

Issue No. 4

Wednesday, 18th September 2019

MOVIN' ON UP

Today's Programme

Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Trophy, Mixed

10.00 - 12.20

13.30 - 15.50

16.30 - 18.50

BB BB BB VC VC SD SD MX MX VC VC	10.00 Round 10 Sweden - USA1 China - Israel Netherlands - Chile Indonesia - England England - France USA2 - Norway Denmark - England USA2 - Turkey Italy - France Indonesia - USA2 Japan - China India - Tunisia	VG/BBO I BBO 2 BBO 3 BBO 4 BBO 5 BBO 6 BBO 7 BBO 8 BBO 9 BBO 10 BBO 11 BBO 12
BB BB BB VC VC BB VC MX SD MX	I3.30 Round II England - Israel Russia - Norway Chile - Italy China - USA2 Netherlands - Japan China - Indonesia England - Sweden Denmark - Poland Australia - USA2 USA2 - France	VG/BBO I BBO 2 BBO 3 BBO 4 BBO 5 BBO 6 BBO 7 BBO 8 BBO 9
SD SD	Chinese Taipei - USA I Indonesia - China	BBO 11 BBO 12

BB	USAI - Italy	VG/BBO I
BB	Norway - England	BBO 2
BB	Sweden - Russia	BBO 3
BB	Chile - Poland	BBO 4
٧C	Poland- Sweden	BBO 5
MX	USA2 - China	BBO 6
٧C	Scotland - Canada	BBO 7
SD	New Zealand - Norway	BBO 8
MX	USAI - Morocco	BBO 9
SD	Canada - China HK	BBO 10
MX	Egypt - Chinese Taipei	BBO 11
BB	New Zealand - Australia	BBO 12

16.30 Round 12





The World Bridge Federation Executive Council hard at work during the 44th World Team Championships at the Convention Centre in Wuhan.

At the start of play in the teams events on Tuesday, the Nick Nickell team -**USA I** – was sitting in fourth place in the Bermuda Bowl, 12.74 victory points out of first. After nine rounds, Nickell was sitting on top of the heap, having won eight of nine matches by an average margin of 30.375 IMPs, helping the team to a total of 134.58 VPs, just ahead of Sweden, in second with 132.78 VPs.

USA I was not the only team at the championships with a good showing on Tuesday. In the Venice Cup, China held onto their lead, ending the day with 130.80 VPs. Poland is second, 4.2 VPs behind, having moved up from third place.

In the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, Denmark, in third at the start of play on Tuesday, lost their first match but won seven of the next eight to take the lead. In the Mixed Teams, England maintained their lead, with USA 2 in second, having moved up from sixth.

There are 14 rounds of play remaining in each of the four competitions. Each team in the different categories is striving to finish in the top eight of their bracket, thereby qualifying for the knockout rounds, starting with the quarter-finals.

WBF Systems Committee Meeting

There will be a meeting of the WBF Systems Committee in the WBF Meeting Room (4th floor of the Convention Centre) at 10.15 am on Thursday 19th September.

Members who are unable to be present may be represented by proxy. The meeting is expected to take about one hour.

John Wignall, Chairman

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Convention Cards

If you want to check out a Convention Card this link will be useful: http://championships.worldbridge.org/wuhanwt19/faq/the-registered-convention-cards

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Possible computer virus ...

A notification that a new version of i-tunes is available may appear on your computer. On clicking on it, the Anti-Virus program warned that it did not have a correct signature and was likely to be a virus (normally a new version would install without any problems). We recommend that you do not try and install it if it comes through but wait until you return home then check for updates yourself.



Bermuda Bowl After Round 9

	TEAM	VP
-1	USA I	134.58
2	SWEDEN	132.78
3	ENGLAND	123.41
4	NETHERLANDS	122.74
5	ITALY	117.42
6	CHINA	117.04
7	ISRAEL	107.61
8	CHILE	107.39
9	NORWAY	104.85
10	AUSTRALIA	102.82
П	RUSSIA	94.49
12	POLAND	92.53
13	INDONESIA	91.11
14	CHINA HONG KONG	87.6
15	INDIA	85.03
16	USA 2	81.54
17	CANADA	80.81
18	BANGLADESH	75.81
19	ARGENTINA	67.03
20	EGYPT	65.72
21	SINGAPORE	65.55
22	NEW ZEALAND	64.24
23	GUADELOUPE	18.19
24	MOROCCO	15.71

Election at the WBF Executive Council

During the 44th World Team Championships, held in Wuhan, the WBF Executive Council elected Jan Kamras – EBL President and WBF Member – as WBF Honorary Secretary.



Congratulations from the WBF Family.

Championship offer

The new dealing machines that are [only] used during the championships will be sold at the end for **EUR 2299**. Price incl. aluminium carrying case and five years warranty. Cards and boards are also sold at special prices. Shipping at subsidised rates from Sweden. See the Duplimate stand or email anna@jannersten.com



Venice Cup After Round 9

VP **TEAM** 130.80 I CHINA 2 POLAND 126.60 3 ENGLAND 116.79 4 NORWAY 113.47 5 NETHERLANDS 109.37 6 SCOTLAND 108.65 7 USA I 108.50 8 JAPAN 107.49 9 SWEDEN 106.57 10 CANADA 105.21 II RUSSIA 100.79 12 FRANCE 100.40 13 NEW ZEALAND 96.24 14 USA 2 94.45 15 CHINESE TAIPEI 92.27 16 DENMARK 88.77 17 BRAZIL 75.06 18 AUSTRALIA 66.70 19 CHINA HONG KONG 66.65 20 INDIA 62.43 21 PAKISTAN 62.37 22 SOUTH AFRICA 42.82 23 TUNISIA 37.37 24 TRINIDAD & TOBAGO 36.48

d'Orsi Trophy After Round 9

	TEAM	VP
-	DENMARK	129.34
2	TURKEY	121.47
3	CHINESE TAIPEI	121.23
4	INDIA	116.28
5	NETHERLANDS	115.21
6	ENGLAND	109.25
7	FRANCE	108.46
8	USA 2	106.97
9	CHINA	101.65
10	SWEDEN	95.73
Π	CHINA HONG KONG	93.54
12	USA I	92.56
13	AUSTRALIA	91.86
14	ITALY	87.46
15	POLAND	83.70
16	CANADA	81.51
17	INDONESIA	80.14
18	NORWAY	74.93
19	IRELAND	71.96
20	JAPAN	68.58
21	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	59.04
22	REUNION	58.62
23	BULGARIA	51.28
24	NEW ZEALAND	35.48

Mixed After Round 9

	Alter Round	7
	TEAM	VP
-1	ENGLAND	129.19
2	USA 2	118.87
3	FRANCE	116.81
4	LATVIA	116.37
5	ROMANIA	115.69
6	RUSSIA	114.38
7	CHINA	111.38
8	USA I	107.09
9	INDONESIA	101.65
10	ITALY	99.05
Π	POLAND	95.81
12	DENMARK	95.62
13	SWEDEN	88.26
14	CANADA	83.78
15	CHINESE TAIPEI	81.77
16	AUSTRALIA	78.83
17	NEW ZEALAND	74.31
18	THAILAND	72.77
19	INDIA	72.59
20	EGYPT	66.22
21	BRAZIL	65.16
22	BARBADOS	64.00
23	MOROCCO	63.01
24	PAKISTAN	25.39



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To play in these fun, enjoyable Robot Tournaments, just go to: https://www.funbridge.com and download their application.

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.

MIO MII MI2

Bermuda Bowl

10.00	- 12.20
NETHERLANDS	CHILE
CHINA	ISRAEL
INDONESIA	ENGLAND
ITALY	GUADELOUPE
EGYPT	CHINA HONG KONG
AUSTRALIA	RUSSIA
ARGENTINA	MOROCCO
USA 2	POLAND
INDIA	SINGAPORE
NEW ZEALAND	BANGLADESH
CANADA	NORWAY
SWEDEN	USA I

13.30 - 15.50	
CHILE	ITALY
USA 2	EGYPT
INDIA	SWEDEN
GUADELOUPE	ARGENTINA
CANADA	AUSTRALIA
SINGAPORE	USA I
MOROCCO	NEW ZEALAND
ENGLAND	ISRAEL
RUSSIA	NORWAY
BANGLADESH	NETHERLANDS
POLAND	CHINA HONG KONG
CHINA	INDONESIA

16.30 - 18.50	
CHILE	POLAND
NORWAY	ENGLAND
NEW ZEALAND	AUSTRALIA
GUADELOUPE	ISRAEL
SWEDEN	RUSSIA
USA I	ITALY
MOROCCO	EGYPT
CHINA HONG KONG	USA 2
NETHERLANDS	INDONESIA
BANGLADESH	CANADA
CHINA	INDIA
SINGAPORE	ARGENTINA

Venice Cup

10.00 - 12.20	
INDIA	TUNISIA
USA 2	NORWAY
USA I	NEW ZEALAND
CANADA	CHINESE TAIPEI
POLAND	AUSTRALIA
NETHERLANDS	SOUTH AFRICA
ENGLAND	FRANCE
BRAZIL	PAKISTAN
DENMARK	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
SWEDEN	SCOTLAND
JAPAN	CHINA
RUSSIA	CHINA HONG KONG
RUSSIA	CHINA HONG KON

