



DAILY BULLETIN

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FRANCK RIEHM RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

Franck Riehm has been re-elected President of the World Bridge Federation for the 2026–2030 term.

The WBF Executive Council unanimously confirmed its confidence in Franck Riehm, electing him by acclamation to serve a new four-year term at the helm of the Federation.

A major focus of President Riehm's new mandate will continue to be the development and worldwide growth of bridge. Expanding the reach of the game, attracting new generations of players, supporting National Bridge Organisations and creating new opportunities to learn and play bridge will remain among the WBF's key priorities.

Building on the work carried out during his first term, President Riehm will lead the World Bridge Federation through the next four years with a strong commitment to making bridge more accessible, more visible and increasingly global.



Prasad Keni, Fernando Alfredo Lema, Johan Pieters elected in the Executive Council

The WBF Congress was held yesterday morning in Katowice, bringing together representatives of National Bridge Organisations from around the world.

Among the decisions taken during the Congress, three new members were elected to the WBF Executive Council:

Prasad Keni (India | Zone 4)

Fernando Alfredo Lema (Argentina | Zone 3)

Johan Pieters (Netherlands | Zone 1)

They will join the WBF Executive Council for its new term.



Ministry of
Sport and Tourism



Silesian
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Metropolis
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♠ Mixed Pairs Format

There will be three stages: Qualification (over two days), Semifinals A&B (over two days), and a one-day Final.

Due to possible drop-ins, it is not currently possible to specify the exact number of qualifiers for each stage; however:

- ♦ Semifinals A&B will be split as equally as possible.
- ♦ The Final will be played by a total of 26 pairs (see SCoCo).
- ♦ There will be no carry-over from one stage to another.

♥ Senior Pairs Format

There will be three stages: Qualification (over two days), Semifinals A&B (over two days), and a one-day Final.

Due to possible drop-ins, it is not currently possible to specify the exact number of qualifiers for each stage; however:

- ♦ Semifinals A&B will be split as equally as possible.
- ♦ The number of qualifiers for the Final depends on entries and potential drop-ins, but it is expected to be between 14 and 18 pairs (though this is subject to change).
- ♦ There will be no carry-over from one stage to another.

♦ Barbados Swiss Cup

There will be three stages: Qualification (over two days), Semifinal (over two days), and a one-day Final.

Due to possible drop-ins, it is not currently possible to specify the exact number of qualifiers for each stage; however:

- ♦ The qualifiers for the Semifinal will be roughly half of the total field, including drop-ins.
- ♦ The number of qualifiers for the Final depends on entries and potential drop-ins, but in principle, there should be 8.
- ♦ There will be no carry-over from one stage to another.
- ♦ Teams eliminated at any stage may drop into the BAM.

Mixed Teams — Round of 32

Not started yet · four segments per match, results to be published once play begins

KATOWICE 2026

SIVY B

VS

LLAMA

CHINA1

VS

DAUGAVA

GR4S

VS

MIXED NUTS

GEELY AUTOMOBILE

VS

TOROS LOCOS

ROSENTHAL

VS

DH888

LEIBOWITZ

VS

QINGDAO SAILUN

BULGARIA MIXED

VS

REIGNWOOD

DAISY CHAIN

VS

CHINA2

MILLENS

VS

PLATINUM

ASHE

VS

TIME PENALTY

GILLIS

VS

SHEN

EDMONDS

VS

JIN SHUO

MINITER

VS

YETTICK

GOOD LUCK

VS

POLAR FORMOSA

BHARGAVA

VS

DITI

TICKET TO RIDE

VS

DINKIN

EDMUNDS v CHINA-1 Mixed Teams QR Round 1

by David Bird

It seems just few days ago that the excellent European Championships drew to a close in Latvia's Riga. Ah well, you can never have too much of a good thing. Today we will watch round 1 of the Mixed Teams qualifier, with Edmonds facing China1. This was the first swing of note:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Y Zhang	Wooldridge	Mei An	J Edmonds
—	—	Pass	Pass
3♥	4♠	All Pass	

Joel Woodbridge bid 4♠, which seems right when there is a fair chance of heart shortage opposite. Mei An led the ♥A and switched to a trump, taken with dummy's jack. Declarer drew trumps in three more rounds and led the ♠Q from hand. West won and took the ♥K, declarer claiming +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zatorski	Z Liao	K Dufrat	Z Xie
—	—	Pass	Pass
3♥	3♠	All Pass	

Zhengjiang Liao bid a more cautious 3♠, Zhao bin Xie judging that she was just short of a raise. At this table declarer took

advantage of the fortunate club lie and picked up twelve tricks for +230. That was 9 IMPs for Edmonds.

There was a hearts v clubs competitive deal next:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Y Zhang	Wooldridge	Mei An	J Edmonds
Pass	1♥	2♣	3♣*
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

Yongge Zhang judged well to take an advance sacrifice in 5♣. Jodi Edmonds cashed the ♥A and switched to the ♦9, drawing the king and ace. Two spade tricks had to be lost, but the cost was just 100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zatorski	Z Liao	K Dufrat	Z Xie
Pass	1♥	2♣	2NT*
4♣	4♥	All Pass	

Many players use a cue-bid to show a 3-card raise and 2NT for a 4-card raise. Piotr Zatorski raised to just 4♣, and North was allowed to play in 4♥. Ace and another club, ruffed by declarer, launched the play. There was no trump loser, so declarer

could afford two losers in diamonds and pocketed +420 for 8 IMPs to China1.

No-one, particularly a hard-working bridge writer, likes to watch a session without a double-figure swing. I was relieved when Board 9 put that worry to bed:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Y Zhang</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Mei An</i>	<i>J Edmonds</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♥	Pass	2♠	Dble
Pass	3♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Mei An had described her hand and heard a subsequent pass from partner. She must also have feared that a spade lead would pick up her king. 4♥ was duly punished, with five black-suit losers and another in trumps. It was an untidy -800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zatorski</i>	<i>Z Liao</i>	<i>K Dufrat</i>	<i>Z Xie</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Piotr Zatorski, with one eye on the vulnerability, reached for a green card on the first round – commendable discipline. The ♥A lead against 3♠ was followed by a trump switch for ten tricks. Only a 170 bite could be taken out of the 800, and it was 12

IMPs to Edmunds.

Only 2 IMPs changed hands on the last five deals. One of them, which we will see now, did create some big swings elsewhere.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Y Zhang</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Mei An</i>	<i>J Edmonds</i>
—	1♠	2♥	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

A diamond grand slam is almost cold. Wooldridge received a ♥K lead to his 6♠. He ruffed and cashed the ♠A claiming an overtrick for +1460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zatorski</i>	<i>Z Liao</i>	<i>K Dufrat</i>	<i>Z Xie</i>
—	1♠	2♥	Dble
3♥	6♦	All Pass	

Liao ruffed the ♥A and surprised many kibitzers (including one in Chandlers Ford) when he played the ♠A next. If this was some sort of deep safety play, I look forward to hearing the analysis. It was a relief to see him switch to trumps, claiming +1390 for a 2-IMP loss.

You would like to hear what happened at the other tables? OK, only 4 out of 98 pairs bid and made 7♦. The top score was witnessed

in the match between Failla and Fern:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>B Ferm</i>	<i>Di Febo</i>	<i>Brink</i>	<i>Piccioni</i>
—	1♠	2♥	Dble*
3♥	6♦	Pass	7♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All
Pass			

As you see, the mighty Sjoert Brink was sucked into doubling 7♦. That cost him an unwelcome -2330. It was 14 IMPs away against +1390 at the other table.

Finally, one pair who picked up an

apparently unproductive +710 were happy to gain 11 IMP. This was the auction at the other table:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
—	1♠	Dble	Rdbl
2♣	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

A somewhat cautious valuation.

The final score in our featured match was Edmonds 27 China1 8, converting to 14.85-5.15 in VPs.






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September 25, 2026
Friday
**Open Teams
(Qualification)**

September 26, 2026
Saturday
**Main Open Pairs
(MP)**

September 27, 2026
Sunday
**Open Teams (Final)
Open Pairs (IMP)**



Mixed Teams Qualification, Round 2

“Adventures in Mixed card play”

by Jos Jacobs

Mixed events are notoriously different from any other format of events. More often than not, every hand is an adventure. Because this also is the title of an existing bidding system, called EHAA, I tried to find a slightly different title for my first contribution to this set of Daily Bulletins. King Stephanus, a.k.a Szt. István, the first Christian king of Hungary, helped me out because today is Hungary's national holiday, named after him. Gratulációk!

