

Issue No. 11

Monday, 20 August 2012

Finish lines in view



The World Computer-Bridge Championship is underway at the Lille Grand Palais on the fifth floor. The field: Wbridge5, Jack, Microbridge, Qplus Bridge, Bridge Baron, Shark Bridge, Robobridge and Moose. The champion will be crowned on Wednesday.

It has been a long, hard road for the teams still in the running for a championship, and the grind of competition will affect some of the competitors in the 14th World Bridge Games. Players who can summon a bit of extra energy and concentration may be able to help their teams survive the bridge marathon.

There are no runaways in the semi-finals of the Open, Women's and Senior series, Russia's 132-88 lead over Poland in the Women's being the largest margin.

In other matches:

Open – Poland over Ireland 124-100, Sweden leading Monaco 97-95.

Women's – England over France 84-77.

Seniors – USA ahead of France 84-67, Hungary leading Sweden 113-92.

















In the World Transnational Mixed Teams, the leading qualifiers are Canada (Daniel Korbel captain), followed by Milner (Reese Milner captain).

Contents

Monaco v Netherlands8

OPEN TEAMS

Semi-finals									
ТЫ		c/o	Boards I - 16	Boards 17 - 32	Boards 33 - 48	Boards 49 - 64	Boards 65 - 80	Boards 81 - 96	Total
1	Poland	0	56	5	63	-	-	-	124
	Ireland	0	12	61	27	-	-	-	100
2	Monaco	0	33	33	29	-	-	-	95
	Sweden	0	18	20	59	-	-	-	97

WOMEN's TEAMS

Semi-finals									
Tbl		c/o	Boards I - 16	Boards 17 - 32	Boards 33 - 48	Boards 49 - 64	Boards 65 - 80	Boards 81 - 96	Total
11	Poland	0	16	8	64	-	-	-	88
	Russia	0	25	52	55	-	-	-	132
12	France	0	26	28	23	-	-	-	77
	England	0	15	29	40	-	-	-	84

SENIOR TEAMS

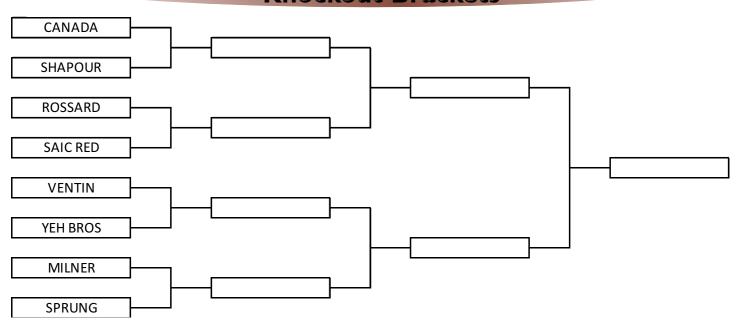
	Semi-finals								
Tbl		c/o	Boards I - 16	Boards 17 - 32	Boards 33 - 48	Boards 49 - 64	Boards 65 - 80	Boards 81 - 96	Total
21	USA	0	10	24	50	-	-	-	84
	France	0	36	17	14	-	-	-	67
22	Hungary	0	27	41	45	-	-	-	113
	Sweden	0	29	31	32	-	-	-	92

TRANSNATIONAL MIXED TEAMS

Ranking after 15 sessions

	282	18 BARRETT	245	35 CBC MILANO	230	CHAMPIONNET 220	69 3 CONTINENTS	202
2 MILNER	273	19 FUGGER	244	PIEDRA	230	53 SHORT 219	70 ROARING LION	S 200
3 VENTIN	262	20 RIMSTED	243	37 GRANDEBARBE	229	54 CZECHOSLOVAKIA 218	71 CELTIC CONNECTION	199
4 ROSSARD	258	OURSEL	243	GRENTHE	229	55 SLOVENIA 217	72 ASCOT	198
5 SAIC RED	257	22 BADGER	242	GERMAN SENIORS	229	56 SCOTLAND 216	73 TEAWAY	196
6 YEH BROS	256	BROWN	242	40 SYDNEY	228	57 BELAKRUS 215	74 SALSA VERDE	195
SHAPOUR	256	PAYEN	242	41 TISLEVOLL	225	SVENJA 17 215	XMEN	195
SPRUNG	256	BUSSE	242	TOP ONE	225	59 SWISS BEARS 214	76 MPE	194
9 BIRMAN	254	26 BARIBAL	238	RONPA	225	60 LADY 213	77 IMPALA	193
DJARUMI	254	27 SAIC BLUE	236	44 TICOS Y TRINI	224	61 GOTARD 212		
	253	28 CHAGAS	234	BRIDGE MAGIQUE	224	62 HONG KONG 211	TITOW	193
ZIA	253	KARSIYAKA	234	46 MIXERS	223	KIWI 211	79 MOBC	192
AUSTRIA	253	SIENNA	234	BROGELAND	223	NEW ZEALAND 211	PETIT LEON	192
LATVIA	253	HAUGE	234	48 REYNOLDS	221	65 NORD SOUTH 210	81 MARUPE	191
15 AJDIAMENT	249	32 CROATIA	233	49 BINKIE	220	SCOTLAND TUESDAY 210	82 3ZONES	188
16 DJARUM2	247	COMPTON	233	CALDARELLI	220	67 MILLICENT5 208	83 KENYA	164
17 BEIJING TRINERGY		34 SIGMA	231	BERNARD	220	68 WHY NOT 206	84 D N KELKAR	133

TRANSNATIONAL MIXED TEAMS Knockout Brackets



Smoking forbidden in Grand Palais

Please be reminded that the Grand Palais is a nonsmoking facility. Players who smoke in the Grand Palais are subject to penalty for doing so.

Here are the rules and regulations regarding smoking at this tournament:

"Any player smoking in the building will cause his team to be fined 2 victory points (6 IMPs in a knockout match), plus a fine of 100 euros. Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing."

Gratis playing cards

The European Bridge League offer used cards free of charge. Those who want gratis cards should make a request at the Jannersten stall on the first floor. NBOs with weak economies will be given priority.

Duplimates for sale



The Duplimates used during the **Constant** tournament are sold at the Jannersten book stall for €2350.

VUGRAPH PRESENTATIONS

	10.30	
VG	Poland – Ireland	Open Teams
		(Semi-finals)
BBO 2	USA – France	Senior Teams
		(Semi-finals)
BBO 3	Hungary – Sweden	Senior Teams
		(Semi-finals)
BBO 4	Monaco – Sweden	Open Teams
		(Semi-finals)
BBO 5	France – England	Women's Teams
		(Semi-finals)

14.00 and 17.00 To be decided

You can follow live play of the Transnational Mixed Team quarter-final matches at www.bridgecardreader.com

REGISTRATION FOR LA COUPE DE VILLE

"La coupe de Ville," a team competition with board-a-match scoring, begins on Monday.