13.30 - 15.50	
CANADA	TUNISIA
USA I	RUSSIA
NETHERLANDS	JAPAN
POLAND	CHINESE TAIPEI
ENGLAND	SWEDEN
FRANCE	SOUTH AFRICA
AUSTRALIA	BRAZIL
DENMARK	PAKISTAN
NEW ZEALAND	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
NORWAY	INDIA
CHINA	USA 2
SCOTLAND	CHINA HONG KONG
11.0	. — •

16	5.30 - 18.50
NORWAY	TUNISIA
NEW ZEALAND	ENGLAND
JAPAN	FRANCE
RUSSIA	CHINESE TAIPEI
SCOTLAND	CANADA
CHINA	SOUTH AFRICA
INDIA	USA 2
USA I	PAKISTAN
NETHERLANDS	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
POLAND	SWEDEN
BRAZIL	DENMARK
AUSTRALIA	CHINA HONG KONG

d'Orsi Trophy

10.00 - 12.20			
USA 2	TURKEY		
NETHERLANDS	FRANCE		
REUNION	INDONESIA		
DENMARK	ENGLAND		
UAE	SWEDEN		
INDIA	ITALY		
JAPAN	IRELAND		
CHINA HONG KONG	CHINA		
NORWAY	BULGARIA		
CANADA	POLAND		
AUSTRALIA	USA I		
CHINESE TAIPEI	NEW ZEALAND		

13.30 - 15.50			
AUSTRALIA	USA 2		
CANADA	NETHERLANDS		
NORWAY	REUNION		
CHINA HONG KONG	DENMARK		
JAPAN	UAE		
NEW ZEALAND	INDIA		
CHINESE TAIPEI	USA I		
TURKEY	POLAND		
FRANCE	BULGARIA		
INDONESIA	CHINA		
ENGLAND	IRELAND		
SWEDEN	ITALY		
	_		

16.30 - 18.50			
ITALY	USA 2		
IRELAND	NETHERLANDS		
CHINA	REUNION		
BULGARIA	DENMARK		
POLAND	UAE		
USA I	INDIA		
AUSTRALIA	JAPAN		
CANADA	CHINA HONG KONG		
NEW ZEALAND	NORWAY		
CHINESE TAIPEI	SWEDEN		
TURKEY	ENGLAND		
FRANCE	INDONESIA		

Mixed

10.00 - 12.20			
CHINESE TAIPEI	BRAZIL		
ENGLAND	CANADA		
SWEDEN	ROMANIA		
INDONESIA	USA 2		
MOROCCO	CHINA		
RUSSIA	BARBADOS		
ITALY	FRANCE		
POLAND	NEW ZEALAND		
EGYPT	AUSTRALIA		
PAKISTAN	THAILAND		
LATVIA	DENMARK		
INDIA	USA I		

	13.30 - 15.50
ITALY	CHINESE TAIPEI
RUSSIA	ENGLAND
MOROCCO	SWEDEN
USA I	INDONESIA
DENMARK	POLAND
INDIA	EGYPT
LATVIA	PAKISTAN
BRAZIL	THAILAND
CANADA	AUSTRALIA
ROMANIA	NEW ZEALAND
USA 2	FRANCE
CHINA	BARBADOS

16.30 - 18.50			
EGYPT	CHINESE TAIPEI		
POLAND	ENGLAND		
ITALY	SWEDEN		
RUSSIA	INDONESIA		
USA I	MOROCCO		
DENMARK	PAKISTAN		
INDIA	THAILAND		
LATVIA	AUSTRALIA		
BRAZIL	NEW ZEALAND		
CANADA	FRANCE		
ROMANIA	BARBADOS		
USA 2	CHINA		

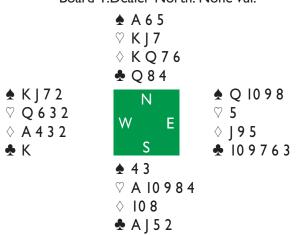
Martin Cantor

Bermuda Bowl RR - R5

Sweden v Italy

I was expecting a tough and hopefully exciting match between Sweden in second place and eighth placed Italy. I wasn't disappointed, with a total of 76 IMPs changing hands. Before we get to the deals, we should offer all good wishes for a speedy recovery to Italy's Agustin Madala, absent through a severe virus illness, and we note that this has meant Italy playing four-handed for at least the first two days. The match started with a bang, with the first of six double-digit swings.

Board I.Dealer North. None Vul.



In both rooms North declared 4% after a transfer sequence. And in both rooms East led the \$10, which helped both declarers to put up the ace and drop the kingleton. Nice for the first trick of the match. Bocchi now played a heart to the king and ran the jack, which West took to underlead his diamond ace. East had discarded the ♣7 at trick three - perhaps suggesting a spade shift? Declarer put up the king, drew the rest of the trumps and played another diamond, ducked again, and claimed his ten tricks.

In the open room, in what to me seemed an odd line, Upmark cashed the ace and king of trumps, East discarding



Johan Upmark, Sweden

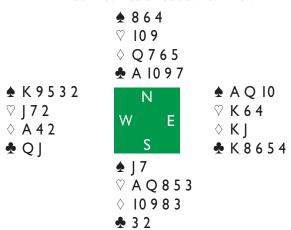


Mikael Rimstedt, Sweden

the \clubsuit 6. He then led the \lozenge 0, taken by West's ace, and the ♠7 went to the 6, 8 and 3, leaving East on lead to give his partner a club ruff. The spade and trump winners made four for the defence and Italy had the first 10 IMPs.

Two boards later the Rimstedt twins landed in a better game contract than Lauria/Versace, and the resulting 12 IMPs put Sweden into the lead for the first time.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

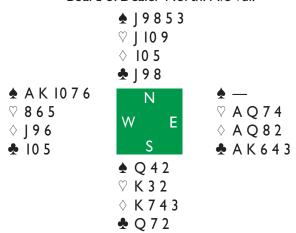


In the open room the Italians had the auction to themselves. After three passes Lauria opened INT, Versace transferred then offered a choice of games with 3NT and Lauria chose the 5-3 fit. Nystrom found the club lead to partner's ace, and the heart switch saw the defence take the first four tricks for one down. In the closed room Sementa opened a systemic 2%, possibly a five card suit not vulnerable. Mikael Rimstedt in East protected with 2NT, his brother bid 3♣ forcing 3♦, followed by 3NT choice of games, and there it ended (thanks as ever to Al Hollander for elucidating the auction). On a heart lead declarer has

nine tricks with the diamond finesse working, but has to be sure to rise with the $\heartsuit J$ at trick one else he doesn't have the communications. At the table South led the $\diamondsuit 10$ so nine tricks were easy.

We had to wait just another two boards for the next big swing.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



In the closed room, the auction was (relatively) simple.

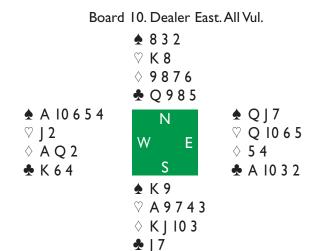
West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Bocchi	M Rimstedt	Sementa
_	Pass	I ♣	Pass
I ♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♡*	Pass	3NT*	All Pass

After the natural reverse, 2% asked for more information and (thanks again to Al) 3NT showed 0445. After the revealing auction South led a spade, taken in dummy for the \$\\ \Delta 10\$ covered and ducked. A heart switch would have been challenging but the spade continuation was taken in dummy, declarer discarding his small heart. The diamond finesse lost, but with the 3-3 club break, dummy's spades were good enough to hold the defence to four tricks and 400 for E/W. In the other room the auction was anything but simple. To the surprise of all the commentators and kibitzers, and the delight of the Swedish fans, the enormously experienced Italians got themselves in a horrible muddle in an unopposed auction:

West	North	East	South
Versace	Upmark	Lauria	Nystrom
_	Pass	♣	Pass
I♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♡*	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	6♡	Dble
6NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

When the wheel-less car finally came to a halt the Swedish fans were licking their lips, and almost choked with delight when the VuGraph operator scored it as six down for 18 IMPs. Shortly afterwards corrected to two down for 'only' 12 IMPs.

Moving swiftly on, the next big swing came because of a difference in hand evaluation, or maybe aggression, combined with luck:



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Upmark	Lauria	Nystrom
_	_	Pass	IŸ
♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Bocchi	M Rimstedt	Sementa
_	_	Pass	Ι♡
I♠	Pass	2♡*	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

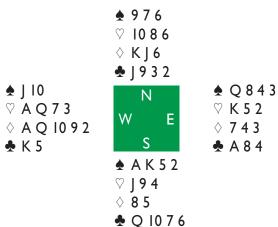
With both the spade and diamond finesses right ten tricks are always there - even if the defence get their heart ruff, as they did at the table after the $\heartsuit K$ lead, it simply sets up a heart discard to take care of the losing club. Are the E/W hands good enough to bid a vulnerable game, potentially gaining 10 against losing 7? Barring anything extreme, you will make if both finesses are right, or if one is right and the defence don't lead a club. I leave the statistics experts to calculate, but the Swedes were now leading 37-14.