I have long been thinking that for any adventurous mixed stuff, you should watch a pairs' event. This round proved that it might still be useful advice but team events are as good as anything for my little naughty purpose, it turned out. The opening board of the set already gave us a few partscore swings to enjoy but the next board was a mer à boire on its own. Here is a small selection of the various disasters that came along

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Our most experienced readers may well think that on this board, the auction should be short: West 3♥, North double, all pass and +500 to N/S for a push. At about 2/3 of our 98 tables, West did indeed open 3♥ most of the time but in only 4 of our 49 matches, the board was actually a push in +500.

Here are a few examples of what might (and DID) go wrong here and there. All our culprits shall remain nameless in this report. For more sensational info, try our results pages.

Our first example is showing a pair that did not discuss transfer bids to their full extent. Basically, these are simple agreements and thus...so easily forgotten at a crucial moment. Like at this table:

West	North	East	South
3♦	Pass	5♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

As far as I know, the real Verdi, i.e. not the inventor of this convention launched here by West, was buried in 1901. East definitely agreed with me. Down five, N/S +1400.

At the other table in this same match E/W's team-mates hardly fared any better.

West	North	East	South
2♦*	Pass	2♥*	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Dble	Pass	Pass	4♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Looking at this auction, it seems to me that South's 2NT was intended as natural but taken as Lebensohl or something like that. A few rounds of doubling later, the N/S train finally came to rest in yet another nice five down spot, worth only 1100 to...E/W. The swing thus was not a mere 300 (1400-1100) but a tremendous 2500, worth 21 IMPs.

At the two tables of another match, they reached quite different contracts as well.

West	North	East	South
2♥	Dble	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♦	Dble	All Pass

Once West opened the proceedings with a modest weak two only, E/W were out of trouble, provided they would shut up. Had East led a club, his side would have fared better but when he led a trump, the defence had to be very accurate to succeed in beating the contract. When they did not, declarer chalked up +470 because his club loser funnily disappeared on its way to the Forum.

At the other table, the auction took off where the auction at the other table had come to an end...

West	North	East	South
3♥	Dble	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	4♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	4♦	Dble	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

After a journey along all the available denominations, N/S finally called it a day in 4♠. That was one of the many unsuccessful places to be, so E/W, the team-mates of the +470 just above, could add another 800 and chalk up only 15 IMPs.

Yet, bidding is so simple, even if it's wrong. What about this match? At least one of these two auctions can be considered straight ahead.

West	North	East	South
3♥	Dble	All Pass	

Down two, +500 to N/S

West	North	East	South
3♥	Dble	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Down three, +800 to E/W for a swing of 1300 or 16 IMPs.

Enough about all these mysterious auctions. Time for a simple defensive problem.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

How come that about half the room, bid AND MADE 3NT in E/W, even on a ♦J or ♦10 lead from West? Declarer can never come to his required nine tricks without some serious help of his friends. Apparently, half the declarers had such friends available. Hilda Setton (W) and Pierre Franceschetti for team Daisy Chain were the only pair to register +300 in defending 3NT. Their recipe: ♦J to the ace, ♦7 back and then ♠AK and the 3rd diamond. Simple comme bonjour, they would say over there.

Time now to transfer our attention to some more disasters.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	3♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

At the table, South explained that he had not seen North's double. E/W +470. The costs were 13 IMPs because team-mates conceded another -300 in sacrificing against the normal 4♥. Normal it might have been but it was a good thing for N/S that the ♠QJ behaved.

In another match, we indeed had a transfer problem.

Closed Room

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

Both 1♣ (Polish) and 2♣(♦) were duly alerted but thanks to the screens, not everybody knew. Five Clubs went one extra down for -500 to E/W so the extra damage was not

too serious, in view of the vulnerable game.

The next board once again showed the importance of black QJ-combinations.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A 2
♥ Q 7 3 2
♦ Q 8 3
♣ A K 9 6

♠ 8 7 4
♥ 10 5
♦ 10 6 5 4
♣ Q J 4 2

♠ Q 9 3
♥ A K J 8 6 4
♦ K 9
♣ 8 3

♠ K J 10 6 5
♥ 9
♦ A J 7 2
♣ 10 7 5

Reaching 4♠ on 15 opposite 9 hcp was not everybody's choice. So it proved but more than 75% were in game (3NT and a few 4♠), thanks to the good-looking intermediates in South. What they could not foresee, was the fact that the game was rather thin: it needed favourable or even very favourable breaks in both the black suits but ...for once, the cards were at declarer's service.



Mixed Fortunes

by Mark Horton

I don't know if bridge players have ever gone on strike (George S.Kaufman famously penned The Great Kibitzers' Strike in 1939) but my computer was not in the mood for working as the championships got under way, refusing to connect to the internet. Luckily a local technician was able to make a house call (try getting a doctor to do that!) and solved the conundrum just in time for the start of the third round.

Although not especially exciting, it did suggest that the standard of play will be one to savour over the coming days.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 4 3 2	♠ 10 9 7 6	♠ A Q
♥ A K Q 3 2	♥ 8 6 5 4	♥ 10 9
♦ J 10 6 2	♦ 8 5	♦ A Q
♣ 4	♣ J 9 5	♣ AK87632

♠ K J 8 5	♠ 10 9 7 6	♠ A Q
♥ J 7	♥ 8 6 5 4	♥ 10 9
♦ K 9 7 4 3	♦ 8 5	♦ A Q
♣ Q 10	♣ J 9 5	♣ AK87632

Diti v Sivy B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lin</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>K Rosenberg</i>	<i>Seker</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♦7 and declarer won with the ♦Q and played three rounds of clubs, claiming 12 tricks, ♣690.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Metric</i>	<i>M Rosenberg</i>	<i>Brkljacic</i>	<i>D Rosenberg</i>
1♥	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

2♣ 2+♣ game forcing
3♣ Fragment

South led the ♦4 and declarer won with the ♦Q, cashed the ♣A and continued with the ♣3, claiming +1440 when the suit behaved, 13 IMPs to Diti.

Toros Locos v Gillis

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fuglestad</i>	<i>Morawska</i>	<i>Saelensminde</i>	<i>Valchev</i>
2♥*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2♥ 3-10, 5♥ and 4+♣/♦

South led the ♦4 and declarer was soon claiming, +690.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sobczak</i>	<i>T Brogeland</i>	<i>Jarosz</i>	<i>B Brogeland</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣*	1♦
Dble*	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♣*	Pass	6♣	All Pass

1♣ 11-14 balanced or 4441♦, 15+ 5+♠ or 4414, 18 + any
Dble Hearts
2♣ Strong
4♥ Control
4NT RKCB
5♣ 1 keycard

South led the ♥7 and declarer won in dummy and played three rounds of clubs, North winning and switching to the ♠9. Declarer took the ♠A and cashed the winning clubs, but there was no pressure and when the ♦K did not fall under the ♦A and hearts did not divide the contact was one down, -100 and 13 IMPs to Gillis. Declarer was never going to play on the

opening lead, but technically the ♥J is the absolute killer. Nevertheless, the heart lead was a brilliant effort, the only way to be virtually certain to defeat the contract (yes, it would have beaten 6NT as well).

In the unlikely event that a club is led against 6♣ declarer must duck to rectify the count (or win and then duck a club). It will then be possible to squeeze South in the pointed suits.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Diti v Sivy B
Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lin</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>K Rosenberg</i>	<i>Seker</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the ♥4 and declarer won with the ♥A, cashed six diamonds and then took four spade tricks via a by then marked finesse, +460.

Not for the first time, a doubleton queen proved to be a good holding for notrumps.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mestric</i>	<i>M Rosenberg</i>	<i>Brkljacic</i>	<i>D</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♣3 to great effect, -50 and 11 IMPs to Diti.