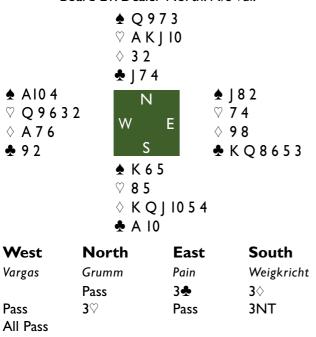
The teams eliminated in the World Transnational Mixed Teams must register as soon as possible.



The fruit is ready, it's time to harvest! by Ana Roth & Fernando Lema

Brazilian history is closely linked to that of Austria: Maria Leopoldina of Austria (22 January 1797 - 11 December 1826) was an archduchess of Austria, Empress Consort of Brazil, born in Vienna, as the daughter of Holy Roman Emperor Francis II. Maria Leopoldina became Brazil's first empress consort and she played an important role in the process of issuing a Declaration of Independence. On 2 September 1822, a new decree with demands from Lisbon arrived in Rio de Janeiro, while her husband Prince Pedro was in São Paulo. Leopoldina decided to send him the news along with a letter advising him to declare Brazil's independence and warned him, "The fruit is ready, it's time to harvest." Prince Pedro declared the country's independence upon receiving the letter on 7 September 1822. "The fruit is ready, it's time to harvest." must have also inspired the Brazilian Meninas. In the Round of 16 in a super tight match (6 sets of 16 boards each) the Brazilian Ladies defeated the Austrians by 4 IMPs and won their passage to the guarterfinals. The match was Brazil 198-Austria 159 when the last 16 boards set begun. The Austrian ladies won the last set 52-17, which wasn't enough... Board 21 decided the match:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



Lead: 🗣 9

Leda Pain's 3 opening bid was crucial, because the only lead that generates problems to declarer is the club lead, as she had to use her only entry to hand in the first trick. Weigkricht played a little club from dummy, Leda Pain played her $\mathbf{A}Q$ and South won the trick with her $\mathbf{A}A$. Declarer continued with a heart to the $\heartsuit 10$, after winning the trick she continued with the $\diamond 2$ to the $\diamond Q$, Vargas played her $\diamond 6$. Weigkricht immediately played another heart to the $\heartsuit J$ and a diamond to the $\diamond K$, this time Isabella played her

 $\diamond A$ and continued with her last club. Pain won the trick with her $\clubsuit K$ to play another club, declarer found herself in the dummy, with little hope. She played the $\heartsuit A$ and a spade to his $\bigstar K$, but Vargas won with her $\bigstar A$ and returned $\heartsuit 9$. Again declarer was where she didn't want to be. She made one trick more with dummy's $\bigstar Q$, but had to give the last two tricks to Brazil, one down.

In the other Room:

West	North	East	South
Assman	David	Gogoman	de Mello
	Pass	Pass	$ \diamond$
\bigcirc	Double	2 🛧	2♦
Pass	20	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

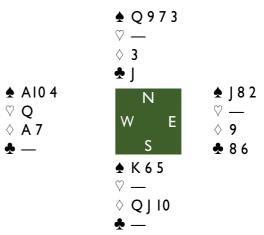
Lead: $\heartsuit{2}$

Declarer won the trick with the $\heartsuit 10$ and played the $\diamondsuit 2$ to the $\diamondsuit K$, which won the trick. She continued with the $\diamondsuit Q$. This time West played her $\diamondsuit A$ to play her $\clubsuit 9$. De Mello won the trick with her $\clubsuit A$, ran all her diamonds, continued with a heart to the $\heartsuit J$ and at the end lost a club to score +630 and 12 IMPs.

The club lead forces declarer to play the board carefully. Declarer wins the first trick and plays a heart to the $\heartsuit 10$ and a little diamond to her $\diamondsuit K$. If she wins the trick, she must stop to think.

Declarer needs West to open spades or to return a diamond after she wins the trick with her $\diamond A$. For that to happen she must be stripped in hearts and clubs. As East opened with a 3 \clubsuit bid, declarer knows that West must have at least 2 club cards.

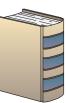
So declarer's best chance after winning the trick with her $\Diamond K,$ is to play a heart to the $\heartsuit J,$ and play her top hearts. She finds out that hearts were 5-2 and West has the last heart. Now she continues with a little club. East wins the trick...



If East returns a club, declarer wins in dummy and end plays West with a diamond. If East returns a diamond, declarer end plays West and if she returns a spade, declarer plays a little one from her hand; if West wins the trick with her \bigstar A, she will make 3 tricks - the rest are for declarer and if she plays a little spade, declarer wins in dummy and end plays West with a diamond. So any return will ultimately end play West, and she will have to play a diamond or a spade for declarer's ninth trick.

What happened on this board in the rest of the matches? Almost all the tables played 3NT by N/S, and almost all the tables that received a club lead were down 1,2 or three tricks.

2012 World Championship Book



The official book of these championships will be available early next year. As usual, it will cover all the best of the action, including every board of the finals of the Women's and Open Teams Championships. There will be a full results ser-

vice and listing of all participants and many photos.

The writing team will consist of Brian Senior, Barry Rigal, John Carruthers and Geo Tislevoll.

On publication, the price will be US\$35.00 per copy, but if you order and pay for your copy here in Lille you will get the special discount price of US\$25.00 or \notin 20.00, including surface mail.

To order, please see Jan Swaan in the Press Room.

Championship Diary

In round 3 of the Transnational Mixed Teams, team "Impala," a team with a strong Botswanan participation, met team "Roaring Lions" from South Africa. The Lions had lunch: 36-4.



The Lebanese ladies in Lille Think Zia is king of the Hill. He thinks he's still thirty And tries to be flirty, At this he's the world champion still.

The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side

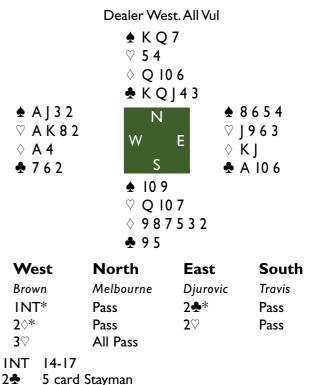
by Mark Horton

The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side is a work of detective fiction by Agatha Christie It is set in the fictional English village of St. Mary Mead and features Miss Marple. It was dedicated by Christie: 'To Margaret Rutherford, in admiration.' – the actress played the fictional detective in a number of films.