The Italians staged a late rally.



Alfredo Versace, Italy





The auction in the closed room put East on play, and gave South a lot of information to help choose the killing lead.

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Bocchi	M Rimstedt	Sementa
_	_	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	I♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2◊*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The 2♣ and 2♦ bids were Gazzilli. I can't explain the others but according to Al South knew East's shape pretty exactly. The final contract was normal enough, but after the lead of the ♣6 declarer had little choice but to play on diamonds, and when they were both wrong he was two tricks short.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Upmark	Lauria	Nystrom
_	_	Pass	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♡	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

We don't know whether East's sequence promised four spades, but that was the suit that Upmark chose to lead and, fatally, it was the \$9. South took that to switch to a club, and now Versace disappeared into a deep tank. Six top tricks, and his options were basically: a) play on spades for two more tricks, with a ninth coming from hearts breaking 3-3 and falling back on the diamond finesse if not; or b) play on diamonds for four tricks if either finesse is right. Again I'll let the statisticians figure the odds, but he decided to try to improve his 'guess' by taking trick 3 in hand and playing the $\heartsuit Q$. There was a fair chance that the opponents would give an honest count signal on that card, but his long pause would have made them suspicious. North and South both played low hearts and after another, shorter, pause, Versace played on spades, making with two spades, four hearts, one diamond and two clubs. I I IMPs. (Alfredo commentated later, that his line was influenced by needing a swing, plus his hope to endplay North if he had begun with eg. 2443 shape.) And finally:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

In the open room Lauria/Versace bid

West	North	East	South
Versace	Upmark	Lauria	Nystrom
_	_	_	Pass
♣	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4◊*	Pass	4♡	All Pass

2♣ weak 6 card major or 5+ card major invitational or better

2♠ Pass or correct if weak 6 card major, so invitational in hearts

2NT both majors

3♣ hearts

4♣ control

40 control and made eleven tricks, +450.

This was the auction in the closed room:

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Bocchi	M Rimstedt	Sementa
_	_	_	Pass
♣	Pass	I 🛇	Pass
INT	Pass	2♡*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♠*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5◊*	Pass
6♡	All Pass		

2♥ forces 2♠, forcing to game with 4+♠ & 5+♥

3♠ 5+♠ & 6+♡

4♣ sets hearts

4♠ control

5♦ 0 or 3 keycards

After a diamond lead, there was no way to avoid losing two spades, or a spade and a trump, giving Italy another I I IMPs and a final score of 40-36 to Sweden.





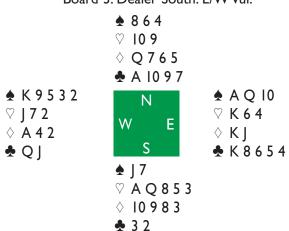
Bermuda Bowl RR - R5

USA I v Poland

At the start of this 5th round, Poland and USA I were next to each other in the standings, just a little over average in 10th and 11th. So, whoever could score a big win would rise into next week's quarter-final zone, only for the time being, as there will be 18 matches to go after this one.

An extra undertrick to Poland and a better partscore to USA I had given the latter a 5-2 lead when the first more substantial board arrived.

Board 3. Dealer South, E/W Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Buras	S Weinstein	Narkiewicz	R Levin
_	_	_	Pass
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
2♡*	Pass	2♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

With nothing to guide him, Levin as South led the \$10 to give declarer a relatively easy ride to 10 tricks. Poland +620.



Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Poland

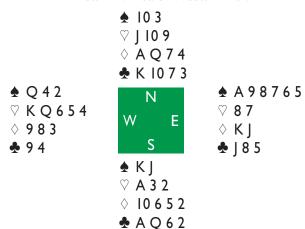
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Nowosadzki	Nickell	Kalita
_	_	_	2♡*
Pass	2♠*	2NT	Pass
3◊	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

At favourable vulnerability, Kalita could open his twosuiter though it was only 5-4. North's 2♠ was pass or correct but E/W did well to still reach a sensible contract. When South led an inspired ♣2 (Polish low from doubleton), North could win his ace and play a heart. The ensuing ruff put the contract one down for another +100 and 12 IMPs to Poland.

The next Board:

Board 4. Dealer West, All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Buras	S Weinstein	Narkiewicz	R Levin
Pass	Pass	I♠	Dble
2♠	$Dble^*$	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

South found an aggressive double at maybe his only turn to speak and was duly rewarded when one of his minors proved a very playable spot. Declarer, Steve Weinstein, just made his contract on the $\heartsuit 7$ lead to West's queen. USA I +110. On this lead, declarer correctly placed all missing high-cards points outside hearts with East, thus making the right decisions in both diamonds and spades.

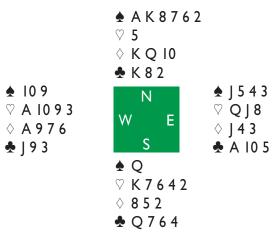
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Nowosadzki	Nickell	Kalita
Pass	Pass	I 🏚	Pass
2▲	All Pass		

No action from N/S and no defence for N/S, so 24, too, iust made for another +110 and 6 IMPs to USA 1.

After a number of very quiet boards, we were served lively enough final stages. This was Board 11.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.



The disadvantage of a Strong Club system or its equivalent was highlighted. For USA I, Weinstein, North, could rebid a simple 2♠ over partner's INT response and played there for +110. For Poland, Nowosadzki had to rebid 3♠, which proved one too many. USA I another +50 and 4 IMPs for systemic reasons.

A much bigger swing occurred on the next board.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

Doard 1	Z. Dealer VV	C3C. 14/5 Val.
	♠ A 5 3 ♥ Q 6 4 3 ♦ 9 6 3 ♣ 10 8 5	
♠ KJ8764 ♡ AK5 ◇ A82 ♣ 9	N W E S ◆ 10 9 ♥ J 10 9 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ◆ K 7 6 3	♠ Q 2 ♥ 8 7 ♦ K Q J 7 ♣ A Q J 4 2



Nick Nickell, USA I

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Buras	S Weinstein	Narkiewicz	R Levin
I♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

When West showed his heart stopper by bidding 3NT, East had nowhere to go. Twelve tricks on a heart lead, Poland +490.

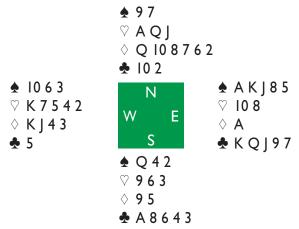
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Nowosadzki	Nickell	Kalita
I♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3◊	Pass
3♡*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4♡	Pass
4NT	Pass	5◊	Pass
5♡	Pass	6♠	All Pass

For USA I, Katz gave his partner one more chance by introducing the 4th suit. A bit of spade support was all he needed and when he got it, reaching the slam was suddenly easy. USA I +980 and I0 IMPs to them.

The next board was an intriguing defensive problem.

Board 13. Dealer North, All Vul.



In both rooms, the simple auction had been the same:

West	North	East	South
Buras	S Weinstein	Narkiewicz	R Levin
Katz	Nowosadzki	Nickell	Kalita
_	Pass	I♠	Pass
2♠	3♦	4♠	All Pass

Now what should you do as N/S to get your four tricks to beat 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)? The answer, for a change, is obvious: "Lead your partner's suit!"

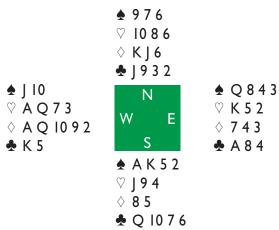
Declarer wins his blank $\Diamond A$ and cannot do anything because dummy is out of reach, making an immediate heart pitch impossible. Levin for USA I led a diamond and collected +100 when declarer continued a top club.

At the other table, Kalita was too eager. He did well to lead the ♣A but upon seeing partner's ♣10, he did not

know what to do next. When he continued with a diamond, declarer had access to dummy for a heart pitch and scored +620, good for 12 more IMPs to USA 1.

Then came:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



In the Closed Room, the Americans had gone down two in 3NT on a club lead, a normal enough result. In the Open Room, the Polish declarer was offered a remote chance when he got the lead of the \$9. Elsewhere in these Bulletins, you will no doubt find how some other declarers made 3NT on this lead but when Buras simply took the percentage play of the double diamond finesse, he too was down two after all, for no swing. Needless to say that South won the \$K\$ and returned a club at trick two.

The final score thus became 37-16 or 15.19-4.81 VPs to USA I who thus rose to 6th in the standings.



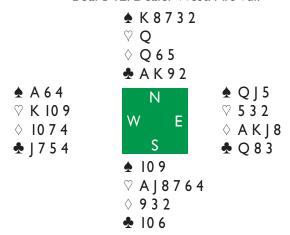
Ralph Katz, USA I

Experts v Non-Experts

by Ercan Cem, Turkey

This deal from Bermuda Bowl RR I is a simple but beautiful example of how experts solve certain defensive problems so naturally, almost without effort.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Greco	Lauria	Hampson	Versace
Pass	l 🏚	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♡*
All Pass			

2 V Less than 8 HCP.

2 ♥ by South, Lead: ♦4

Reluctant to lead away from his honors, Greco led a passive third-best diamond four against South's Two-Heart contract. Hampson won with the jack and switched to hearts, hoping to find partner with an honour higher than dummy's queen. Greco won and, without losing a beat, cashed the ace of spades and went back to diamonds. A fourth diamond from East promoted West's trump holding.