You can make 5♦ and even 4♠ – so this is worth mentioning in dispatches:

Ratrut v Failla

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Arslan</i>	<i>Guven</i>	<i>Clair</i>	<i>Kutlay</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Dble	2♦	3♣	4♣*
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

We know West led the ♣J and that declarer finished with 10 tricks, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ghosn</i>	<i>Carnicelli</i>	<i>Elselehdar</i>	<i>Failla</i>
Pass	1♦*	Pass	1♠*
1NT*	2♦	3♣	Dble
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

1♦ 2+♦, 11-16 5+♦ or 4 cards with three suits or with 5♣ (rare) or 15-17 balanced not 5♥/♠
1♠ 3+♠
1NT ♥+♣

The opening lead was the ♥4, declarer taking 11 tricks to lose an IMP.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Toros Locos v Gillis

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fuglestad</i>	<i>Morawska</i>	<i>Saelensminde</i>	<i>Valchev</i>
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3♣ Asks for 5♥/♠
3♦ Not 5♥/♠

East led the ♦Q and continued with the ♦10, declarer winning as East parted with the ♥2. A spade to the jack was followed by a club to the jack and West won and cashed out for one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sobczak</i>	<i>T Brogeland</i>	<i>Jarosz</i>	<i>B Brogeland</i>
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2NT Puppet Stayman
3♣ Normal response without 5♥/♠

Here too West led the ♦Q but declarer ducked twice, East discarding the ♣2 and the ♣7. Having won the third round declarer played a spade to the jack and a club. When East followed with the ♣10 declarer went up with the ♣A and continued with the ♣J, collecting the missing honours and leaving East on play. Now there were 10 tricks, +630 and 12 IMPs to Gillis.
3NT made more than thirty times, every West leading one of the top diamonds.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ A 9 8 3	♠ 7
♥ K J 9 5	♥ 6 3
♦ 6	♦ Q 9 7 5 4 2
♣ A J 10 8	♣ 9 7 5 4
♠ J 1-0 4 2	♠ K Q 6 5
♥ 10 4 2	♥ A Q 8 7
♦ J 10 8 3	♦ A K
♣ K 3	♣ Q 6 2



Diti v Sivy B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lin</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>K Rosenberg</i>	<i>Seker</i>
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

3♣ Control
4♣ Control
4NT RKCB
5♦ 3 keycards

West led the ♣3 and declarer took dummy's ♣A, drew trumps and played a club, +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mestric</i>	<i>M Rosenberg</i>	<i>Brkljacic</i>	<i>D Rosenberg</i>
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♦*	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

3♣ Control
3NT Serious
4NT RKCB
5♦ 3 keycards

Much to my delight West led the ♣3 to flatten the deal.

With so many tables in play, it was more or less inevitable that a few pairs would reach 7♥ or 7NT and 10 pairs went 'all in', once in the same match:

Flyhigh v Gloria

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Akhum</i>	<i>Neagu</i>	<i>Gokce</i>	<i>Ghitescu</i>
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♣	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♦	Pass	7♥
All Pass			

That was +2210.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Reining</i>	<i>Ozer</i>	<i>Cholakov</i>	<i>Kanlikilic</i>
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	5NT	Pass	7NT
All Pass			

At this form of scoring +2220 had no impact.

Championship specials



The new **dealing machines** used to duplicate the boards during these championships are sold for **€2650**. The **cards** that you have played are sold for **€80/100** decks.

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Day One, Round 4 Mixed and Senior Teams

by Amy Casanova

With 99 teams in the Mixed and 24 in the Senior Teams, the bridge was liberally seasoned with the spice of life.

Right side, right result

Success on this deal largely depended on North-South's 1NT range – and on whether East-West could coordinate the defense.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

If South opens 1NT, a Texas transfer puts South in 4♠, likely facing a ♦J lead (or possibly the ♥5 or ♥4). There are at least four potential losers: two clubs, a heart and a spade, with more if trumps misbehave.

Suppose declarer wins the ♦A and plays the ♠A and another spade. East is in with the king and shifts to the ♣Q. If you cover and West wins with the ♠A, they will need to return a high spot to ask for a heart through. The ♠9 is ideal, but what if partner forgets to overtake? Is the ♣7 good enough?

It doesn't matter. Declarer can go up with the ♥A, play the ♦K Q, pitching one heart, then ruff a diamond and get back to hand with a spade to discard dummy's last heart on the fifth diamond. Katherine Bertheau, sitting South for Ashe team, found a different route when West led the ♠2. She went up with the ace and played the ♦A and a diamond to the king. When she tried to cash the ♦Q, West ruffed with the ♠Q and declarer discarded the ♣2. West cashed the ♠A and led another club; Bertheau discarded a heart and ruffed a diamond. She next played a heart to

the ace and advanced the 13th diamond for a loser-on-loser play – discarding the last heart while East ruffed with the high trump. That was 10 tricks – good for 12 IMPs when 4♠ by North was down one at the other table on the defense described above. (And, for the record, West did return the ♣9 after winning with the ace, East overtaking and leading the heart through.)

Played by North, the defense is the same but with the benefit of a tempo on the club opening lead and a sure trump entry for the heart switch which leads to down one. Defense is hard, though; there were plenty of 4♠ contracts declared by North that succeeded. There were also a few pairs who stepped in because of the favourable vulnerability.

Lokalsi vs Lewis
Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>G Kaleta</i>	<i>Itabashi</i>	<i>H Kaleta</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Dble	2♥*
3♣	4♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pucyk</i>	<i>F Kolesnik</i>	<i>Swiatkowski</i>	<i>L Lewis</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Dble	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

When 4♠ was down one in the Open Room on the ♣Q lead and 5♣x was down five, that was 15 IMPs for Lewis.

Parker vs SV Bridge Club
Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>I. Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>S. Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Onsgard</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Silin</i>	<i>Sarniak</i>	<i>Liu</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>
—	—	Pass	1NT
Dble*	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	4NT*	Pass
5♠	Dble	All Pass	

Silin got out for down three, but still 12 IMPs to SV Bridge Club when 4♠ was down one at the other table.

Incredibelles n Bros vs Miniter Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nowak</i>	<i>Child</i>	<i>S Baldysz</i>	<i>Hasenson</i>
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Played from the right side, the ♦J was led and Hasenson scored up +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Moss</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Breheny</i>	
<i>Baroni</i>			
—	—	Pass	1NT
Dble*	4♥*	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♠	Pass*
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Down three for -500 was not a bad result when game was made at the other table. The Incredibelles n Bros won 3 IMPs for their effort.

In the Seniors, there were no outliers – everyone played in spades – with swings happening in six matches depending on the defense, and this result:

Beijing Global vs PKB Therm Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Szalewicz</i>	<i>J Liu</i>	<i>Zubiel</i>	<i>H Liu</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠*
All Pass			

After an invitational sequence initiated by North and a spade raise by South, it's odd that they

stopped in a partscore. They made four, even on the lead of the ♠Q, for +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nie</i>	<i>Walczak</i>	<i>Yan</i>	<i>Lewaciak</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

A similar start to the auction but this time, with a maximum and three trumps, South bid game, which made on the lead of the ♠Q for 10 IMPs to PKB Therm.

Go Big or Go Home

Board 19 was a major slam-bidding test for East-West, featuring a wide distribution of contracts ranging from game contracts to cold grand slams.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Only two pairs successfully bid and made 7♣ by West for +2140. Both earned massive swings (16 and 17 IMPs respectively) against opponents who stayed in game.

Mixed Nuts vs Diti

West	North	East	South
<i>Mestric</i>	<i>Jenkins</i>	<i>Brkljajic</i>	<i>Cohen</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠*	Dble
4♣	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♦*	Pass
7♣	All Pass		

East's 3♠ was minor suit Stayman, doubled by South. West bid 4♣ naturally. The next three bids look like controls, with 4NT being RKC and 5♦ showing one or four. A positive response, one ace, a diamond control (the very important ♥J) ... West bid the grand.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Henner</i>	<i>Yavas</i>	<i>Ivatury</i>	<i>Doga Seker</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

GR4S vs Zhang

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Seamon-Molson</i>	<i>Shen</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠*	Dble
4♣	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

3♠ was "clubs or minors" and 4NT was alerted. Their card says, "one over RKC with some exceptions," so it's not clear if 4NT was key card and the 5♣ response (0/3) was discouraging or if West thought 4NT was an offer and he retreated to 5♣.

At the other table, West opened a Precision 1♣. They had a lengthy, uncontested auction to 7♣ for 17 IMPs to GR4S.