The title of the novel comes from the poem The Lady of Shalott by Alfred, Lord Tennyson. It is referred to by name several times in the novel, with these lines being frequently quoted:

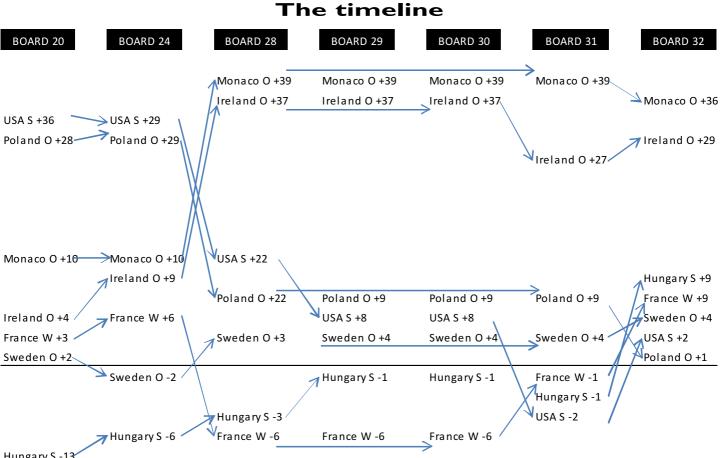
Out flew the web and floated wide-The mirror crack'd from side to side; "The curse is come upon me," cried The Lady of Shalott.

Bridge players are well aware of hands that contain a mirrored distribution. On this deal from round 10 of the Transnational Mixed Teams declarer failed to overcome her problem - but it took some cunning defence to crack the mirror.



East-West did well to stop short of the hopeless game, but their mirror distribution made even $3\heartsuit$ a problem.

South led the ten of spades and declarer went up with the ace and cashed the top hearts. When the queen failed to appear she cashed the ace of diamonds, played a diamond to the king and exited with a spade. North won, cashed another spade and exited with the four of clubs! When declarer failed to put in the ten South won with the nine, cashed the queen of hearts and exited with a club.



Hungary S -13

This is the timeline of set six in the quarter finals. After five sets, all four open guarter-finals were extremely close, while two of the seniors and two of the women's matches threatened to come down to the wire. In practice, the English women managed to keep the Swedish ladies at bay without too many concerns. The other seven matches oscillated back and forth... here is an illustration of how events transpired. The matches are defined by reference to the lead of the eventual winning team, after four, eight and twelve deals,

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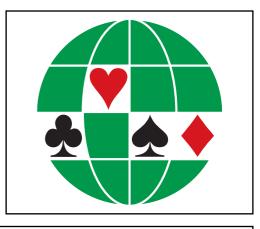
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and then individually after each of the very last four deals. These were the scores with 16 deals to go.

USA S +32 Poland O +17 France W +10 Ireland O +9 Hungary S-I Sweden O -4 Monaco O -12



Only few days left

During this event, The French Magazine, Le Bridgeur, offers an annual subscription at the very special prize : 55 euros a year for readers living in France, with a small postal supplement for others. Subscriptions are taken at Jannersten store, first floor.

On a regular daily basis BridgeTopics.com will transmit videos giving impressions from the Grand Palais in Lille about the 2nd World Mind Sports Games, by means of interviews with players and personalities of all sports.



The link is: http://www.bridgetopics.com/2012-2nd-world-mind-sports-games

I've got a Horse

by Mark Horton



Richard (Richie) Schwartz is an ACBL Grand Life Master and WBF World International Master. He is also well known as a follower of the horses and became one of the USA's most successful race handicappers from 1975 to 1989. On one celebrated occasion he was the only horseplayer in a crowd of 33,000 who had a winning ticket on the Pick Six and collected \$211,000, (minus 20% for federal taxes).

During that time he played rubber bridge and put serious bridge competition on hold.

Since retiring from full-time betting, Richie has won many national titles, including the Vanderbilit KO in 1997,1998 and 2005.

Here in Lille he is trying to win a World Senior title - this deal helped his team to a nail-biting victory over Denmark:

_	oard 6. Dealer	0 5 4 2	
 ▲ J 7 5 4 2 ♡ A 6 ◊ J 10 7 ♣ Q J 9 	N W S ▲ A Q I ♡ 10 8 5 ◊ Q 9 3 ♣ 8 7 6	● ◇ A ◆ 3 0	8 6 Q J 3 2 5 4 2
West	North	East	South
Jorgensen	Finkel	Berg	Schwartz
			Pass
♠	2 🛧	Dbl*	3♣
3♠	All Pass		
Dbl Support	: double		

North led the ace of clubs, South playing the six, suit preference for diamonds. When North switched to a diamond declarer put up the ace and played three rounds of hearts, discarding a diamond. North ruffed and played the king of spades. When it held he continued with a low diamond and South won, cashed the top spades and played a club for +300 and 10 IMPs when Neil Chambers made $I\heartsuit$ doubled for +160 at the other table.

In the Spotlight

Find out a little bit more about your fellow bridge players.

How did you take up bridge?

College Dormitory Lobby.

Biggest influence?

Fred Hamilton and Eddie Manfield.

Bridge Club?

1962-2000 Mayfair Cavendish NY.

First Bridge Book

Sheinwold's Five Weeks to Winning Bridge.

Favourite Music?

1960's (late 50's) Doo-wop.

Favourite drink?

Yoo-Hoo chocolate.

All time favourite player?

Ira Rubin and Al Roth.

Favourite TV Show?

The Untouchables about Eliot Ness.

Best achievement in Bridge?

Winning the 2011 and 2012 US Senior Trials.

Least favourite opponent?

Any top Polish Pair and Meckwell.

Biggest failing at the table?

Not winning the US Open Trials with Mike Becker after Meckwell had congratulated us at the end of the last set.

Most important attribute in a partner?

Pleasant and humble and not trying to cover up his own misguesses or mistakes and being supportive if I make any.

Your favourite tournament?

The Nationals that have the Vanderbilt since I have won it three times.

Other interests?

Simple trading in stocks (not options), horse racing, sports betting.

OPEN

Monaco v Netherlands by Mark Horton



W

♠ | 10 9 3

◊ Q 10 4 3

♡ **542**

🛧 K 10

Open Room

Verhees Ir

West

Pass

4♠

5♠

ith 32 deals remaining Netherlands led by just I IMP. Could they give themselves a cushion to take into the last set?

Board 7. Dealer South All Vul.

