN | RUSSIA | 31 | 38 | 7.97 | 12.03 |
| DENMARK | SOUTH AFRICA | 45 | 44 | 10.31 | 9.69 |
| NORWAY | NEW ZEALAND | 32 | 31 | 10.31 | 9.69 |
| JAPAN | PAKISTAN | 35 | 14 | 15.19 | 4.81 |
| CHINA | TRINIDAD \& TOBAGO 66 | 11 | 19.61 | 0.39 |  |
| SCOTLAND | POLAND | 11 | 9 | 10.61 | 9.39 |
| USA I | NETHERLANDS | 14 | 43 | 3.42 | 16.58 |
| CANADA | CHINA HONG KONG | 53 | 7 | 18.77 | 1.23 |


| Round 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| RUSSIA | TUNISIA | 47 | 21 | 16.09 | 3.91 |
| JAPAN | AUSTRALIA | 40 | 20 | 15.00 | 5.00 |
| CHINA | BRAZIL | 49 | 13 | 17.59 | 2.41 |
| SCOTLAND | CHINESE TAIPEI | 39 | 14 | 15.92 | 4.08 |
| INDIA | POLAND | 9 | 47 | 2.15 | 17.85 |
| USA 2 | SOUTH AFRICA | 54 | 12 | 18.33 | 1.67 |
| CANADA | USA I | 30 | 42 | 6.72 | 13.28 |
| NETHERLANDS | PAKISTAN | 43 | 14 | 16.58 | 3.42 |
| FRANCE | TRINIDAD \& TOBAGO | 42 | 20 | 15.38 | 4.62 |
| ENGLAND | NORWAY | 43 | 21 | 15.38 | 4.62 |
| DENMARK | NEW ZEALAND | 46 | 33 | 13.52 | 6.48 |
| SWEDEN | CHINA HONG KONG | 45 | 35 | 12.80 | 7.20 |



| National Teams: | Monday 9th March - Friday 13th March <br> Registration: Monday 9th March @ 12h30-13h30 <br>  <br> Playing Times: Starts Monday 9th @ 14h00 - Ends Friday 13th @ 12h30 <br> Entry Fee: R4000.00 per Team |
| :--- | :--- |
| National Pairs: $\quad$Friday 13th March - Monday 16th March <br> Playing Times: Starts Friday 13th @ 14h00 - Ends Monday 16th @ 14h00 <br>  <br> Entry Fee: R1200.00 per Pair |  |
| Venue: | The Italian Club, Milnerton, Cape Town |

Many claim that Cape Town is the most beautiful city in the world. But apart from its magnificent setting and rich historical background, it offers warm weather, beautiful beaches, outstanding restaurants and food, world class hotels and golf courses, wonderful vineyards and much more. So why not play international level bridge and then explore the many attractions this city and its environs offer?

# d＇Orsi Trophy 

| ROUnd 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Match | IMPs |  | VPs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FRANCE | USA 2 | 60 | 4 | 19.69 | 0.31 |  |  |  |  |  |
| INDONESIA | NETHERLANDS | 12 | 84 | 0.00 | 20.00 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ENGLAND | REUNION | 31 | 31 | 10.00 | 10.00 |  |  |  |  |  |
| SWEDEN | DENMARK | 32 | 14 | 14.60 | 5.40 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ITALY | UAE | 55 | 23 | 17.03 | 1.97 |  |  |  |  |  |
| IRELAND | INDIA | 26 | 31 | 8.52 | 11.48 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CHINA | JAPAN | 11 | 30 | 5.20 | 14.80 |  |  |  |  |  |
| BULGARIA | CHINA HONG KONG 22 | 39 | 5.61 | 14.39 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| POLAND | NORWAY | 33 | 21 | 13.28 | 6.72 |  |  |  |  |  |
| USA I | CANADA | 42 | 28 | 13.75 | 6.25 |  |  |  |  |  |
| NEW ZEALAND | AUSTRALIA | 17 | 30 | 6.48 | 13.52 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CHINESE TAIPEI | TURKEY | 29 | 58 | 3.42 | 16.58 |  |  |  |  |  |


| Round 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| POLAND | USA 2 | 17 | 29 | 6.72 | 13.28 |
| USA I | NETHERLANDS | 31 | 14 | 14.39 | 5.61 |
| AUSTRALIA | REUNION | 50 | 21 | 16.58 | 3.42 |
| CANADA | DENMARK | 25 | 58 | 2.83 | 17.17 |
| NORWAY | UAE | 46 | 21 | 15.92 | 4.08 |
| CHINA HONG KONG | INDIA | 14 | 22 | 7.71 | 12.29 |
| NEW ZEALAND | JAPAN | 31 | 55 | 4.26 | 15.74 |
| CHINESE TAIPEI | BULGARIA | 35 | 23 | 13.28 | 6.72 |
| TURKEY | CHINA | 50 | 17 | 17.17 | 2.83 |
| FRANCE | IRELAND | 31 | 26 | 11.48 | 8.52 |
| INDONESIA | ITALY | 42 | 20 | 15.38 | 4.62 |
| ENGLAND | SWEDEN | 45 | 22 | 15.56 | 4.44 |