Roughly half the field reached small slams in either clubs or notrump. If the other table stopped in game, this led to 12 to 13 IMP gains. These auctions were not duplicated anywhere else:

Millens vs Dinkin

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dinkin</i>	<i>K Dwyer R</i>	<i>Silverstein</i>	<i>C Dwyer R</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♦*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♠*	Dble
Pass*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

1♦ was strong and artificial, 2♦ natural and forcing to game. The auction never revealed

itself and died before slam was reached.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Yilmaz</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Ozbay</i>
—	—	—	2♥*
	Dble	3♥	Dble All Pass

2♥ was 4–10 HCP with the majors. West started with trumps and when the smoke cleared, South was down seven for -1700 and 14 IMPs to Millens.

In the Seniors, there was only one grand swing, 7♣ opposite 6NT in the Kalish–Lech match. Kalish scored 12 IMPs to win the match 30–9. Of the 12 tables in play, there were swings at eight.

Double entendre

After partner opens 1♦ and your RHO overcalls 2♣, what does double promise? If you must have both majors, you're not going to double very often.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

North can venture a negative double (correcting hearts to diamonds) or raise diamonds immediately, but either way the auction escalated quickly when East aggressively raised clubs. Is South good enough to come in with 3♠ at the three or four level?

When N–S were allowed to bid and play 4♠, they made it regularly for +420 (Polar Formosa, London Calling, Plan B Bridge, Blue Note).

In several instances where West doubled, N–S scored +590, netting 11 to 12 IMP gains for Mixed Nuts, Jin Shuo, Ticket to Ride, Sunshine and Istanbul.

Kicia Rozek achieved the top N–S score on the

board by making 4♦x with an overtrick for +610 in their match against Shen:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ciborowska</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Rajtar</i>	<i>Gan</i>
—	—	—	1♦*
2♣	Dble	3♥	3♠
Pass	4♠	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zareba</i>	<i>Bagrwoska</i>	<i>Shen</i>	<i>Rozanski</i>
—	—	—	1♦*
2♣	3♦	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
Pass	4♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

In the Seniors:

PKB Poznan vs Wolfson

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Crouch</i>	<i>Doub</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Wildavsky</i>
—	—	—	1♦
2♣	2♦	4♣	Pass
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Twardowski</i>	<i>Cohler</i>	<i>Palasz</i>	<i>Silverman</i>
—	—	—	1♦
2♣	Dble	3♣	3♠
All Pass			

Doug Doub gets a nod for reading the room, visualizing short clubs in partner's hand and, if not a spade fit, a shot at retreating to diamonds. He was rewarded with 6 IMPs when he brought his game home. There is no play record but with West overcalling at the two level and three safe entries to the South hand (club ruff and two hearts) to lead spades up to the honors, most declarers had no trouble taking 10 tricks, with or without a double from West.



Family Affair

by Mark Horton

I haven't had time to check all the team lists, but at least one squad in the Mixed is comprised of players from the same family. By chance they were appearing in one of the featured matches on Love Bridge.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Llama v SV Bridge Club
Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>F Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>	<i>L Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Ocylok</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♥	Dble	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♥	4♦
4♥	All Pass		

North led the ♣4 and declarer was soon in a position to claim, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>I Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Selway</i>	<i>S Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Preddy</i>
—	1♠*	Pass	2♠*
2♠	All Pass		

1♣ 1+♣, can be 2♣+5♦
2♣ 4+♣, invitational+

Not easy for East to raise to 3♣.

North led the ♣2 and declarer was quick to claim 10 tricks, +170 but 6 IMPs to Llama. 55 pairs reached game with the EW cards.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Llama v SV Bridge Club
Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>F Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>	<i>L Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Ocylok</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦*	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♠*	Pass
3♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass

1♦ 4+♦ (8)10+
1NT 16+ (not 4♥/♠)

North led the ♥9 and South took the ♥A and switched to the ♠4, declarer claiming 10 tricks, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>I Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Selway</i>	<i>S Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Preddy</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

3♥ Fourth suit forcing

North led the ♥5 and South took the ♥A and returned the ♥J, declarer winning and playing the ♣K. South won and returned a heart and declarer was four down, -200 and 4 IMPs to Llama.

In the match between Kicia Rozek and Edmonds

Michał Klukowski and Justyna Żmuda were in 5♣ going one down, while at the other table:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bagrowska</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Róžański</i>	<i>Edmonds</i>
—	—	2♠*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣	Dble
Rdbl	All Pass		

2♠ 3-10, 5♠+(4)5♣/♦
2NT Game forcing relay

South led the ♦10 and declarer recorded 10 tricks for +840 and 13 IMPs.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Llama v SV Bridge Club

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>F Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>	<i>L Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Ocylok</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

2NT Fit
3♦ Retransfer

East led the ♠10, but when declarer called for dummy's ♣8 West put up the ♣A and switched to the ♦6. Declarer took the ♦A and played the ♥K, West winning and returning a diamond. That gave the defenders a third trick, but declarer had the rest, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>I Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Selway</i>	<i>S Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Preddy</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

2♣ Stayman

Here too East led the ♠10 and again West put up the ♣A and switched to a diamond. Declarer took the ♦A but then played the ♣K followed by the ♣J which meant only nine tricks, +140 and 7 IMPs to SV Bridge Club.

In the match between DH888 and Polar Formosa, Kuan-Hsuan Chen led the ♠10 against 4♥ and M-Ming-Chien Liu withheld the ♣A, subsequently switching to a diamond when in with the ♥A to ensure the defeat of the contract and secure a flat board (in the other room Lin-Huan Chen's lead of the ♠J gave declarer no chance).

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Llama v SV Bridge Club

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>F Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>	<i>L Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Ocylok</i>
1♠	Dble	2♦*	2NT*
3♠	4♦	All Pass	

2♦ Hearts
2NT Minors

East led the ♠4 and West won with the ♠Q and switched to the ♥4, declarer taking the ♥A and exiting with the ♠7. East ruffed and returned a heart, West ruffing and playing the ♠A for East to ruff. That meant two down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>I Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Selway</i>	<i>S Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Preddy</i>
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

North led the ♥K and switched to the ♣3, declarer winning in dummy, ruffing a heart, drawing trumps and playing a diamond to dummy's ♦K. When it held 10 tricks were assured, and a defensive slip resulted in an overtrick, +690 and 11 IMPs to SV Bridge Club.

There was no consensus at to the best opening bid, with 1♠ and 4♠ attracting significant support. Several pairs sacrificed in 5♦ with the NS cards, usually going two down for -300 (but sometimes conceding -500).

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Llama v SV Bridge Club

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>F Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>	<i>L Weiss-Selway</i>	<i>Ocylok</i>
1♠*	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♠*	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♦*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

1♣ 2+♣, (8)10+
 1♦ 4+♥
 1♠ 6♣+4♠
 4♣ Spades

North led the ♠9 and declarer finished with 11 tricks, +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>I Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Selway</i>	<i>S Grzejdzia</i>	<i>Preddy</i>
1♠*	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

1♣ 11+ natural, 4+♣ unbalanced
 or 15-20 balanced or any game force
 1♠ Strong

Here a trump lead saw declarer emerge with 12 tricks and an IMP.

A handful of pairs bid 6♠, but they did not all make it. An initial trump lead looks helpful but declarer will eventually have to guess the diamond position. If North leads the ♦A, declarer needs to get the trumps right to collect 12 tricks.

Here is one of the auctions to slam:

Kicia Rozek v Edmonds

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bagrowska</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Różański</i>	<i>Edmonds</i>
1♣*	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♥*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

1♣ 12-14 balanced/4414; 15+ 5+♠, 18+ any

After the Polish 1♣ it looks like a fourth suit 2♦ a couple of control showing bids and a keycard ask and response.

North led the ♠2.

At the other table:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Ciborowska</i>	<i>Żmuda</i>	<i>Rajtar</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

You know you are missing the ♠Q and a keycard, so bidding slam is speculative.

11 IMPs changed hands, but Edmonds still had something in hand, winning 36-24, 13.48-6.52 VP.

World Bridge Series

HISTORIA

MAREK WÓJCICKI

MISTRZOSTWA ŚWIATA PAR I TEAMÓW

Początki imprezy, która dzisiaj nosi nazwę World Bridge Series i trwa prawie dwa tygodnie, były znacznie skromniejsze.