♡ A 10 8 6 3
 ◊ A J 7 5 2
 ♣ 5 4

N

875

Ε

♦ 6

W

 \heartsuit

 \diamond

Å

North

Fantoni

2\%

Pass

All Pass

North led the ace of hearts and declarer claimed the rest, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Helness	Brink
			Pass
Pass	\bigtriangledown	2♡*	Pass
4♠	Pass	5◇*	Dbl
6♠	All Pass		

North led the ace of diamonds and declarer ruffed high, drew trumps and claimed, +1430 and 13 IMPs to Monaco.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

ј9: К9			
96			
			≜] 9 7
l	East	South	♡ 954
	Van Prooijen	Nunes	◊
		Pass	📥 A J 2
	4 ♣*	Pass	,
	4 ♣ * 5◇*	Pass	

🛦 A K Q 4 2

🛧 A Q | 8 7 3

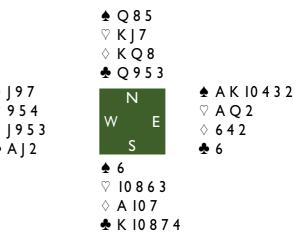
♡ K Q

 \diamond —

2♡ 10-13 (good 9) 5+♡ unbalanced hand; in 3rd seat could be weaker and max 12 (13)



Louk Verhees Jr, The Netherlands



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees Jr	Fantoni	Van Prooijen	Nunes
	INT*	2◊*	Dbl*
Rdbl*	Pass	2♠	All Pass
a A 11 .	с I		

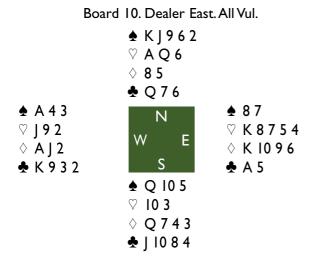
20 Hearts or Spades

South led his trump and declarer won with dummy's nine and drew trumps. In due course he took a heart finesse, +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Helness	Brink
	INT*	Dbl	2♣*
Pass	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

North led the five of clubs to the king and ace and declarer advanced the jack of spades. He overtook it with dummy's ace, cashed the king and exited with a spade. North won and switched to the king of diamonds. Three rounds of that suit enabled South to push a club through and that was three down, -300 and 10 IMPs for the Orangemen.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees Jr	Fantoni	Van Prooijen	Nunes
		Pass	Pass
◊*	♠	2◊*	2♠
3♡	Pass	4 ♡	All Pass

$2\Diamond$ Hearts

North led the two of spades and declarer won with dummy's ace and played a heart to the king and a heart. North won, cashed the jack of spades and continued with the king. Declarer ruffed and played the king of diamonds and a diamond to the jack - that was +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Helness	Brink
		Pass	Pass
♣	♠	Dbl*	2♡*
Pass	2♠	Dbl*	Pass
3♡	All Pass		

2♡ Spade raise



Tor Helness, Monaco

Declarer made the same ten tricks, but +170 meant another 10 IMPs had gone astray. Netherlands won the set 35-24 to lead 178-166.

In the last set of their quarter-final against the Netherlands Monaco once again proved unbeatable, only allowing their opponents (who, remember, are the reigning Bermuda Bowl Champions) to record IMPs on the final deal, by which time the issue was beyond doubt.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

	▲ K Q 6 ♡ K Q 10 8 ◊ Q 10 9 4 ♣ 10 4	
 ▲ A 5 2 ♡ 9 6 5 3 ◊ J 7 5 ♣ K 8 7 	N W E S ♣ 9743 ♡ 7 ◊ 832 ♣ Q 9652	 ▲ J 10 8 ♡ A J 4 2 ◇ A K 6 ♣ A J 3

Open Room

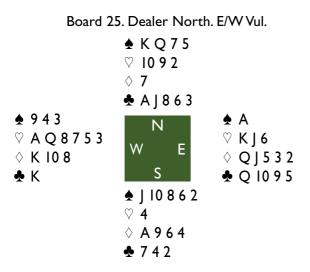
West	North	East	South
Verhees Jr	Helness	Van Prooijen	Helgemo
	I♦	Dbl	Pass
\bigtriangledown	Pass	INT	Pass
2NT	Pass	4 ♡	All Pass

North led the king of spades and declarer won with the ace and played the six of hearts, ducking when North played the queen. North cashed the queen of spades and exited with a spade. Declarer won, played a club to the king and a heart to the eight and jack, South discarding the nine of spades. Declarer cashed all dummy's aces and could have escaped for one down by exiting with a trump. He tried a club and South won and played a diamond for two down, +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	de Wijs	Fantoni	Muller
	INT*	DЫ	Rdbl*
Pass	2 뢒	DЫ	All Pass
INT 12-15			

East cashed the ace of diamonds and switched to the jack of spades. West took the ace and returned a diamond to East's king. Declarer won the spade exit and played the queen of hearts. East won with the ace and played a third spade. Declarer discarded a spade on the king of hearts and continued with a heart, ruffing in dummy, playing a diamond to the queen and ruffing his last heart. He had six tricks, but the lead was in dummy and he had to lose three trump tricks, -300 and 9 IMPs to Monaco.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees Jr	Helness	Van Prooijen	Helgemo
	Pass	$ \diamond$	Pass
2◊*	Pass	3♡	Pass
4 ♡	4♠	DЫ	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♡	5♠
DЫ	Pass	6♡	All Pass
• • • •			

2 Hearts

North's (somnambulant?) posture was a mirage as he came to life on the third round (he had rejected an opening bid of $I \clubsuit$ or a take out bid of $2\heartsuit$ at his previous turns). Is it any surprise that he found partner with a suitable hand?

When West decided to bid on his side was overboard, but South gave them another chance. Now East badly misjudged the situation.

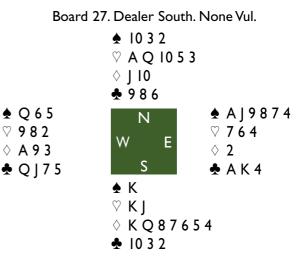
South cashed the ace of diamonds and switched to the jack of spades. Declarer won with the ace, cashed the king of hearts, overtook the six with dummy's ace and ruffed a spade. When he played a diamond to the king North ruffed and the defenders still had a trick to come in each black suit, three down, +300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	de Wijs	Fantoni	Muller
	2◊*	Pass	3♠
Pass	Pass	DЫ	Pass
4♡	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

20 II-15, 3-suiter, short 0 (4414, 4/315, 4405)

West led the three of spades and East won and switched to the six of hearts. West won with the queen and played another spade. Declarer won in hand, played a club to the king and ace, ruffed a heart and played another club. West discarded the five of hearts and East won with the nine and exited with the queen of diamonds. Declarer won with the ace and played a club to the jack and queen. In the five card ending East, who was down to $\heartsuit K \diamondsuit J32 \textcircled{0} 10$ could play any card and ensure another trick, down two, -300 and 12 IMPs to Monaco.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees Jr	Helness	Van Prooijen	Helgemo
			$ \diamond$
Pass	\square		2 ♦
2♠	3 ◇	3♡	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South led the king of diamonds and declarer won in dummy and played a spade to the jack and king (not a play calculated to bring cheer to any watching Rabbis). South switched to the king of hearts - one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	de Wijs	Fantoni	Muller
			$ \diamond$
Pass	\square	♠	2 ♢
2♠	3 ◇	3♡	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

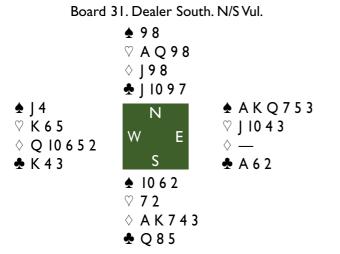
Play followed and identical course, but when in with the king of spades South returned the seven of diamonds. A heart went on a club, +420 and 10 IMPs to Monaco, who had taken the last set 49-3 and the match 215-181.