Points of interest: After the diamond lead, a non-expert East would often be tempted to cash his diamonds without looking ahead; and a non-expert West would often "rush" to play back a diamond, again, without looking ahead. To see why cashing the spade ace is crucial, imagine South with a singleton spade and queen of clubs (or seven hearts and doubleton in clubs). In this scenario, South simply makes the routine loser-on-loser play and discards his losing spade on the fourth round of diamonds.

(Greco/Hampson would not make anybody's short list of world's fastest pair, yet the whole deal took them about ten seconds to sort things out.)

A final point of interest: At eleven tables the contract was Two Hearts played by South, and at six of them the contract was made.



Bermuda Bowl RR - R6

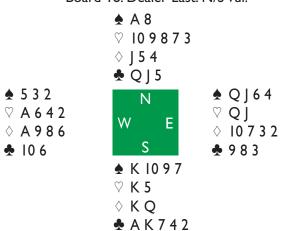
USA I v USA 2



There is a mistaken general opinion that Monday mornings are dull. Not when you can watch the two top USA teams facing each other in the Bermuda Bowl! Neither had made particularly impressive starts, as it happens, but Marc Smith and I were hoping for some great action.

Normally the biggest firework is saved until last. Not in this match...

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Rodwell	Lall	Meckstroth
_	_	Pass	♣*
ΙŸ	Dble	2♡	Dble
All Pass			

When the $I\heartsuit$ bid appeared from West, the voice commentators quickly explained that it had actually been made by North. "Don't worry, the VG operator will soon correct matters with an Undo." East raised to 20 on a



Justin Lall, USA 2

doubleton and the puzzled kibitzers waited in vain for further explanation.

Moss and Lall had been 'speeding' against the strong I♣ and were unlucky indeed to have been caught by two of the toughest cops in the business.

Eric Rodwell led the $\heartsuit 7$ and must have been surprised to see that dummy's shortest suit was in trumps. Jeff Meckstroth covered dummy's \heartsuit with the king and was allowed to hold the trick. He returned a second trump to dummy's queen, and declarer played a low spade to South's **♠**9.

After the ♣K and a club to the jack, Rodwell returned the ♥8 to declarer's ♥A. Ace and another diamond put South on lead, and he returned a spade to North's ace. Rodwell drew declarer's last trump and that was +1100. Declarer had made only two trumps and the $\Diamond A$.

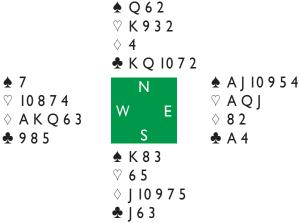
Brad Moss and Justin Lall were left hoping that no unsympathetic bulletin reporter was in attendance.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Fleisher	Levin	Martel
_	_	Pass	۱ 💠
Pass	I ♦	Pass	INT
Pass	2◊*	Pass	2♡
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Chip Martel racked up an easy +600. 'Nothing much to that one,' he may have said, but it was II IMPs to USA I. After I presented five bidding boards in my Venice Cup report yesterday, you will be relieved to hear that we will now see a cardplay deal.

Board 20. Dealer West, All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Rodwell	Lall	Meckstroth
Pass	Pass	I♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		



Jeff Meckstroth, USA I

Meckstroth led the \heartsuit 6 to partner's \heartsuit 2 and East's queen. Declarer has an easy make by playing the ace and jack of trumps next. He preferred to lead the \diamondsuit 8 to the ace, followed by a trump to the jack and king. When Meckstroth gave his partner a diamond ruff, it seemed that a club switch would doom the contract. Surely declarer would then lose a club and a heart?

Rodwell duly switched to the \clubsuit K, won with the ace. Those who employ the GIB button offered by BBO were amazed to see that declarer still had a route to ten tricks. Since there was no entry left to the dummy, this could only be achieved by some rather unusual squeeze.

Slowly but surely, we began to see what might happen. If Rodwell kept the $\clubsuit Q$ and $\heartsuit K9$, he would be thrown in with a club to give declarer two more heart tricks. If instead he discarded the $\clubsuit Q$, South could not win the second round of clubs with the jack, without conceding a third-round trick to the dummy's $\clubsuit 9!$

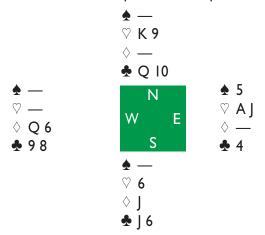
Lall did play off his trump suit, but his first discard from dummy was a card that he could not afford – the $\clubsuit 8$. When the remaining trumps were played, Rodwell had to find one more discard to find from $\heartsuit K9 \clubsuit Q10$.

The play record is incomplete, sadly, but the game was scored as one down. The heart situation was entirely clear after the opening lead, so declarer would surely guess right after exiting to North's bare ♣Q. It is therefore fair to assume that Rodwell avoided the endplay by discarding the ♣Q. South would then win the club exit with the jack. His ♣6 would then be the setting trick, after declarer's previous club discard from dummy. It was +100 for USA 1.

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Fleisher	Levin	Martel
Pass	Pass	I♠	Pass
INT	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Martel led the \$10, which seemed possibly more threatening than the heart lead at the other table. Bobby

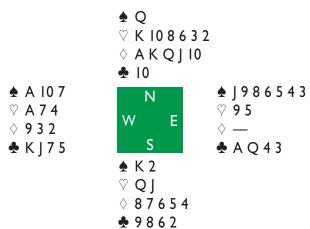
Levin won in dummy and finessed the $\triangledown Q$ successfully. He continued with the ace and nine of trumps to South's king, throwing a heart from dummy. North ruffed a second round of diamonds with the $\clubsuit Q$ and exited with the $\clubsuit K$ to the ace. Because Levin had retained dummy's clubs, the defenders had no escape in this end position:



On the last trump the $\lozenge 6$ was thrown from dummy. North discarded the $\clubsuit 10$ and was then endplayed to concede the last two tricks in hearts. Discarding the $\clubsuit Q$ would have been no good, as you see. It was another 12 IMPs to USA 1.

There was some interesting competitive bidding on the next deal:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Rodwell	Lall	Meckstroth
_	I 🛇	3♠	Pass
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	5◊
Dble	All Pass		

It would be poor tactics to upgrade the North hand to a Precision I popening, rather than make a start to showing the distribution. The E/W cards fit wonderfully well and West would have hit the jackpot if he had raised to 4. When he passed, Rodwell announced his two-suiter.

Moss bid 4♠ now, where eleven tricks are available, and we wondered if Meckstroth could find the red-against-white sacrifice. Yes, he could! It was an impressive display of

Closed Room

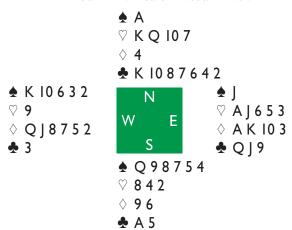
trust in his partner. The cost was only 200 for one down doubled.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Fleisher	Levin	Martel
_	I♡	3♠	Pass
4♠	5◊	All Pass	

Steve Weinstein found the raise to the spade game, but Martin Fleisher could not be shut out with his splendid two-suiter. The contract was not doubled at this table, so USA 2 collected 3 IMPs.

Board 24. Dealer West, All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Rodwell	Lall	Meckstroth
Pass	2♣	2♡	2♠
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

The Precision 2♣ opening worked well for the USA I pair. Although E/W can make a bundle of tricks in diamonds, it's difficult to see how they could compete on this auction. Rodwell lost two hearts, a diamond and a trump, picking up +110.

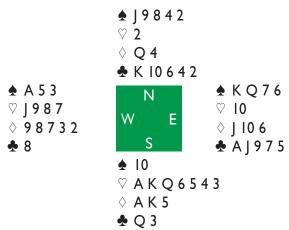
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Fleisher	Levin	Martel
Pass	♣	100	2♡*
Pass	2♠	Dble	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	5◊	All Pass

Over an opening of just $1 \clubsuit$, there was more space for E/W. Even so, it was a fine effort to reach the diamond game. Weinstein won the $\heartsuit K$ lead with dummy's ace. He then led the $\spadesuit J$, judging to run this to North's ace. He won the trump switch with the $\lozenge 8$ and ruffed three spade losers in the dummy. He could then draw the last trump and score his $\spadesuit K$. It was a very pleasing +400, and 11 IMPs for USA 1.

On my next deal, Meckstroth found a play that is so often missed during tournaments on BBO, despite it being pointed out every time by an elderly, although admittedly very learned, voice commentator.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Rodwell	Lall	Meckstroth
_	Pass	♣	4♡
All Pass			

Moss led the ♣8 and Lall won with the ace. What will happen next if declarer follows with the ♣3? Knowing that the opening lead is a singleton, East will give his partner a club ruff. What's more, he will lead a high club (the ♣9). This is a suit preference signal suggesting a spade return. West will underlead the ♠A, East winning with the ♠Q, and a third round of clubs will promote West's ♥J into the setting trick

That is not what happened at the table. Meckstroth followed with the ΦQ at trick one. Since his remaining card was lower that the $\Phi 8$ opening lead, it was possible in East's eyes that the lead was from a doubleton. He switched to the ΦK , killing his entry card, and the game could no longer be defeated.