Władze światowego brydża organizowały drużynowe mecze bądź turnieje o mistrzostwo świata już od czasów przedwojennych. W roku 1950 po raz pierwszy walczone o Bermuda Bowl, a w 1960 rozegrano w Turynie pierwszą olimpiadę drużynową. Sytuacja dojrzywała do tego, aby rozpocząć wyłanianie także i najlepszych par.

Pierwszy turniej o mistrzostwo świata parami rozegrano w Cannes w 1962 roku. Trwał on tydzień – od 29 kwietnia do 5 maja. O ten zaszczytny tytuł walczyło 78 par w konkurencji open i 26 wśród kobiet. Pierwszymi mistrzami świata par zostali Pierre Jais i Roger Trezel (Francja), a wśród pań Fritzi Gordon – Rixi Markus (Wielka Brytania). Przed mistrzostwami par rozegrano dwudniowy turniej teamów mikstowych, również w randze mistrzostw świata. Udział wzięło 20 drużyn, a wygrali Brytyjczycy – Fritzi Gordon – Nico Gardener, Rixi Markus – Boris Schapiro.

Ustalono, że takie mistrzostwa będą odbywały się w cyklu czteroletnim, analogicznym do olimpijskiego – pierwsze mistrzostwa nazwano w zasadzie „olimpiadą parami” (World Olympic Pairs).

Drugie mistrzostwa świata par odbyły się w 1966 roku w Amsterdamie. Tym razem nie rozgrywano żadnego turnieju teamów, natomiast dołączono jeszcze turniej par mikstowych, w którym frekwencja była zaskakująca – walczyło tutaj 130 par (turniej mikstów otwierał mistrzostwa, można było grać w mikstach, a potem w turnieju open lub kobiet). Pierwszymi mistrzami świata par mikstowych zostali reprezentanci USA – Mary Jane Farrell i Ivan Erdos. W turnieju par open stanęło na starcie 106 duetów, a w kobiecym 44.

Kolejne odbyły się w 1970 roku w Sztokholmie, również tylko w konkurencjach parowych – open (158), kobiet (72) i mikstów (228).

W 1974 grano w Las Palmas, i ponownie rozegrano mistrzostwa świata teamów mikstowych, a udział wzięło 192 pary w konkurencji open, 74 kobiece, a w mikstach 118 par i 64 drużyny.

W 1978 roku w Nowym Orleanie turnieju drużyn mikstowych już nie było, ale rozegrano po raz pierwszy otwarte mistrzostwa świata teamów – Rosenblum Cup – w których wystartowało 64 drużyny, a pierwszymi mistrzami świata w tej konkurencji zostali Polacy – Marian Frenkiel, Andrzej Macieszczak, Janusz Połec i Andrzej Wilkosz. W parach open walczyło 192 pary, w turnieju kobiet 72, a mikstów – 308.

Kolejne mistrzostwa, a w zasadzie olimpiadę parami rozegrano we francuskim Biarritz w 1982 roku. Tutaj wystartowało – w parach open 360 par, kobiecych – 140, mikstowych – 450, a o Rosenblum Cup walczyło 129 drużyn.

W 1986 mistrzostwa przeniosły się na drugą stronę Atlantyku – do Bal Harbour obok Miami. Po raz pierwszy oficjalną nazwą imprezy było „World Bridge Championships”. Wystartowało tutaj 330 par w konkurencji open, 120 w turnieju kobiet, 420 par mikstowych i 171 drużyn w Rosenblum Cup.

W 1990 roku w Genewie swoją historię w mistrzostwach świata rozpoczęli seniorzy. Dolny limit wieku uprawniającego do startu w tej konkurencji ustalono na 55 lat! Pierwszymi mistrzami świata seniorów zostali Brytyjczycy – Albert Dormer – Alan Hiron, a o ten tytuł walczyło 52 pary. W turnieju open wystartowało 538 par, w mistrzostwach kobiet 200. W mikstach aż 572, a w turnieju drużynowym – Rosenblum Cup – 195 drużyn.

Kolejne mistrzostwa rozegrano w Albuquerque w 1994 roku. Do turniejów par i Rosenblum Cup dodano turnieje teamów kobiecych i seniorów. Turniej kobiet – McConnell Cup, w którym wystartowało 48 drużyn,

wygrała drużyna amerykańska – Marinesa Letizia, Jill Blanchard, Sue Picus, Rozanne Pollack, Judie Radin. W turnieju seniorów – w którym WBF otworzyła furtkę do formuły „transnational” – zwyciężył zespół Rohan – Karl Rohan, Franz Baratta, Bob Kaiser, Kees Kaiser, Moshe Katz, Nissan Rand (Austria/Holandia/Izrael). Udział wzięło 35 teamów.

Następne mistrzostwa świata – w Lille w 1998 roku były pod kilkoma względami rekordowe. W parach open wystartowało 628 duetów, w mikstach 598, w Rosenblum Cup 233 teamy, a w McConnell Cup 56 zespołów kobiecych. Te liczby pozostają nie pobite do dnia dzisiejszego. O tytuł najlepszej pary kobiecej walczyło 119 par, a seniorskiej 100. Wystartowało także 38 drużyn seniorskich.

W 2002 roku mistrzostwa odbyły się w Montrealu. Tutaj największym turniejem były pary mikstowe – 434. W turnieju open walczyło 329 par, 99 w mistrzostwach kobiet, a 71 w seniorach. W Rosenblum Cup wystartowało 160 drużyn, w McConnell Cup – 36, a w turnieju seniorów 31.

Rok 2006 to mistrzostwa w Weronie. Myślę, że to, co utkwiło w pamięci większości obserwatorów, to start Billa Gatesa w turnieju mikstów. No i był to pierwszy sezon, w którym turnieje mistrzowskie Olimpiady Parami (także wszystkie teamy) były rozgrywane w formule transnational, czyli partnerzy w parach czy teamach nie musieli być członkami tej samej narodowej federacji brydżowej. A frekwencja? Nieco lepsza, niż w Montrealu, ale sporo za rekordowym Lille – 400 par w turnieju open, 102 kobiece, 103 seniorów, 487 w mikstach. 160 teamów w Rosenblum Cup, 39 kobiecych i 42 seniorów.

W następnych mistrzostwach – w 2010 roku w Filadelfii – przywrócono już na stałe rywalizację także i o tytuł mistrzów świata teamów mikstowych. Tych teamów stanęło na starcie 70, znacznie więcej niż kobiecych – 31, czy seniorów – 34. W Rosenblum Cup walczyło 145 drużyn, w turnieju par open – 250, par kobiecych – 58 a seniorów – 66. Jedynie liczba par mikstowych trzymała poziom z lat wcześniejszych – wystartowało ich 432.

2014 rok to mistrzostwa świata w chińskim kurorcie Sanya na wyspie Hainan. Frekwencja – jak na tę lokalizację – była nie najgorsza. W parach open wystartowało 256 par, kobiecych – 55, seniorów – 43 a mikstowych 174. W Rosenblum Cup walczyło 123 teamy (chyba ponad połowa chińskich), w teamach mikstowych 89, w kobiecych – 26, a w seniorskich tylko 22.

W Orlando w 2018 roku było nie lepiej – 198 par w open, 219 mikstowych, 51 kobiecych i 87 seniorów. Teamy – open 96, miksty 106, 31 seniorskich i 17 kobiecych.

Wrocław 2022 to kolejny regres w turniejach kobiet i seniorów – 36 par i 10 teamów kobiecych, 41 par i 12 drużyn w turniejach seniorów. Lepiej było w open – 226 par i 79 drużyn oraz w mikstach – 160 par oraz 59 zespołów.