Brilliancy Missed?

by Mark Horton

This deal – the penultimate one of the quarter-finals – caught my attention because a member of staff who was watching it said that although the computer indicated it was makeable he could not see how (and believe me this guy can play the spots off them).

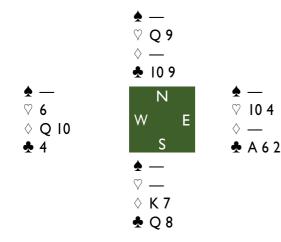


The popular contract was $4 \triangleq$ (a small number attempted 3NT and one made it on the lead of the queen of hearts!) with South leading a top diamond.

After ruffing declarer can count on another five trump tricks and two clubs. The other two tricks required must surely come from hearts and quite a few people tried an immediate jack of hearts which usually led to defeat.

In the match between the Seniors from Denmark and the USA, Peter Schaltz drew two rounds of trumps with the ace and the jack and then played a low heart. When North put in the eight he won with the jack, drew the missing trump and played a heart to the king and ace. he could use the king of clubs as an entry to lead towards the ten of hearts for +420 and 10 IMPs that almost won the match for Denmark.

Suppose declarer follows a different course after ruffing the diamond lead, simply drawing trumps in three rounds and playing a heart to the king and ace. The club return is taken in dummy and declarer cashes two more trumps to bring about this ending:



If either defender had discarded a heart, declarer would be able to play a heart to establish a tenth trick, but now has to decide if hearts were originally 3-3 or that the actual situation exists, in which case the winning line is to play the ace of clubs and another, endplaying whichever defender wins and ensuring a trick for either the queen of diamonds or the ten of hearts.

Well, one small clue might be the order in which South played his hearts. In the Monaco-Netherlands match Helgemo played the two (upside down) on the first round as did Romanski (for the Polish Seniors), while Upmark false carded with the seven (upside down) against the USA, as did Meckstroth in the other room.

On that scanty piece of evidence it looks as if it is down to a guess. Perhaps, but the odds of an initial 4-2 break are much higher and I'm not sure they have changed much.

What I can tell you is that the result of several of the quarter final matches would have changed if a few declarers had found the winning line.





OPEN

USA v Sweden



Down to the wire

by Brent Manley and Barry Rigal

			of their Open se-	Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.			ul.
		was ahead of L on the first bo	JSA 136-127.The pard.		≜ J 9 ♡ 8 4		
Bo	oard I. Dealei	r North. None	e Vul.		♦ Q		
	≜ K 9)			📥 K S	92	
	♡ Q	95		🔶 872	Ν	J 🔶 k	(Q 10
	♦ 10	432		♡ A J 5		♡ k	(Q 10 2
	📥 IO	83			W	E ¢ k	< J 10 5
\Lambda Q 7 4	1	<u>م</u>	10863	🕭 10 5 4	S	📕 📥 j	6
♡ A 7 2	W		< 6 3		♠ A 6	6	
◊ Q 7		\diamond I	A K 9 6 5		♡97	63	
뢒 A 9 7 5		5 🔶 🔶 (2		♦ A 9	9	
	≜ J 5				📥 A 🤄	Q 8 7 3	
	♡ 10			West	North	East	South
	♦] 8			Zia	Cullin	Hamman	Bertheau
	🙅 K J	642		Nystrom	Rodwell	Upmark	Meckstroth
West	North	East	South	,	/	INT	All Pass
Zia	Cullin	Hamman	Bertheau	The sustion	was the sam	o at both tab	

The auction was the same at both tables. In the open room, Peter Bertheau started with a low club to Per-Ola Cullin's king. Instead of continuing the suit, Cullin switched to a spade. Hamman played the queen, taken by Bertheau with the ace. He cashed four more clubs, Hamman discarding two hearts and a diamond. When Bertheau cashed the $\Diamond A$, Hamman claimed six tricks for one down.

At the other table, Rodwell continued clubs after winning the king at trick one. Upmark discarded two diamonds and a spade as Jeff Meckstroth ran clubs. Meckstroth then cashed the A, dropping the queen, and continued the suit. Upmark went to dummy with a heart and led a diamond to his king and Meckstroth's ace. A diamond to Rodwell's queen allowed him to cash a spade for three down and 3 IMPs to USA.

Six IMPs went to Sweden when a normal balancing bid by Meckstroth helped the opponents get to game.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

▲ A Q J 6 ♡ J 7 2 ◇ A Q ♣ 9 5 4 3	 ★ K 9 2 ◇ Q 8 5 ◇ 9 6 4 ◆ A 10 7 2 N W E S ▲ 10 4 3 ◇ A ♦ K 4 5 2 	 ▲ 8 7 5 ♡ K 10 9 6 4 3 ◊ 10 8 7 2 ◆ —
	♡ A ◇ K J 5 3 ♣ K Q J 8 6	

 ▲ A Q 7 4 ◇ A 7 2 ◇ Q 7 ◆ A 9 7 5 	© Q J 9 ◊ 10 4 3 ♣ 10 8 3 ₩ ₩ S ♣ J 5 2 ♡ 10 8 4 ◊ J 8 ♣ K J 6 4	E 2	8 6 3 6 3 K 9 6 5
West	North	East	South
Zia	Cullin	Hamman	Bertheau
	Pass	$ \diamond$	Pass
♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Zia Mahmood took the opening heart lead with the ace, cashed the trump ace and followed with three rounds of diamonds, pitching a heart from hand, then ruffed a diamond. Peter Bertheau, South, discarded two hearts on the third and fourth round of diamonds, so when Zia played a heart to dummy's king, Bertheau ruffed and exited with a club. Zia took the ace, ruffed a club and played the $\Diamond 9: \clubsuit$, $\mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{O}, \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{K}$, the last trick for the defense. Plus 450 to USA. The Swedes were more ambitious in the closed room.

West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Rodwell	Upmark	Meckstroth
	Pass	I \diamond	Pass
	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Dbl
6♠	All Pass		

Johan Upmark's aggressive raise to $3 \oint$ propelled the pair to the slam. Eric Rodwell led a low club to the queen, king and ace. Fredrik Nystrom played a heart to dummy and a spade to the queen and Rodwell's king. The club return was ruffed and Nystrom had to decide how to play trumps. He could play the A and hope the A was singleton in either hand or play for the \bigstar 9 to be singleton, but that works only when it's on his left. The right technical play in this case was wrong for the lie of the cards. Down one meant 11 IMPs to USA, back in the lead at 138-136.