| Round 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| CHINA | USA 2 | 24 | 27 | 9.09 | 10.91 |
| BULGARIA | NETHERLANDS | 15 | 47 | 2.97 | 17.03 |
| POLAND | REUNION | 31 | 27 | 11.20 | 8.80 |
| USA I | DENMARK | 17 | 37 | 5.00 | 15.00 |
| AUSTRALIA | UAE | 60 | 29 | 16.88 | 3.12 |
| CANADA | INDIA | 39 | 47 | 7.71 | 12.29 |
| NORWAY | JAPAN | 33 | 34 | 9.69 | 10.31 |
| NEW ZEALAND | CHINA HONG KONG | 26 | 55 | 3.42 | 16.58 |
| CHINESE TAIPEI | IRELAND | 66 | 5 | 20.00 | 0.00 |
| TURKEY | ITALY | 50 | 33 | 14.39 | 5.61 |
| FRANCE | SWEDEN | 39 | 28 | 13.04 | 6.96 |
| INDONESIA | ENGLAND | 13 | 18 | 8.52 | 11.48 |

## Mixed

| Round 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| CHINESE TAIPEI | RUSSIA | 29 | 23 | 11.76 | 8.24 |
| ENGLAND | MOROCCO | 82 | 1 | 20.00 | 0.00 |
| SWEDEN | INDONESIA | 21 | 45 | 4.26 | 15.74 |
| ITALY | DENMARK | 16 | 13 | 10.91 | 9.09 |
| POLAND | INDIA | 62 | I | 20.00 | 0.00 |
| EGYPT | LATVIA | 19 | 58 | 2.03 | 17.97 |
| PAKISTAN | BRAZIL | 1 | 63 | 0.00 | 19.00 |
| THAILAND | CANADA | 18 | 33 | 6.03 | 13.97 |
| AUSTRALIA | ROMANIA | 13 | 51 | 2.15 | 17.85 |
| NEW ZEALAND | USA 2 | 38 | 34 | 11.20 | 8.80 |
| FRANCE | CHINA | 45 | 17 | 16.42 | 3.58 |
| BARBADOS | USA I | 20 | 38 | 5.40 | 14.60 |


| Round 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| CHINESE TAIPEI | POLAND | 18 | 42 | 4.26 | 15.74 |
| ENGLAND | ITALY | 44 | 19 | 15.92 | 4.08 |
| SWEDEN | RUSSIA | 69 | 12 | 19.77 | 0.23 |
| INDONESIA | MOROCCO | 60 | 6 | 19.52 | 0.48 |
| EGYPT | DENMARK | 39 | 42 | 9.09 | 10.91 |
| PAKISTAN | INDIA | 17 | 49 | 2.97 | 17.03 |
| THAILAND | LATVIA | 22 | 42 | 5.00 | 15.00 |
| AUSTRALIA | BRAZIL | 25 | 34 | 7.45 | 12.55 |
| NEW ZEALAND | CANADA | 21 | 26 | 8.52 | 11.48 |
| FRANCE | ROMANIA | 25 | 35 | 7.20 | 12.80 |
| BARBADOS | USA 2 | 16 | 56 | 1.91 | 18.09 |
| CHINA | USA I | 43 | 12 | 16.88 | 3.12 |


| Round 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| DENMARK | CHINESE TAIPEI | 41 | 41 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| INDIA | ENGLAND | 23 | 23 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| LATVIA | SWEDEN | 53 | 28 | 15.92 | 4.08 |
| BRAZIL | INDONESIA | 22 | 28 | 8.24 | 11.76 |
| CANADA | MOROCCO | 18 | 13 | 11.48 | 8.52 |
| ROMANIA | RUSSIA | 17 | 37 | 5.00 | 15.00 |
| USA 2 | ITALY | 28 | 36 | 7.71 | 12.29 |
| CHINA | POLAND | 59 | 18 | 18.21 | 1.79 |
| BARBADOS | EGYPT | 52 | 17 | 17.45 | 2.55 |
| FRANCE | PAKISTAN | 47 | 8 | 17.97 | 2.03 |
| NEW ZEALAND | THAILAND | 36 | 33 | 10.91 | 9.09 |
| USA I | AUSTRALIA | 28 | 6 | 15.38 | 4.62 |

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