◆ MISTRZOWIE ŚWIATA ◆

♠ PARY OPEN

1962 Pierre Jais – Roger Trezel (*Francja*)

1966 Hans Kreijns – Cornelius Slavenburg (*Holandia*)

1970 Fritz Babsch – Peter Manhardt (*Austria*)

1974 Robert Hamman – Robert Wolff (*USA*)

1978 Marcelo Branco – Gabino Cintra (*Brazylia*)

1982 Chip Martel – Lew Stansby (*USA*)

1986 Jeff Mecsckroth – Eric Rodwell (*USA*)

1990 Marcelo Branco – Gabriel Chagas (*Brazylia*)

1994 Marcin Leśniewski – Marek Szymanowski (*Polska*)

1998 Michał Kwiecień – Jacek Pszczoła (*Polska*)

2002 Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes (*Włochy*)

2006 Jack Zhao – Fu Zhong (*Chiny*)

2010 Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein (*USA*)

2014 Ehud Friedlander – Inon Liran (*Izrael*)

2018 Mikael Rimstedt – Ola Rimstedt (*Szwecja*)

2022 Krzysztof Buras – Piotr Lutostański (*Polska*)

♠ PARY KOBIECE

1962

Fritzi Gordon – Rixi Markus (*Wielka Brytania*)

1966	Joan Durran – Jane Juan (<i>Wielka Brytania</i>)
1970	Mary Jane Farell – Marilyn Johnson (<i>USA</i>)
1974	Fritzi Gordon – Rixi Markus (<i>Wielka Brytania</i>)
1978	Judi Radin – Kathie Wei (<i>USA</i>)
1982	Betty Ann Kennedy – Carol Sanders (<i>USA</i>)
1986	Amalya Kearse – Jacqui Mitchell (<i>USA</i>)
1990	Karen McCallum – Kerri Shuman (<i>USA</i>)
1994	Carla Arnold – Bep Vriend (<i>Holandia</i>)

♠ PARY MIKSTOWE

1966	Mary Jane Farell – Ivan Erdos (<i>USA</i>)
1970	Barbara Brier – Waldemar von Zedwitz (<i>USA</i>)
1974	Loula Gordon – Tony Trad (<i>Szwajcaria</i>)
1978	Barry Crane – Kerri Shuman (<i>USA</i>)
1982	Diana Gordon – George Mittelman (<i>Kanada</i>)
1986	Pam Wittes – John Wittes (<i>USA</i>)
1990	Juanita Chambers – Peter Weichsel (<i>USA</i>)
1994	Danuta Hocheke – Apolinary Kowalski (<i>Polska</i>)

♠ PARY SENIORÓW

1990	Albert Dormer – Alan Hiron (<i>Wielka Brytania</i>)
1994	Hamish Bennet – Fred Hamilton (<i>USA</i>)
1998	Irving Gordon – Boris Schapiro (<i>Wielka Brytania</i>)
2002	Christo Drumev – Ivan Tanev (<i>Bułgaria</i>)
2006	Nico Klaver – Roald Ramer (<i>Holandia</i>)

♠ TEAMY OPEN — ROSENBLUM CUP

1978	POLSKA – Marian Frenkiel, Andrzej Macieszczak, Janusz Połec, Andrzej Wilkosz
1982	FRANCJA – Michel Lebel, Philippe Soulet, Dominique Pilon, Albert Feigenbaum, Pierre Schemil (npc)
1986	USA – Neil Silverman, Ed Manfield, Peter Boyd, Steve Robinson, Bob Lipsitz, Kit Woolsey
1990	NIEMCY – Bernhard Ludewig, Jocken Bitschene, Georg Nippgen, Roland Rohowsky
1994	USA – Roger Bates, Seymon Deutsch, Gaylor Kasle, Chip Martel, Michael Rosenberg, Lew Stansby
1998	WŁOCHY – Francesco Angelini, Andrea Buratti, Massimo Lanzarotti, Lorenzo Lauria, Antonio Sementa, Alfredo Versace
2002	WŁOCHY – Maria Teresa Lavazza, Guido Ferraro, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace
2006	MELTZER (<i>USA/Norwegia</i>) – Roger Bates, Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Kyle Larsen, Rose Meltzer, Alan Sontag
2010	PLATNICK (<i>USA</i>) – John Diamond, Brian Platnick, Brad Moss, Fred Gitelman, Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco
2014	MAZURKIEWICZ (<i>Polska</i>) – Marcin Mazurkiewicz, Krzysztof Jassem, Piotr Gawryś, Michał Klukowski, Stanisław Gołębiowski, Włodzimierz Starkowski
2018	ZIMMERMANN (<i>Monako/Polska</i>) – Pierre Zimmermann, Franck Multon, Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Piotr Gawryś, Michał Klukowski

1998	Jill Meyers – Shawn Quinn (<i>USA</i>)
2002	Karen McCallum – Debbie Rosenberg (<i>USA</i>)
2006	Irina Levitina – Kerri Sanborn (<i>USA</i>)
2010	Lynn Deas – Beth Palmer (<i>USA</i>)
2014	Shu Liu – Tao Zhou (<i>Chiny</i>)
2018	Veronique Bessis – Anne-Laure Huberschwiller (<i>Francja</i>)
2022	Jill Meyers – Kerri Sanborn (<i>USA</i>)

1998	Enza Rossano – Antonio Vivaldi (<i>Włochy</i>)
2002	Becky Rogers – Jeff Meckstroth (<i>USA</i>)
2006	Karen McCallum – Math Granovetter (<i>USA</i>)
2010	Donna Compton – Fulvio Fantoni (<i>USA/Włochy</i>)
2014	Kerri Sanborn – Jack Zhao (<i>USA/Chiny</i>)
2018	Sylvie Willard – Franck Multon (<i>Francja/Monako</i>)
2022	Justyna Żmuda – Michał Klukowski (<i>Polska/Szwajcaria</i>)

2010	Rich DeMartino – Patrick McDevitt (<i>USA</i>)
2014	Henky Lasut – Eddy Manoppo (<i>Indonezja</i>)
2018	Marc Jacobus – Mike Passell (<i>USA</i>)
2022	Piotr Bizoń – Marek Blat (<i>Polska</i>)

2022 NICKELL (USA) – Nick Nickell, Ralph Katz, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein

♠ TEAMY KOBIECE — MCCONNELL CUP

1994 USA – Marinessa Letizia, Jill Blanchard, Sue Picus, Rozanne Polack, Judi Radin

1998 AUSTRIA – Maria Erhart, Sylvia Terraneo, Doris Fischer, Terry Weigkricht

2002 USA – Lynn Deas, Irina Levitina, Jill Meyers, Randi Montin, Beth Palmer, Kerri Sanborn

2006 STEINER (USA/Rosja) – Carlyn Steiner, Marinessa Letizia, Tobi Sokolow, Janice Seamon-Molson, Victoria Gromova, Tatina Ponomareva

2010 CHINY – Xuefeng Feng, Ling Gu, Yan Lu, Ming Sun, Yanhui Sun, Hongli Wang

2014 BAKER (USA/Anglia/Holandia) – Lynn Baker, Sally Brock, Karen McCallum, Marion Michielsens, Nicola Smith, Meike Wortel, Cenk Tuncok (npc)

2018 BAKER (USA/Anglia) – Lynn Baker, Sally Brock, Fiona Brown, Irina Levitina, Karen McCallum, Kerri Sanborn, Beth Palmer (npc)

2022 BRODY (USA/Węgry/Szwecja) – Joan Brody, Brigitta Fischer, Marion Michielsens, Cecilia Rimstedt, Sandra Rimstedt

♠ TEAMY MIKSTOWE

1962 WIELKA BRYTANIA – Rixi Markus, Fritz Gordon, Boris Schapiro, Nico Gardener

1974 USA – Jo Morse, Steve Robinson, Steve Parker, Bob Lipsitz, Peggy Lipsitz

2010 HINZE (USA/Kanada) – Connie Goldberg, Jo Ann Sprung, Lynn Johannesen, Greg Hinze, Daniel Lavee, Dale Johannesen

2014 SALVO (Niemcy/Anglia/Turcja/Holandia/USA) – Sabine Auken, Marion Michielsens, Anita Sinclair, Zia Mahmood, Roy Welland, Nafiz Zorlu

2018 MANFIELD (USA) – Melanie Manfield, Beth Palmer, Debbie Rosenberg, William Cole, Michael Rosenberg, William Pettis

2022 FERM (USA/Dania/Niemcy/Holandia/Szwajcaria) – Barbara Ferm, Christina Lund-Madsen, Daniela von Arnim, Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Simon de Wijs

♠ TEAMY SENIORÓW — RAND CUP

1994 ROHAN (Austria/Holandia/Israel) – Karl Rohan, Franz Baratta, Bob Kaiser, Kees Kaiser, Moshe Katz, Nissan Rand

1998 ROHAN (Austria/Bułgaria/Izrael) – Karl Rohan, Franz Baratta, Christo Drumev, Moshe Katz, Nissan Rand

2002 HOLT (USA/Kanada) – Diana Holt, Boris Baran, George Mittelman, Joe Godefrin, Ed Schulte

2006 MARKOWICZ (Polska/USA/Izrael) – Victor Markowicz, Victor Melman, Aleksander Jezioro, Julian Klukowski, Jerzy Zaremba, Shalom Zeligman

2010 HACKETT (Anglia/USA) – Paul Hackett, Gunnar Hallberg, Garey Hayden, John Holland, Reese Milner

2014 MILNER (USA/Francja/Polska) – Reese Milner, Hemant Lall, Michel Bessis, Philippe Cronier, Apolinary Kowalski, Jacek Romański

2018 MILNER (USA/Polska) – Reese Milner, Hemant Lall, Steve Garner, Mark Lair, Michał Kwiecień, Krzysztof Martens

2022 VAINIKONIS (Litwa/Polska) – Vytautas Vainikonis, Wojciech Olański, Apolinary Kowalski, Jacek Romański, Michał Kwiecień, Włodzimierz Starkowski

Dziękuję Marianowi Wierszyckiemu za przygotowanie danych statystycznych, wykorzystanych w tym artykule.