In a close match, any little swing might be important. An odd play on the second board helped USA to one such gain.

West	North	East	South
Zia	Cullin	Hamman	Bertheau
♣	Pass	\square	Pass
INT	Pass	2♡	Pass
3♡	All Pass		

Zia made a move, but Hamman did not know his club void was facing four low cards, so he took the low road. Bertheau led the \clubsuit K, ruffed by Hamman. He played a spade to dummy's queen, ducked by Cullin. A heart went to the 10 and Bertheau's ace. Hamman ruffed the club continuation, played a diamond to dummy's queen, cashed the \Diamond A, played a heart to his 9 and ruffed a diamond with the \heartsuit J. He ruffed a club, cashed the \heartsuit K and took another spade finesse. Cullin won and could cash the \clubsuit 10, but he had to play a spade to dummy's ace at trick 13. Plus 170 to USA.

West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Rodwell	Upmark	Meckstroth
🐣	Pass	 ◊*	Pass
\square	Pass	2 ◇	Pass
2♡	Pass	Pass	2NT
Dbl	3 📥	3♡	Pass
4 ♡	All Pass		

*Hearts

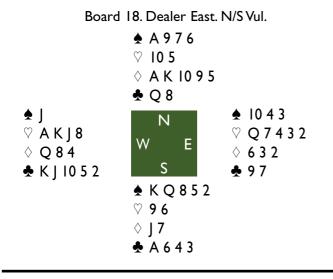
Meckstroth's balancing bid of 2NT showed the minors, and when Rodwell preferred clubs, Nystrom could tell that his club holding was facing shortness. When Upmark bid freely, Nystrom bid the 17-point game.

Rodwell led a diamond to the jack and. Nystrom cashed the $\Diamond A$, ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a club and ruffed a diamond with the jack. Rodwell overruffed with the queen and exited with a heart, but Nystrom had his 10 tricks and plus 420 for a a 6-IMP gain.

Despite that swing, USA won a quiet set 25-12 to take a 152-148 lead into the sixth and final set.

Set 6

The last set started well for USA when Upmark took a view that led to his defeat in a vulnerable game that was made with an overtrick at the other table.



West	North	East	South
Zia	Nystrom	Hamman	Upmark
		Pass	Pass
♣	$ \diamond$	Pass	♠
DЫ	3♠	Pass	4 🛧
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Zia started with the $\heartsuit K$, and when Hamman played the 7, Zia continued with a low heart to Hamman's queen. The club switch went to Upmark's ace, and he followed with a spade to the ace, then the top two diamonds and $\Diamond 10$. When Hamman followed low, Upmark discarded a club. Zia won the $\Diamond Q$ and cashed the $\clubsuit K$ for one down.

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Rodwell	Cullin	Meckstroth
		Pass	Pass
♣	$ \diamond$	Pass	♠
DЫ	3♠	4 ♡	4♠
All Pass			

Bertheau cashed his top hearts and continued with the $\diamond 8$ to the ace, Meckstroth unblocking the jack. He pulled trumps, ending in hand, and played a diamond to dummy's 10. When that held and the suit split 3-3, he could discard his three low clubs for plus 650 and a 13-IMP gain.

The Americans had a 165-148 lead, but it all went away on the next board.

Board	19.	Dealer	South.	E/W Vul.	
-------	-----	--------	--------	----------	--

 ▲ 6 2 ♡ A Q 5 ◊ J 9 6 ▲ Q J 10 9 	≜ 4 ♡ 10	7 4 0 7 4 E Q 8 5 4 3 2	A K 10 8 7 5 3 K 9 3 2
West	North	East	South

	1101 011	=450	Joach
Zia	Nystrom	Hamman	Upmark
			$ \diamond$
Pass	\heartsuit	4♠	5♦
5♠	DЫ	All Pass	

Hamman could have made his contract by playing North for his actual holding in spades, but after ruffing the opening diamond lead, he made the normal play of cashing a high spade. The contract could not be made from there, Hamman losing two clubs and a spade for one down and minus 200.

The auction at the other table resulted in a disaster for USA.

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Rodwell	Cullin	Meckstroth
			3 ◇
Pass	3NT	4♠	4NT
Dbl	All Pass		

Had Meckstroth run to 5 \diamond , the biggest minus for his side would have been 650 if the Swedes had bid on to 5 \pm – and if Cullin had taken the right view in trumps, not a sure thing. Meckstroth has nine tricks in diamonds, so 5 \diamond doubled would have been only minus 300. Either way, running would have avoided the calamity that occurred.

Cullin eschewed the spade lead that would have handed Rodwell his contract. Instead, Cullin led a low heart to his partner's ace. The $\bigstar 6$ went to the jack and king, and Cullin cashed the $\heartsuit K$ before going into a long huddle. He could cash the $\bigstar K$ to assure defeat of the contract – or he could try for more, risking a disaster for his side.

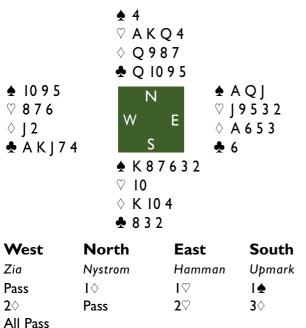
Cullin had to bet on Bertheau's holding the $\heartsuit Q$ and another spade. If he was missing the $\heartsuit Q$, Rodwell was going to take 10 tricks. If Bertheau had started with only one spade, at least the contract would be down.

After long thought, Cullin played a low heart to his partner's queen. Another spade through meant seven down, minus 1700 and 18 IMPs to Sweden, now in the lead 166-165.

There was carnage almost everywhere on this deal: in the Open Series Ireland and Poland picked up double-digit swings by making game in each direction while in the Women's series France and England did the same. In the Seniors Poland had to be content with a 'mere' game swing when they made 3NT and defeated $5\diamond$.

The Americans, trailing by I IMP, regained the lead on this board when the Swedish defenders missed a chance for a push.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.



Hamman led the \heartsuit 3, dummy's 10 holding the trick. A low club from dummy was taken by Zia with the ace, and he

continue with the king, giving Hamman a club ruff on the next trick. The \heartsuit J went to declarer's ace, followed by the \diamond 7, which Nystrom passed to Zia's jack. Zia played a spade to Hamman's ace. That was the fifth trick for the defense, and they still had the trump ace to come. Down two, plus 100 for USA.