So much for the 'That would never fool anyone!' merchants, who decline to make this deceptive play. It was +620 for USA 1.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Fleisher	Levin	Martel
_	Pass	♣	4♣*
Pass	4 ♡	All Pass	

Martel's $4\clubsuit$ showed a strong $4\heartsuit$ overcall. The heart game was then played by North, making it a near impossibility for Levin to find the $\clubsuit A$ lead. He preferred the $\spadesuit K$ and no IMPs were exchanged.

USA I won the match by 57 IMPs to 10, moving up the table into fourth place. USA 2 accelerated in the opposite direction, ending in 20th place out of 24.



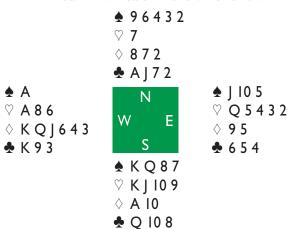


Venice Cup RR - R6 Poland v England

Ron Tacchi

After five rounds England is lying second, with Poland also in the top eight in seventh position some 13 VPs behind. Neither team will want to give up ground. The English pairs play five-card majors with a 15-17 NT, whereas, surprisingly, the two Polish pairs play Polish Club.

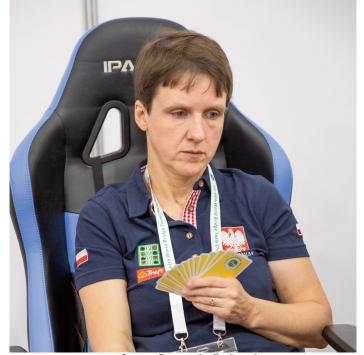
Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wiseman	Dufrat	Smith	Zmuda
_	Pass	Pass	INT
3◊	All Pass		

West favoured the direct approach of bidding her suit and showing her strength, a natural constructive bid. North and East had nothing further to add and declarer took her seven tricks to finish two off.



Anna Sarniak, Poland



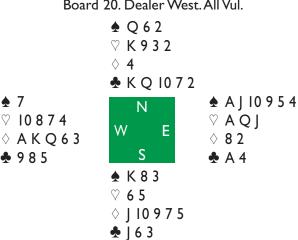
Danuta Kazmucha, Poland

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kazmucha	Senior	Sarniak	Dhondy
_	Pass	Pass	INT
Dble	2♡*	Pass	2♠
3♦	Pass	4♡	All Pass

At this table West preferred to start with a double which according to the convention card showed a 5+minor and a 4+ major, (maybe one of her diamonds got lost in the heart suit). When N/S showed spades, East assumed her partner had a heart suit and tried for the heart game, this was not a success and was fortunate to escape a double and to fail by only three tricks; however, that equated to two IMPs out.

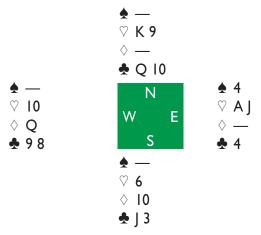
Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wiseman	Dufrat	Smith	Zmuda
Pass	Pass	I♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♡*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South made her natural lead of the \lozenge J taken in dummy with the ace. A successful heart finesse followed. Then declarer tackled trumps by starting with the ace and then the nine, discarding a heart from dummy. South took her king and exited with a diamond to dummy's king, which North trumped with her $\clubsuit Q$. She switched to the king of clubs won by declarer in hand. She now continued to cash her trumps and reached this position:



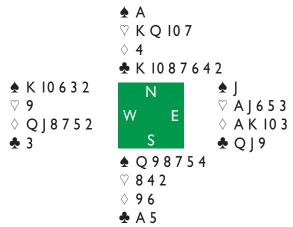
When declarer led the last trump, South discarded her heart. What should declarer throw from dummy? It is known that North still has the king and another heart and thus two clubs. If they are the QJ then an endplay is certain. If North has unblocked one of the Φ QJ10 so that South can win a club exit and now discards the Φ Q, the second club in dummy would be good were South to rise with the Φ J, and South would have to concede the last two tricks to dummy. After an agonising pause (well, agonising for England supporters) declarer parted with a club and North correctly discarded her queen. Now when declarer exited with a club South rose with the jack and could then cash the three to defeat the contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kazmucha	Senior	Sarniak	Dhondy
Pass	Pass	I♠	Pass
INT	Pass	3♠	Pass
4	All Pass		

Play in this room started similarly but on the second round of trumps declarer erred in discarding one of those important little clubs from dummy. Again, North ruffed the diamond continuation from South and then suddenly BBO says 'ten tricks claimed'. It implies that North switched to a heart which seems unlikely, but whatever actually happened it was 12 IMPs to Poland.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wiseman	Dufrat	Smith	Zmuda
Pass	2♣*	2♡	2♠
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

2♣ Polish 2♣, either 6+♣ or 5♣ and 4+major

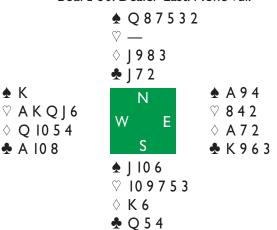
The English West had no club in her bag to make a descriptive opening bid and so passed, allowing North to open a Polish 2. When East showed her heart suit, it was difficult for West to mention her diamonds as she had no fit for partner's suit and South's spade raise did not help her cause. The upshot was that N/S played in a club part-score successfully taking nine tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kazmucha	Senior	Sarniak	Dhondy
2♠	3♣	3◊	Pass
5◊	All Pass		

Kazmucha's 2♠ showed 5+♠ and a 4+minor, and whilst North made an interjection East could freely mention her diamonds and it was no great feat of imagination for West to raise to game which duly rolled home on the crossruff. That was 11 IMPs to Poland.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wiseman	Dufrat	Smith	Zmuda
_	_	Pass	Pass
Ι♡	2♠	2NT*	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

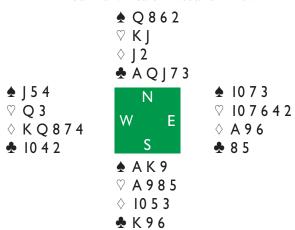
East's 2NT obviously showed a sound raise in hearts. I was mildly surprised when West made no further effort as one could judge her hand to be above minimum for her raise to game. However, this was the right time to be conservative as even though the diamond king was well-placed for declarer the 5-0 trump split was a slam crusher.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kazmucha	Senior	Sarniak	Dhondy
_	_	♣	Pass
Ι♡	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♡	Pass	4♡	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♡	Pass	6♡	All Pass

East opened what could be a short club and when she bid 2NT over her partner's double of 2\(\Delta\) showed a 11-14 balanced hand. Though not overburdened with points East's hand was rich in controls and so carried on to slam. On a better day that would have been a nice swing but, as mentioned above, the 5-0 trump split put paid to any hope of bringing the slam home, 11 IMPs to England.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wiseman	Dufrat	Smith	Zmuda
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

3♣ Game-forcing relay

North could have opened 2♣ but chose to open a 14-17 NT. There was now no way to stay out of 3NT. East, not

having the gift of second sight, chose a heart lead and that gave declarer the first 12 tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kazmucha	Senior	Sarniak	Dhondy
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

For me, watching the England Venice Cup team always leaves me ambivalent — when I don't watch they have excellent results, but as soon as I decide to cover one of their matches things go pear-shaped. On this deal North 'borrowed' a point to open INT. On most days this would not matter, though of course had the opening been I♣ there is a fair chance that the winning contract of 5♣ would have been reached. However, today at this table East did have the gift of second sight and placed the nine of diamonds on the green baize, another II IMPs to Poland, who won the match 44-25 or I4.8-5.2 VPs.

Videos

Check out the following videos from the Championships:







Play it like a Norwegian

by Nils Kvangraven, Norway

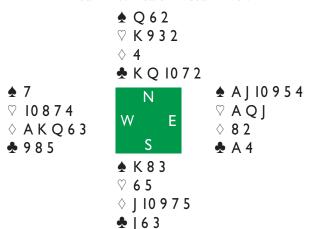
As a team-mate and countryman of Espen Lindqvist I'm both proud and lucky. His way of playing the cards is just brilliant.



Espen Lindqvist, Norway

The Norwegian Open team had a difficult task to handle the strong Israelian team in the sixth round of the Bermuda Bowl. Espen saved our day when he declared this hand, on which the Israeli East went down in 44 on a diamond lead. A fair result you say? Let's see how Espen handled the play.

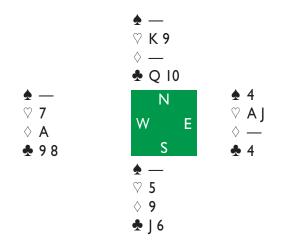
Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



		•		
Wes	it	North	East	South
Broge	land		Lindqvist	
Pass		Pass	I♠	Pass
INT		Pass	2♣*	Pass
2◊*		Pass	2♡*	Pass
2♠*		Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♠		All Pass		
2♣	Gazzilli			
2♦	8+			
2♡	3+ hear	rts		
24	Relay			

6 spades

South led the jack of diamonds, won by the queen. Espen played a heart to the queen followed by the ace of spades and the ten of spades. South took the king and continued a diamond, ruffed by North, who returned the king of clubs, won by Espen with the ace. When Espen pulled the trumps, he came down to this position:



the queen of clubs.