POLACY W WORLD BRIDGE SERIES

by Marek Wójcicki

Mimo że były to czasy „zamierzchłej komuny”, Polacy wzięli udział już w 1962 roku w pierwszych mistrzostwach świata par w Cannes. Wystartowała tam para Czesław Kuklewicz – Stefan Łowiński. W eliminacjach wzięło udział 78 par. Polacy uplasowali się w tej fazie na 14. miejscu (po czterech z pięciu sesji eliminacyjnych byli nawet na trzeciej pozycji) i awansowali do 36-parowego finału. W finale zajęli 25. miejsce, najwyżej byli po drugiej sesji – na 11. pozycji.

Polskie miksty zadebiutowały w mistrzostwach w Amsterdamie w roku 1966. Grali tam Irena i Jerzy Czekańscy (ze wsparciem Głównego Komitetu Kultury Fizycznej i Sportu), Danuta i Bogumił Seifertowie oraz Jadwiga i Marian Frenklowie (na własny koszt).

Z kolei w mistrzostwach kobiet pierwszy raz Polki zagrały w 1978 roku w Nowym Orleanie – były to Diana Dołowa i Jadwiga Frenklowa, które zajęły doskonałe 4. miejsce.

Ale 1978 rok i mistrzostwa w Nowym Orleanie to przede wszystkim pierwszy w historii tytuł mistrzowski dla reprezentacji Polski – zwycięstwo w pierwszych mistrzostwach świata teamów Rosenblum Cup.

Był to turniej rozgrywany po raz pierwszy, w bardzo ciekawej formule. Na początku 64 zgłoszone drużyny rozgrywały mecze 16-rozdaniowe, w schemacie zbliżonym do pucharowego. 16 drużyn, które przegrały po dwa mecze walczyły w turnieju na dochodzenie (Swissie), a pozostałe 48 podzielone mniej więcej według klucza geograficznego walczyły w trzech grupach systemem pucharowym, gdzie grano mecze 32-rozdaniowe. Drużyny przegrywające spadały do Swissa, a niepokonani w grupach awansowali do półfinałów. Czwartym półfinalistą był zwycięzca Swissa.

Polacy, grający w składzie Andrzej Macieszczak – Janusz Połec, Andrzej Wilkosz – Marian Frenkiel, Leonard Michniewski dotarli bez porażki do finału strefy „europejskiej”, gdzie zmierzyli się z Francją, przegrywając wysoko 49-127. Po spadku do Swissa, pokonali Maroko 34-13, USA Brachman (mający w składzie takich graczy, jak Kantar, Eisenberg, Goldman, Soloway, Passell) oraz USA Sontag (m.in. Sontag

– Weichsel), wygrywając Swissa i kwalifikując się do półfinału.

W półfinale ponownie trafili na Francję. W tej fazie grano już na zastonach. Półfinały były 40-rozdaniowe, w trzech tercjach 13,13 i 14 rozdań. Po pierwszej tercji Francuzi prowadzili 53-31, w drugiej Polacy odrobili 4 imp.

W trzeciej tercji kluczowe były dwa ostatnie rozdania. W przedostatnim francuski rozgrywający przegrał końcówkę pikową, wygraną przez Macieszczaka, a ostatnie zostało rozstrzygnięte na pierwszym wiście.

Po licytacji (obie przed, rozd. W):

West	North	East	South
Macieszczak	Lebel	Połec	Chemla
1♥	pas	1BA	pas
2♦	pas	3♦	pas
5♦	pas...		

Lebel wistował z karty:

♠ K 8 6 3
♥ 10 8
♦ K 10
♣ K W 9 8 4

Co proponujecie?

Lebel postawił na atak w krótszy z kolorów czarnych – w pika.

Tak wyglądało to rozdanie:

Rozd.40. W/Nikt

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

Po tym ataku i wzięciu pika w stole rozgrywka się zakończyła.

Na drugim stole Francuzi z rękami WE licytowali

bardziej naukowo:

West	North	East	South
<i>Mari</i>	<i>Frenkiel</i>	<i>Perron</i>	<i>Wilkosz</i>
1♥	pas	1BA	pas
2♦	pas	3♦	pas
3♠	pas	5♦	pas...

3♠ – wartości.

Po tej licytacji Frenkiel zaatakował w trefle, Wilkosz pobił asem i odwrócił w pika, po czym kontrakt był już nie do wygrania – 10 imp dla Polski i zwycięstwo 95-93!

W drugim półfinale Brazylija wygrała z USA 109-89.

W 64-rozdaniowym (2×12, 4×10) finale było już mniej emocji, po 24 rozdaniach było +24 imp, po dwóch następnych +63, a końcowy wynik to 165-80.

Na kolejne złoto trzeba było czekać do 1994 roku, gdy w Albuquerque mistrzostwo świata par open zdobyli Marcin Leśniewski – Marek Szymanowski, a w mikstach blisko był dublet – złoto dla Danuty Hochecker z Apolinarym Kowalskim, a brąz zdobyli Ewa Harasimowicz i Marcin Leśniewski.

Oto jedno z rozdań z turnieju par open w wykonaniu mistrzów:

Eliminacje. Rozd.10/I. E/Obie

♠ 10 8 7 4 3		♠ W 9
♥ W 8 7 2		♥ A K 6
♦ 9		♦ A 10 7 4
♣ D 10 9		♣ A W 3 2
♠ A K 5 2		♠ D 6
♥ 5 4		♥ D 10 9 3
♦ K 8 5 2		♦ D W 6 3
♣ 7 5 4		♣ K 8 6

Po licytacji:

West	North	East	South
<i>Nicholson</i>	<i>Szymanowski</i>	<i>Seres</i>	<i>Leśniewski</i>
2♣	pas	1BA	pas
3BA	pas...	2♦	pas

atak nastąpił ♥10. Rozgrywający przepuścił, drugie kier zabił królem, i w lewie trzeciej

wszedł królem karo do stołu. Kolejny jego ruch to blotka pik do dziewiątki w ręce. Marcin wziął lewą damą i odszedł w pika(!). Seres przepuścił do waleta, gdyż jego plan na dalszą grę był taki: as karo (podzieliły się 3-2) i oddanie lewy karowej, a następnie dojście czwartym karem do asa-króla pik i zadeklarowanie dziewięciu lew. Po zagranium asa karo okazało się jednak, że do honorów pikowych nie ma już dojścia, więc 3BA zakończyło się wpadką bez trzech za 300. Zauważmy, że gdyby Marcin po wzięciu lewy na damę pik kontynuował kiery, to rozgrywający mógłby sprawdzić podział kar, a potem wziąć należnych mu w tym momencie siedem lew. Różnica pomiędzy zapisami 200 i 300 dla EW wynosiła blisko pół maksa.

Lille w 1998 to kolejny tytuł – znów w parach open – dla pary Michał Kwiecień – Jacek Pszczoła.

Michał stwierdził, że ten tytuł zdobyli „w strefie dmuchu”. Oto jeden z przykładów. My przed, oni po. Z kartą:

♠ W
♥ K D 9 4
♦ D 10 2
♣ A 7 6 5 3

podejmujemy decyzję po licytacji:

West	North	East	South
<i>Kwiecień</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
1♣*	pas	1♠	2♦
pas	pas	ktr.*	pas
?			