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Rodwell	Cullin	Meckstroth
Pass	I \diamond	\Box	♠
2♡	Pass	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Bertheau started with his two high clubs, giving Cullin a ruff with a third round of clubs. Cullin cashed the $\Diamond A$ and played another diamond to the 10, jack and queen. Meckstroth cashed the $\heartsuit A$ and $\heartsuit K$, discarding his $\Diamond K$, then played a spade from dummy. Cullin took the $\bigstar A$ and continued with a diamond. Meckstroth ruffed with the $\bigstar 8$, overruffed by Bertheau with the 9. He could have assured another trick for the defense by playing a fourth round of clubs, allowing Cullin to ruff with the $\bigstar J$ to promote the $\bigstar 10$ to a winner. That would have resulted in a push. Instead, Sweden lost 2 IMPs to trail 168-167.

In the Seniors, Hungary reduced the margin in their match to single figures when they went down in $3\heartsuit$ with the east/west cards but collected 500 from $4\heartsuit x$ in the other room.

The Americans boosted the lead to 11 IMPs on the next deal.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

 	W S	9 2 8 6 3 E	x 2 J 6 2 J 5 3 2 2 I0 9 5
West	North	East	South
Zia	Nystrom	Hamman	Upmark
	♣	$ \diamond$	\square
20	2♠	4 ♡	4♠

Zia led the \heartsuit A and switched to the \clubsuit K at trick two. Declarer could not avoid losing two clubs and the trump ace from there for minus 300.

Pass

Pass

5♠

All Pass

4NT

Dbl

At the other table, the Swedes were cold for $4\heartsuit$ (vulnerable) but were blown out of the water in the auction.

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Rodwell	Cullin	Meckstroth
	2◊*	Pass	3♠*
All Pass			

All Pass

*Precision 20: 11-15 with one of four patterns: 4=4=1=4, 4=4=0=5, 4=3=1=5 or 3=4=1=5.

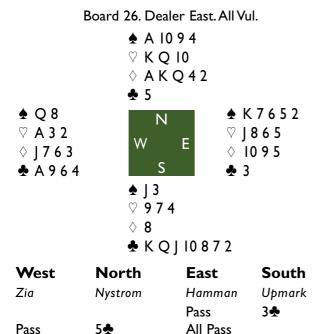
*Ostensibly invitational.

Put yourself in Bertheau's place. Your right-hand opponent is inviting game and his partner might be sitting there with four hearts and up to 15 high-card points.

Meckstroth put icing on the cake by making his contract. Bertheau led a trump to his partner's ace. The $\heartsuit K$ was next, followed by a second heart, ruffed by Meckstroth. He played a club to the king and ace, returned to hand with a diamond to the ace, and led a club, ducking in dummy when Bertheau showed out. A third round of hearts was ruffed, and when Meckstroth led a third club, he could claim on a high crossruff. Even if Bertheau had ruffed the club and exited with a trump, Meckstroth would have been able to establish the \clubsuit with a ruff and get back to dummy with a diamond ruff. Plus 300 and plus 140 meant 10 IMPs to USA, leading 178-167.

This board created havoc everywhere, as is not entirely surprising; the Irish established a commanding lead by being allowed to buy the hand in $4\heartsuit$ and defeating $6\heartsuit$. Meanwhile, in the Seniors Denmark (down 33) started their comeback by defeating $5\heartsuit$ and setting $6\bigstar$ 800.

The following deal put an end to the Americans' chances.



Nystrom judged well to bid the minor-suit game instead of 3NT. Upmark had only to discard a spade on a high diamond and drive out the trump ace to score up plus 600.

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Rodwell	Cullin	Meckstroth
		Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
Pass	3NT		••



Jeff Meckstroth, USA

Cullin led the $\bigstar 2$ to the 3 and Bertheau's 8. Rodwell won the $\bigstar 10$ and could then have made his contract, but only on a line of play no one would consider without looking at all the cards – and maybe not even then. The successful line is to win the $\bigstar 10$ and play the $\heartsuit 10$ from hand. East can win the jack and play anything, but declarer is in control. On a heart return to West's ace and the $\bigstar Q$, North wins the $\bigstar A$, cashes a third round of hearts and puts West in with four rounds of diamonds. With nothing left but clubs, West will have to play the suit and the defenders will get just one more trick.

On the lie of the cards, West must play the riangle Q at trick one. If declarer wins and plays a club, as Rodwell did, West wins and plays back a spade. East wins and puts North back in with a spade. Sooner or later, the defenders will prevail with two hearts and a trick in each of the other suits.

In the actual play, Rodwell took the \$8 with his 10 and played a club to dummy's king. Bertheau took the \clubsuitA and continued with the \clubsuitQ to the ace. Rodwell then played four rounds of diamonds, putting West in, and he exited with a heart to Rodwell's king. Rodwell cashed the $\Diamond2$, but he was stuck in his hand with the \$94 and the \heartsuitQ 10. He got out with the \heartsuitQ to Bertheau's ace, and another heart put Cullin in to cash the setting trick with the \bigstarK .

Italy, down 31, started THEIR comeback by making 3NT here and defeating it in the other room, but Ireland boosted their lead to nearly 40 with the same swing in identical fashion.

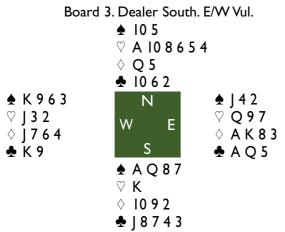
Plus 600 and plus 100 gave Sweden 12 IMPs and a 1-IMP lead at 179-178. Sweden tacked on 3 more IMPs over what at their two tables were six relatively flat, boards. The young team had made it to the semi-final round.

The action from those six last deals will be reported in a separate article.

IMP shortage

by Brent Manley

The last non-European team left in the main events is the USA squad playing in the Senior series at the 14th World Bridge Games in Lille. They will need to improve on their opening-set performance against France if they hope to reach the championship round. The strong French team won the first set 36-10, scoring almost all of their IMPs on three boards.



The auction was the same at both tables.

West	North	East	South
Piganeau	Finkel	Leenhardt	Schwartz
Lev	Grenthe	Landen	Vanhoutte
			Pass
Pass	2♡	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Richard Schwartz led the $\heartsuit K$, switching to a low club at trick two. Francois Leenhardt took the club in dummy and played a diamond to his ace. The $\diamondsuit K$ brought the good news that he had four diamond tricks, so he drove out the $\heartsuit A$ for his eighth trick and later led up to the $\bigstar K$ for trick number nine. Plus 600.

In the closed room, Philippe Vanhoutte started with a low club, taken by Steve Landen with the queen. He played a low spade from hand, covering the 8 with dummy's 9. That lost to the 10 and a club came back, taken in dummy. A diamond to the ace was followed by a spade to the queen and king. On a second diamond from dummy, North produced the queen. Landen won and played a heart from his hand. VanHoutte won perforce and took his two spade tricks with the ace and 7, then exited with a diamond to dummy's jack. Landen still had to lose to the $\heartsuit A$, so he was one down for 12 IMPs to France.