Espen played the four of spades, South discarded a heart (or a diamond), and so did the dummy. What about North? If he discards the ten of clubs he will be endplayed with

If he discards a heart Espen plays the ace of hearts dropping the king.

If North discards the queen of clubs South can avoid North being endplayed by winning the club jack, only to find himself endplayed to lead to the $\clubsuit 9$ and $\lozenge A$ in the dummy.

I can't remember seeing such an end position before where the 98x of clubs builds up to be the killing combination, squeezing the opponents for a stepping-stone or an endplay!

Plus 620 brought 12 IMPs to Norway, winning the match by 16.

When we discussed the boards during the dinner, we discovered that another Norwegian, Helge Maesel of the Senior team, had played the hand just the same way! So, I think I speak the truth when I state that this was a Norwegian declarer play. It might be an interesting board next time when the IBPA announce their yearly awards.



Brian Senior

Bermuda Bowl RR - R7

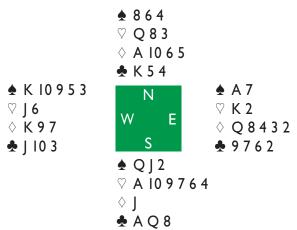
New Zealand v Guadeloupe



Two years ago in Lyon, New Zealand reached the semifinals of the Bermuda Bowl. After two days in Wuhan the same six players lie 22nd out of 24, and have a huge amount of work to do if they are to have a repeat appearance in the knockout stages. On Tuesday morning they faced Guadeloupe, one of the two teams below them in the rankings. If the Kiwis were to make their comeback in the tournament, what better opportunity could they hope for?

After a doomed game had gone down two at both tables on the N/S cards on the first deal, the first swing came on the second board of the match.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Mathieu	Cornell	Soudan	Bach
_	_	Pass	ΙŸ
I♠	2♡	Dble	3♦
Pass	4 ♡	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
West Ware	North Kempczynski	East Tislevoll	South <i>Garnier</i>
		Tislevoll	Garnier

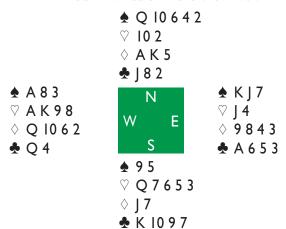
In identical positions, Charles Garnier, for Guadeloupe, made a competitive heart re-raise while Ashley Bach, for New Zealand, made a 3 \Diamond game try, which was accepted by Michael Cornell.

Michael Ware led the jack of clubs against the partscore, Garnier winning the ace and playing ace and another heart. GeO Tislevoll won the $\heartsuit K$ and played ace and another spade and Ware's king was the last trick for the defence; +170.

Philippe Mathieu led the ten of spades against game. Luc Soudan won the ace and returned the $\clubsuit 7$ so Mathieu won the king and gave his partner a ruff. Soudan got out with a diamond to the jack, king and ace and Bach led a heart to the king and ace, cashed the $\heartsuit Q$, and claimed ten tricks for +620 and 10 IMPs to New Zealand.

The remainder of the first half of the set was very dull. New Zealand led by 14-2 after eight boards, but then the match came to life.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Mathieu	Cornell	Soudan	Bach
_	Pass	Pass	IŸ
INT	Dble	Pass	2♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Ware	Kempczynski	Tislevoll	Garnier
_	Pass	Pass	2♡
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Neither South could resist a third in hand opening at favourable vulnerability.

Garnier could open 2° to show hearts and a minor and Ware overcalled 2NT and was raised to 3NT via Puppet Stayman. Hoping to hit partner's minor, Alain Kempczynski

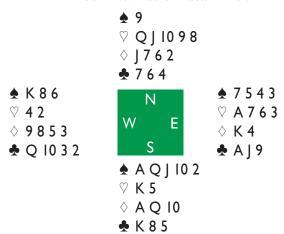


Philippe Mathieu, Guadeloupe

tried the ace of diamonds but, not liking what he saw, switched to the ten of hearts. That did not, as they say, exactly paralyse declarer, as the $\heartsuit 10$ was covered by jack, queen and ace. Ware played the queen of diamonds from hand, pinning the jack as Kempczynski ducked. He had to win the next diamond, of course, and returned the two of clubs. Ware ran that to Garnier's king but had the rest; ten tricks for +630.

Bach opened I♥ with the South cards and Mathieu overcalled INT. When Cornell doubled that, Bach had to run to 2♣, where he was doubled. Mathieu, wanting to protect his strong heart holding, kicked off with the queen of clubs. That was won by declarer's king and Bach ran the nine of spades to Soudan's jack. Soudan played the eight of diamonds to the jack, queen and ace and Bach gave up a second spade. Mathieu won the eight and returned the four of clubs, Soudan winning the ace and continuing with another club. Bach won that with the jack and ruffed a spade with his last club, then led a diamond to the king followed by a winning spade. Sudan ruffed that and the defence had the rest; down three for −500 but 4 IMPs to New Zealand.

Board 10. Dealer East, All Vul.



North

West

*****	1401 611	Lase	Journ
Mathieu	Cornell	Soudan	Bach
_	_	♣	Dble
2♣	2♡	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♡	Pass	4♡
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
West Ware	North Kempczynski	East Tislevoll	South <i>Garnier</i>
	1101011		
	1101011	Tislevoll	Garnier
Ware —	Kempczynski –	Tislevoll ♣	Garnier Dble

Fast

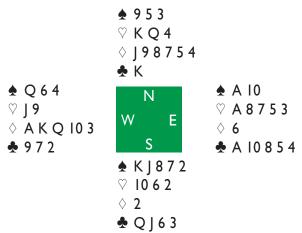
South

Tislevoll's I♣ opening only promised two clubs so Ware had no reason to get involved over the take-out double. Garnier followed through by showing his spades then the club stopper but Kempczynski did not have quite enough to raise to game and, having already shown both his suits, left his partner to declare 2NT.Ware led the two of clubs,

Tislevoll winning the ace and continuing with the jack then, when that held the trick, the ♣9 to declarer's king. Garnier played the two of spades and, when Ware did not go in with the king, dummy's nine won the trick. Garnier led the jack of diamonds to the king and ace then switched his attention to hearts, playing the king. Tislevoll ducked that so now Garnier switched again, this time playing ace then queen of spades. Ware won the king and cashed the thirteenth club but there was only the ♡A to come after that, so Garnier was home with eight tricks for +120.

Soudan's $1 - \infty$ opening promised at least three cards and Mathieu felt able to make a weak raise to $2 - \infty$ over the double. Cornell bid $2 - \infty$ freely then repeated the suit over Bach's forcing $2 - \infty$, and Bach raised to $4 - \infty$, ending the auction. Soudan led ace then jack of clubs. Cornell won dummys king and played ace then queen of spades, ruffing out the king. A diamond to the queen was followed by the $- \infty$ for a club pitch. Next Cornell led dummy's low heart to the queen, ducked, and led a low diamond to the king and ace. Now came the king of hearts to Soudan's ace. Soudan returned the nine of clubs, Cornell ruffing. He cashed the jack of hearts then played a winning diamond and, though Soudan could ruff, he then had to concede the last trick to dummy's ten of spades; +620 and 10 IMPs to New Zealand.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Mathieu	Cornell	Soudan	Bach
_	_	_	Pass
$ \diamond $	Pass	I 🛇	I♠
Pass	2♠	Dble	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Ware	Kempczynski	Tislevoll	Garnier
_	_	_	2♠
Pass	3♠	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

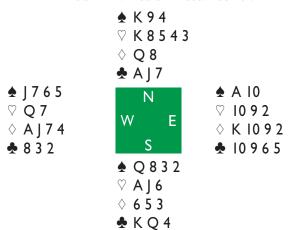
Garnier could open with another weak two-suited bid and Kempczynski made a non-constructive raise to 3♠. I'm guessing that Tislevoll's 4♣ was non-leaping Michaels, showing clubs and hearts, and it saw Ware raise to game.

Five Clubs was, of course, hopeless. Garnier led his diamond, Tislevoll winning the ace and taking a spade pitch on the $\Diamond K$. Garnier ruffed that and played a spade to declarer's now bare ace. Tislevoll played ace and another heart to the jack and queen and back came a diamond. He ruffed with the eight and Garnier discarded his last heart – not that it really mattered at this point. Tislevoll could ruff a heart, after which there were two trumps to be lost for down two; -100.

In the other room, there was no weak opening so Mathieu got to open I♦ with the West hand and, though N/S bid and supported spades, eventually Mathieu became declarer in 3NT, against which Cornell led the five of spades. Mathieu thought for some time then rose with dummy's ace and led the singleton diamond to his ten. I'm not convinced by this line, which does not seem to be guaranteed even if diamonds play for five tricks. On the actual lie, the diamond play was unsuccessful, of course. Cornell won the jack and returned a spade to establish his partner's suit. That saw Mathieu win the ♠Q and cash the three top diamonds, but after that he had only two aces to add to his total and was down two for −100 and a flat board.