1♣ – Strefa;
ktr. – wywoławcza, nadwyżkowa.

Michał spasował!

A tak wyglądał rozkład:
W/NS

♠ 8 7 3		♠ K D 10 6 5
♥ A W 6 3		♥ 10 8
♦ 8 3		♦ 9 7 5
♣ W 10 8 4		♣ K D 9
♠ W		♠ A 9 4 2
♥ K D 9 4		♥ 7 5 2
♦ D 10 2		♦ A K W 6 4
♣ A 7 6 5 3		♣ 2

Bez jednej było „z góry”, ale rozgrywający przepuścił ♠W w którego zawistował Michał i skończyło się bez dwóch, za 500 – dzielonym maksem.

Kolejne złoto w turniejach open to Rosenblum Cup w Sanyi w 2014 roku dla teamu Mazurkiewicz – Marcin Mazurkiewicz, Krzysztof Jassem, Piotr Gawryś, Michał Klukowski, Stanisław Gołębowski, Włodzimierz Starkowski.

Tutaj chyba najtrudniejszy był półfinał przeciwko drużynie Ventina, wygrany różnicą 14 imp – 90-76.

Oto rozdanie z ostatniej części tego meczu, które przyniosło Polakom 12 imp:

Rozd.17/III. N/Nikt

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

Auken – Welland z kartami NS zalicytowali naukowo:

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Gołębowski</i>	<i>Welland</i>
	1♥	1♠	4♦*
4♥	5♠*	pas	6♥
6♠	7♥	7♠	ktr.
pas...			

4♦ – kara z fitem kierowym, siła co najmniej na końcówkę;

5♠ – Blackwood wyłączeniowy.

Po tej licytacji WE, nie mając żadnych wartości poza pikami, uwierzyli przeciwnikom, że ci wiedzą, co robią i poszli w obronę wielkiego szlema. Kosztowało to tylko 800.

Na drugim stole sekwencja prowadząca do szlema wyglądała nieco na licytację „z przyrzutu”:

West	North	East	South
<i>Upmark</i>	<i>Gawryś</i>	<i>Wrang</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
	1♥	1♠	2♠
4♠	6♦	pas	7♥
pas...			

Tutaj WE nie zdecydowali się na tę, wysoce opłacalną obronę, i NS zapisali +1510, zarabiając 12 imp.

W finale MAZURKIEWICZ pokonał wyraźnie MONACO 131-80.

Gawryś i Klukowski powtórzyli ten sukces w roku 2018 w Orlando, grając w teamie Zimmermann.

W 2022 World Bridge Series rozegrano we Wrocławiu.

Tutaj Polacy zdobyli 4 złote medale – 3 w turniejach par – mikstów – Justyna Żmuda i Michał Klukowski, open – Krzysztof Buras – Piotr Lutostański i seniorów – Piotr Bizoń i Marek Błat.

Czwarty złoty medal był także dziełem seniorów – turniej teamów w tej kategorii (Rand Cup) wygrał zespół Vainikonis – Vytautas Vainikonis, Wojciech Olański, Apolinary Kowalski, Jacek Romański, Michał Kwiecień i Włodzimierz Starkowski.

Zresztą Rand Cup to poza parami open chyba nasz najbardziej medalodajna konkurencja. W 2006 roku w Weronie zwyciężył team Markowicz, mający w składzie Wiktora Markowicza, Juliana Klukowskiego, Aleksandra Jezioro i Jerzego Zarembę. Dwukrotnie wygrywał tu team Milnera, w którym grali – w 2014 roku – Apolinary Kowalski – Jacek Romański, a w 2018 – Michał Kwiecień i Krzysztof Martens.

Mam nadzieję, że w Katowicach ta lista znacznie się poszerzy!

Senior Teams

Standings after Qualification — Round 8 · Victory Points

R8
ROUND

Qualification in progress · provisional standings, further rounds still to be played

24 TEAMS

POS	TEAM	VICTORY POINTS
1	ZIMMERMANN	117.99
2	PKB POZNAN	99.63
3	MILNER	96.86
4	MOSSOP	92.90
5	SIMSON	92.68
6	POLAND	90.75
7	KALISH	88.59
8	TEXAN ACES	86.07
9	WOLFSON	85.92
10	PKB THERM	84.85
11	GDAKRA	84.77
12	VALLON	81.74
13	BAZA BOGIER	80.63
14	OMEGA	80.33
15	MISFIT	79.12
16	GOODMAN	77.80
17	MUNICH PLUS	73.05
18	CANADA	70.12
19	LECH	62.84
20	HAMMER	61.85
21	RSB RACIBORZ	53.03
22	KBS LEGIONOWO	50.61
23	MAGIC	50.34
24	BEIJING GLOBAL	49.73

Qualification completed · ranking by Victory Points, team names link to the official team page

KATOWICE 2026

POS	TEAM	VP	POS	TEAM	VP	POS	TEAM	VP
1	SIVY B	127.53	34	ZORZA	87.63	67	RANGERS	72.68
2	TICKET TO RIDE	110.93	35	PATRICK SAADA	86.56	68	POLLACK	72.18
3	CHINA1	107.71	36	WARNER	86.36	69	GUPTA	72.03
4	BHARGAVA	104.10	37	COLE	86.18	70	SZPILKA	71.14
5	MILLENS	103.91	38	EDAMAME	85.85	71	MIXED ACES	70.65
6	DAISY CHAIN	103.73	39	LEWIS	85.77	72	LIVIA	70.05
7	ASHE	100.70	40	KICIA ROZEK	83.60	73	EKA	70.03
8	BULGARIA MIXED	99.99	41	PLAN B BRIDGE	83.43	74	GLORIA	69.91
9	GOOD LUCK	99.91	42	LONDON CALLING	83.37	75	PANTHERA SIABADABADA	68.81
10	SHEN	99.16	43	PLAY SMALL	81.96	76	DRIM TIM	68.66
11	MINITER	98.90	44	SEOUL	81.66	77	SSYK	67.53
12	DH888	98.69	45	SAVERIA	81.17	78	SCHONFELD FINESSE	67.42
13	LEIBOWITZ	98.55	46	ROBBOS RABBLE	80.94	79	FERM	66.46
14	POLAR FORMOSA	98.25	47	ZHANG	80.50	80	SUSHI BELT	65.52
15	EDMONDS	97.63	48	CARE	80.42	81	UKRAINE MIXED	64.89
15	TOROS LOCOS	97.63	49	WNUKOWAN	80.09	82	FLYHIGH	64.72
17	TIME PENALTY	96.67	50	JINJIANG	79.77	83	MACCABI YAFO	64.10
18	ROSENTHAL	95.58	51	GAMEWON	79.51	84	LOKALSI	61.90
19	PLATINUM	95.40	52	NO FINESSE	79.48	85	HETZ	61.02
20	QINGDAO SAILUN	93.99	53	ZY1	79.40	86	FAILLA	59.27
21	DAUGAVA	93.55	54	SHOURIE	78.97	87	BEIJING GLOBAL	59.19
22	MIXED NUTS	93.54	55	BLUE NOTE	78.93	88	CASSIO	58.14
23	DINKIN	93.45	56	PARKER	78.11	89	DREAM TEAM	57.49
24	GILLIS	92.63	57	PANDA POSSE	77.72	90	ITALY MARINO	56.90
25	CHINA2	92.20	58	ISTANBUL	76.50	91	SPADE FORCE ONE	56.24
26	GR4S	91.78	59	RATRUT	76.37	92	MOLK	56.23
27	REIGNWOOD	91.10	60	YOSHKA	75.66	93	GOVIT PTC	56.13
28	DITI	91.06	61	CHINA ENJOY	75.30	94	SUNSHINE	54.57
29	LLAMA	90.96	62	BV WALDSOLMS	75.16	95	TEAM RUSH	53.15
30	GEELY AUTOMOBILE	89.53	63	GROUP ONE TEAM	74.48	96	INCREDIBLES N BROS	48.62
31	YETTICK	89.09	64	GERADEAUS	73.70	97	MIXED AND DANGEROUS	48.34
32	JIN SHUO	89.02	65	BARR AND FRIENDS	73.17	98	PIWAKAWAKA	46.82
33	SV BRIDGE CLUB	88.96	66	TEAM MRS	72.78	99	ICECOLD	40.86