Before we leave this board, suppose that declarer plays low from dummy at trick one. To guarantee defeating the contract, South must put in the jack rather than the king. That way the king is preserved as a third-round entry to the by then established winners. If South wins the $\clubsuit K$, declarer can make his contract if he guesses to play on hearts.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

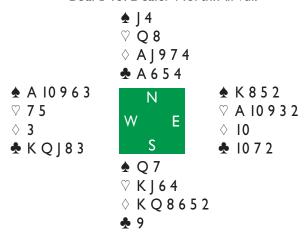


vv est	North	East	South
Mathieu	Cornell	Soudan	Bach
Pass	10	Pass	I♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♡
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
Ware	Kempczynski	Tislevoll	Garnier
Pass	ΙŸ	Pass	♠
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
ı ass	IINI	rass	2141

Kempczynski opened a five-card $I \heartsuit$ and rebid INT to show a balanced minimum opening so, with no ruffing value, Garnier judged to raise to 3NT rather than play the five-three heart fit. Tislevoll led the ten of clubs, Kempczynski winning with dummy's ace and leading a heart to the king then back to the ten, jack and queen. Ware wasted no time in returning a low diamond and Kempczynski put up the queen, losing to the king. Tislevoll continued with the two of diamonds and the defence cashed out for down two and -200.

Cornell also opened I♥ but he raised the I♠ response to 2♠. Though he showed a balanced hand at his next turn, Bach knew that there might be a diamond weakness as with strong minors Cornell would have rebid INT, so settled on the heart game. Four Hearts normally requires that declarer get both majors right, which is a big ask, However, Soudan led the ace of spades and Mathieu, probably imagining this to be a singleton, dropped the jack as a suit-preference signal for diamonds. Soudan continued with the ten of spades. Cornell won in hand and played king of hearts then a heart to the ace and was charmed to see the queen appear on his right. He drew the last trump then cashed his winners and, with one diamond going on the fourth spade, had just to concede a diamond at the end; I I tricks for +650 and I 3 IMPs to New Zealand.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Mathieu	Cornell	Soudan	Bach
_	1♦	Ι♡	2♡
2♠	3♦	3♠	Dble
4♠	Pass	Pass	5◊
All Pass			

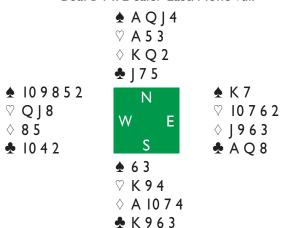
West	North	East	South
Ware	Kempczynski	Tislevoll	Garnier
_	1♦	ΙŸ	Dble
I♠	2♣	2♠	4 ♦
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

South's choice of initial action affected the auction somewhat but both E/W pairs reached the spade game without much difficulty and it was inevitable that, with such

good diamond support, South would save in 50 with the outside chance that the save might even be making. Ware doubled 50 while Mathieu did not and both sets of defenders took their spade winners immediately and had the $\heartsuit A$ to come for down one; -100 for Cornell, -200 for Kempczynski, so 3 IMPs to New Zealand.

Four Spades would have been defeated, of course, on the assumption that the defenders could find their club ruff. Indeed, on an opening club lead, South can be given two ruffs for down two.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Mathieu	Cornell	Soudan	Bach
_	_	Pass	Pass
Pass	INT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
Ware	Kempczynski	Tislevoll	Garnier
_	_	Pass	Pass
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

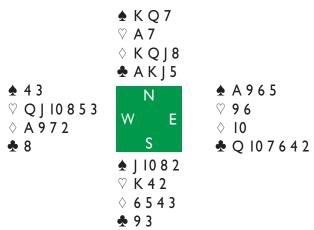
Both Norths opened INT and were raised to 3NT, Bach checking for a five-three heart fit along the way. Both Easts led a heart.

Tislevoll led the seven of hearts and Kempczynski won dummy's king to take the spade finesse, losing to the king. Tislevoll led a second heart to the jack, ducked, and ware continued with the ∇Q to declarer's ace. Kempczynski tried to split the diamonds now, playing king, queen, the low to the ace. When the diamonds failed to oblige, he had nowhere to go for a ninth trick, even with the club onside. In practice, he cashed the spade winners then exited with a spade in hope that the club was offside and that this would produce an endplay. On the actual lie, all it did was produce the second undertrick, as Ware, who had pitched a spade on the diamonds, won the fourth spade as Tislevoll discarded the ΦQ and had only winners remaining; down two for -100.

Cornell ducked the opening lead, Mathieu winning the VI and switching to the nine of spades to the queen and king. Soudan went back to hearts, Cornell winning in hand and leading a club to the king. When that held he led a diamond to the king, cashed the queen of diamonds, and led a third diamond to... the ace. He was down one now for -50 but 2 IMPs to New Zealand.

Cornell had started well, but trying to split the diamonds like that was sloppy play. Had he instead cashed the majorsuit winners before playing the third diamond, he would have seen that East held only four hearts and two spades. Maybe he would still have got the diamonds wrong, playing for East to be 2-4-3-4, but he would have been much better placed to get them right.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Mathieu	Cornell	Soudan	Bach
2♦	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♡	3♡	Pass	3NT
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	5◊
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Ware	Kempczynski	Tislevoll	Garnier
2♡	Dble	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♡	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

I would assume that every West opened with some preempt or other. 3NT is where you would want to get to on the N/S cards - assuming that it is just too difficult to arrange to defend 20 doubled and draw trumps to collect +800 - and 18 out of 24 pairs in the Bermuda Bowl managed to do just that.

Eighteen out of 19 declarers duly made their contract, sometimes with an overtrick. It is just necessary to duck an opening heart lead so that you don't have to guess which ace to knock out first, and it is mildly surprising that even one declarer failed to come to nine tricks.

But there were five tables at which different contracts were reached, and our own match illustrates that it is not completely trivial to get to 3NT. For the record, there were two more going down in 44, and one going down in 34.

Ware opened a natural weak two bid so Kempczynski doubled then cuebid over the 2♠ response. When Garnier judged to repeat the spades rather than show his heart stopper, presumably because he didn't know that his partner would be so strong so didn't want to commit to game. Kempczynski raised to game. From Kempczynski's perspective, either partner held a fifth spade or no help in hearts, in which case 44 rated to be a better spot than 3NT.

Ware led his singleton club against 4♠, Garnier winning the ace and playing the ◇K. Ware won the ace and played the queen of hearts. Garnier won the ace and played the king of spades. Tislevoll won the ace and returned a low club for his partner to ruff. Ware duly did so and gave Tislevoll a diamond ruff. Tislevoll played another club now but Garnier could ruff high and draw trumps, down one for -50.

Mathieu opened a multi $2\lozenge$ and Cornell doubled. Clearly the Guadeloupe pair do not play that East's pass shows diamonds as is a common agreement in some areas. Anyway, Bach passed with the South cards and Mathieu corrected to $2\heartsuit$. I would have thought that Cornell could have doubled again now to imply a big (semi-)balanced hand, but he instead cuebid $3\heartsuit$. The explanation for that became apparent when Cornell went on with $4\diamondsuit$ over Bach's 3NT response. Clearly, he imagined that his partner had somewhat more substantial diamonds than was actually the case for his pass of $2\diamondsuit$ doubled and thought any penalty would prove to be inadequate. Bach raised to $5\diamondsuit$ and that was that.

Soudan led the nine of hearts, Cornell winning the ace and playing the king of diamonds and, when that held the trick, continuing with the queen. That too was ducked and there was simply no way to pick up the trumps for only one loser — if declarer crosses to the $\heartsuit K$ to lead a third

diamond up, West wins and forces declarer to ruff a heart, thereby promoting a trump winner for himself. Cornell crossed to the king of hearts to play a spade to the king, hoping to induce Soudan to win the first round of the suit. That worked, but it still didn't help. Soudan returned a club into the ace-king-jack but there was no way to avoid the loss of two trump tricks. The contract was therefore down one for -50 and no swing.

New Zealand won the match by 47-2 IMPs, 18.66-1.34 VPs. They were still in 22nd position, but at least had closed the gap a little to the rest of the field.

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



RESULTS

Bermuda Bowl

Round 7					
Ma	tch	۱N	1Ps	\	/Ps
ARGENTINA	CHILE	36	43	7.97	12.03
ENGLAND	CANADA	47	61	6.25	13.75
RUSSIA	CHINA	41	66	4.08	15.92
NEW ZEALAND	GUADELOUPE	47	2	18.66	1.34
POLAND	SINGAPORE	28	30	9.39	10.61
NORWAY	INDONESIA	33	44	6.96	13.04
NETHERLANDS	MOROCCO	60	17	18.44	1.56
SWEDEN	EGYPT	58	50	12.29	7.71
USA I	CHINA HONG KONG	44	10	17.31	2.69
ITALY	BANGLADESH	54	5	19.07	0.93
ISRAEL	AUSTRALIA	37	45	7.71	12.29
USA 2	INDIA	43	34	12.05	6.95

	Round 8				
Mato	ch	I٢	1Ps	٧	'Ps
CHILE	INDIA	21	57	2.41	17.59
CANADA	ITALY	13	45	2.97	17.03
SINGAPORE	ISRAEL	4	76	0.00	20.00
GUADELOUPE	RUSSIA	П	40	3.42	16.58
ARGENTINA	USA 2	30	58	3.58	16.42
ENGLAND	CHINA HONG KONG	30	28	10.61	9.39
MOROCCO	USA I	12	58	1.23	18.77
POLAND	NETHERLANDS	26	37	6.96	13.04
NORWAY	SWEDEN	П	55	1.45	18.55
BANGLADESH	INDONESIA	34	23	13.04	6.96
NEW ZEALAND	CHINA	13	21	7.71	12.29
EGYPT	AUSTRALIA	20	26	8.24	11.76

Round 9					
	Match	II.	1Ps	\	/Ps
INDONESIA	CHILE	29	51	4.62	15.38
EGYPT	NETHERLANDS	9	43	2.69	17.31
AUSTRALIA	POLAND	9	64	0.39	19.61
INDIA	GUADELOUPE	76	18	19.85	0.15
ITALY	CHINA	24	36	6.72	13.28
USA 2	NORWAY	48	50	9.39	10.61
RUSSIA	MOROCCO	39	4	17.45	2.55
CANADA	NEW ZEALAND	32	46	5.75	13.25
SINGAPORE	ENGLAND	30	46	5.82	14.18
USA I	BANGLADESH	63	16	18.87	1.13
ARGENTINA	SWEDEN	44	49	8.52	11.48
ISRAEL	CHINA HONG KONG	45	21	15.74	4.26

Venice Cup

Round 7					
Mato	h	۱N	1Ps	٧	/Ps
TUNISIA	USA I	6	46	1.91	18.09
POLAND	JAPAN	58	33	15.92	4.08
ENGLAND	SCOTLAND	26	32	8.24	11.76
CHINESE TAIPEI	NETHERLANDS	25	49	4.26	15.74
FRANCE	DENMARK	58	19	17.97	2.03
SOUTH AFRICA	AUSTRALIA	27	31	8.80	11.20
BRAZIL	SWEDEN	25	38	6.23	13.52
PAKISTAN	NORWAY	30	47	5.61	14.39
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	RUSSIA	30	48	5.40	14.60
NEW ZEALAND	USA 2	31	33	7.39	10.61
INDIA	CANADA	17	46	3.42	16.58
CHINA HONG KONG	CHINA	15	74	-0.43	19.18

	Round 8	}			
Match		١N	MPs \		/Ps
TUNISIA	DENMARK	26	45	5.20	14.80
NORWAY	NETHERLANDS	21	24	9.09	10.91
RUSSIA	ENGLAND	9	46	2.28	17.72
CHINESE TAIPEI	NEW ZEALAND	53	21	17.03	2.97
JAPAN	USA 2	56	50	11.76	8.24
SOUTH AFRICA	SCOTLAND	16	76	0.00	20.00
CHINA	INDIA	43	17	16.09	3.91
PAKISTAN	CANADA	28	28	10.00	10.00
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	POLAND	- 1	52	0.75	19.25
USA I	BRAZIL	49	39	12.80	7.20
AUSTRALIA	SWEDEN	12	П	10.31	9.69
CHINA HONG KONG	FRANCE	37	20	14.39	5.61

Round 9					
М	atch	۱N	1Ps	٧	/Ps
POLAND	TUNISIA	41	26	13.97	6.03
NETHERLANDS	SCOTLAND	49	33	14.18	5.82
FRANCE	CHINA	21	31	7.20	12.80
ENGLAND	CHINESE TAIPEI	43	44	9.69	10.06
AUSTRALIA	NORWAY	21	51	3.27	16.73
BRAZIL	SOUTH AFRICA	46	42	11.20	8.80
SWEDEN	DENMARK	46	30	14.18	5.82
NEW ZEALAND	PAKISTAN	48	15	17.17	2.83
JAPAN	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	46	22	15.74	4.26
RUSSIA	CANADA	37	34	10.91	9.09
USA 2	USA I	36	58	4.62	15.38
INDIA	CHINA HONG KONG	18	68	0.84	19.16

d'Orsi Trophy

Round 7								
Match		IMPs		VPs				
USA 2	CANADA	58	19	17.97	2.03			
NETHERLANDS	NORWAY	35	П	15.74	4.26			
REUNION	CHINA HONG KONG	19	63	1.45	18.55			
DENMARK	JAPAN	54	18	17.59	2.41			
UAES	INDIA	26	55	3.42	16.58			
AUSTRALIA	CHINESE TAIPEI	33	49	5.82	13.93			
USA I	TURKEY	19	36	5.61	14.39			
POLAND	FRANCE	21	51	3.27	16.73			
BULGARIA	INDONESIA	21	37	5.82	13.93			
CHINA	ENGLAND	44	25	14.80	5.20			
IRELAND	SWEDEN	42	6	17.59	2.41			
ITALY	NEW ZEALAND	47	22	15.92	4.08			

Round 8								
Match		IMPs		VPs				
JAPAN	USA 2	28	25	10.91	9.09			
INDIA	NETHERLANDS	8	51	1.56	18.44			
UAE	REUNION	32	75	1.31	18.44			
NEW ZEALAND	DENMARK	18	41	4.44	15.56			
CHINESE TAIPEI	CHINA HONG KONG	34	31	10.91	9.09			
TURKEY	NORWAY	31	9	15.38	4.62			
FRANCE	CANADA	36	10	16.09	3.91			
INDONESIA	AUSTRALIA	32	3	16.58	3.42			
ENGLAND	USA I	16	6	12.80	7.20			
SWEDEN	POLAND	41	13	16.42	3.58			
ITALY	BULGARIA	41	14	16.26	3.74			
IRELAND	CHINA	26	66	1.91	18.09			

Round 9							
Match		IMPs		VPs			
USA 2	USA I	44	18	16.09	3.91		
NETHERLANDS	AUSTRALIA	36	18	14.60	5.40		
REUNION	CANADA	9	33	4.26	15.74		
DENMARK	NORWAY	63	27	17.59	2.41		
UAE	CHINA HONG KONG	50	40	12.80	7.20		
INDIA	JAPAN	57	12	18.66	1.34		
POLAND	CHINESE TAIPEI	45	46	9.69	10.31		
BULGARIA	TURKEY	14	58	1.45	18.55		
CHINA	FRANCE	41	18	15.56	4.44		
IRELAND	INDONESIA	37	24	13.52	6.48		
ITALY	ENGLAND	25	41	5.82	14.18		
SWEDEN	NEW ZEALAND	28	9	14.80	5.20		

Mixed

Round 7							
P	1atch	۱M	1Ps	\	/Ps		
CHINESE TAIPEI	ROMANIA	12	42	3.27	16.73		
ENGLAND	USA 2	27	37	7.20	12.80		
SWEDEN	CHINA	13	69	0.31	19.69		
INDONESIA	BARBADOS	38	24	13.75	6.25		
MOROCCO	FRANCE	38	54	5.82	14.18		
RUSSIA	NEW ZEALAND	41	19	15.38	4.62		
ITALY	AUSTRALIA	56	12	18.55	1.45		
POLAND	THAILAND	68	10	19.85	0.15		
EGYPT	PAKISTAN	32	20	13.28	6.72		
CANADA	DENMARK	22	40	4.90	14.10		
BRAZIL	INDIA	53	63	7.20	12.80		
LATVIA	USA I	48	26	15.38	4.62		

	Round 8	3			
1	1atch	I۱	1Ps	\	/Ps
CHINESE TAIPEI	FRANCE	20	П	12.55	7.45
ENGLAND	NEW ZEALAND	34	20	13.75	6.25
SWEDEN	AUSTRALIA	56	15	18.21	1.79
INDONESIA	THAILAND	17	44	3.74	16.26
MOROCCO	PAKISTAN	41	25	14.18	5.82
RUSSIA	EGYPT	43	4	17.97	2.03
ITALY	POLAND	23	33	7.20	12.80
BARBADOS	DENMARK	38	51	6.48	13.52
CHINA	INDIA	32	31	10.31	9.69
USA 2	LATVIA	35	П	15.74	4.26
ROMANIA	BRAZIL	40	28	13.28	6.72
CANADA	USA I	17	29	6.72	13.28

	Round	19				
Ma	Match		1Ps	\	9 2.41	
CHINESE TAIPEI	PAKISTAN	65	19	18.77	1.23	
ENGLAND	EGYPT	53	17	17.59	2.41	
SWEDEN	POLAND	71	34	17.72	2.28	
INDONESIA	ITALY	52	38	13.75	6.25	
MOROCCO	RUSSIA	28	56	3.58	16.42	
THAILAND	DENMARK	43	30	13.52	6.48	
AUSTRALIA	INDIA	58	39	14.80	5.20	
NEW ZEALAND	LATVIA	26	70	1.45	18.55	
FRANCE	BRAZIL	72	12	20.00	0.00	
BARBADOS	CANADA	42	23	14.80	5.20	
CHINA	ROMANIA	12	32	5.00	15.00	
USA 2	USA I	52	31	15.19	4.81	