The following deal is one that the Americans would like to do over.

воа	ra 8.	De	aler	vvest.	None	vul.

	<pre></pre>	
	\Lambda 10762	
 ▲ A K 8 7 ♡ 6 5 ◇ A 9 4 2 ♣ A Q 5 	N W E S	▲ Q 9 2 ♡ K Q 4 3 ◊ J I0 6 5 ♣ 8 4
	🛦 J IO 5 3	
	♡ A I0 8 7	
	◊ K Q	
	📥 K 9 3	

,			
West	North	East	South
Piganeau	Finkel	Leenhardt	Schwartz
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

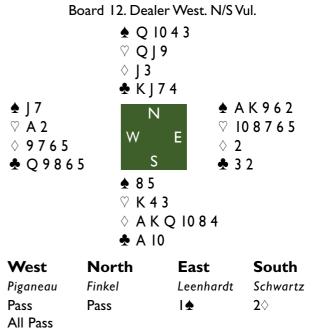
Lew Finkel led the $\clubsuit6$ to the king and ace. Patrice Piganeau continued with the $\pounds K$ and a spade to the queen. The $\Diamond J$ drew the queen, so Piganeau won and drove out the $\Diamond K$. The club continuation was ducked, Piganeau winning the next club with the ace. He cashed his winners and played a heart, hoping the hand with the established clubs didn't have the $\heartsuit A$. He was relieved when South won the $\heartsuit K$ with the ace but had no clubs. That was plus 400 to France.

The Americans could have beaten that score at the other table, but they fell well short.

West	North	East	South
Lev	Grenthe	Landen	Vanhoutte
INT	Pass	Pass	DЫ
Redbl	2♣	Dbl	2♡
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Lev led a trump to the queen and ace.Vanhoutte led a low club from hand, Lev winning the queen and playing another heart. Landen took the \heartsuit J with the king and played a third round of the suit. Declarer won in hand and pulled the last trump, followed by the \clubsuit K. Lev could have assured plus 500 by ducking, but he won the \clubsuit A, cashed the \clubsuit A, getting the 2 from Landen, then played the \diamondsuit A (declarer playing the king), then cashed the \clubsuit K and exited with a diamond to the grateful declarer, who had a club to get to the now-good dummy. Plus 100 was less than satisfying for USA, losers of 7 IMPs for their efforts.

The Americans were simply outbid on the third big swing of the match.



With a stopper in spades, a potentially useful honor in partner's suit and modest strength, Finkel may have considered 2NT. If he did, he decided against it. Leenhardt clearly had nothing more to add. Schwartz lost two spades and a heart to collect plus 130.

West	North	East	South
Lev	Grenthe	Landen	Vanhoutte
Pass	Pass	♠	Dbl
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East-West were never beating 3NT, but Patrick Grenthe ended up with two overtricks on the actual defense.

Landen led the $\heartsuit 8$ to his partner's ace. The $\bigstar J$ was covered by the queen and king, and at that point, Landen had a chance to hold declarer to 10 tricks by cashing his $\bigstar A$. Instead, he played another heart. Declarer won and cashed another heart, then ran diamonds. He had a count on the East hand, so the odds were 5-2 that West held the $\bigstar Q$. Further, the $\bigstar A$ was his ninth trick, so he could take the club finesse without risking his contract. Plus 660 was good for 11 more IMPs in a set won by France 36-10.

Supplemental BAM regulations

The following is a supplement to the information published about the Coupe de Ville BAM that starts today. See issue No. 9 for the first announcement of the event, which begins today.

Adjusted Score

A strong effort must be made to achieve a valid table result at each table.

When both tables achieve a valid result and they have played the identical deal, then the results are compared in the normal manner, with a BAM score for each team of zero, one or two.

A score assigned by a director or a committee is considered a valid result if it is assigned in total points prior to matchpointing (140, 400, etc.). The scores awarded to each side need not balance. The assigned score or scores are then compared against the result at the other table in the normal manner to reach a BAM score of zero, one or two. When the scores assigned to the opposing sides are different, the BAM matchpoints for that deal need not total one. NOTE: Directors and committees shall assign adjusted scores only to the table at which an irregularity occurred, not to the whole team. An adjusted score at one table shall not invalidate a legitimate result at the other table.

If a board is unplayable for any reason, then:

- 1. If the board has not yet been played at the other table, the director shall substitute a new board if practical.
- 2. If the board has already been played at the other table, or if substituting a new board is not practical, the director shall assign percentage scores to the pairs at the affected table, as follows:
 - a. If neither side is responsible for the irregularity, each pair receives a matchpoint score of 60%.
 - b. If only one side is responsible, that pair receives 40% and their opponents receive 60%.

c. If both sides are responsible, they both receive 40%. These percentage assignments are NOT Average-Plus and Average-Minus. A 60-40 assignment is exactly that.

- 3. The result obtained at the other table is matchpointed across the field of pairs in the same comparison group who played the same board. The percentage achieved by the pairs at that table are added to the assigned percentage scores at the table with the irregularity, and:
 - a. A team that totals 120% or more receives a win (two matchpoints).
 - b. A team that totals 80% or less receives a loss (zero matchpoints).

- c. A team that totals more than 80% and less than 120% receives a half (one matchpoint).
- 4. If a board is unplayable at both tables, then:
 - a. If both teams are responsible, they both receive zero.
 - b. If neither team is responsible, they both receive at least one, or their team percentage of session if better.
 - c. If one team is responsible, it receives zero, and their opponents receive at least one, or their team percentage of session if better.
- 5. Any team or teams responsible for an irregularity requiring the assignment of an artificial adjusted score (percentage) shall be penalized by half matchpoint.

Fouled Board

Handling of a fouled board is similar to the handling of an adjusted score.

When both tables achieve a valid result and they have not played the identical deal, then:

- I. The director shall determine a matchpoint percentage score for the result at each table:
 - a. If the board has been played at least six times in an identical condition, then the board is matchpointed across the field of pairs who played the board in that condition to produce a matchpoint percentage.
 - b. If the board has been played less than six times in an identical condition, the director shall assign percentages, from best to worst, as follows:
 - (1) Five times: 60, 55, 50, 45, 40
 - (2) Four times: 60, 55, 45, 40
 - (3) Three, two or one time: 50% to each pair
- 2. The percentages of the two pairs on each team are added together, and:
 - a. A team that totals 120% or more receives a win (two matchpoints).
 - b. A team that totals 80% or less receives a loss (zero matchpoints).
 - c. A team that totals more than 80% and less than 120% receives a half (one matchpoint).

Tie Break

The following tie breaking criteria will be used in order until the tie is broken:

- I. Minimum number of boards lost.
- 2. If all teams involved played each other the result of all boards played among them.
- 3. Total points of all boards played in common.
- 4. Total points of all boards played.

WOMEN

France v England

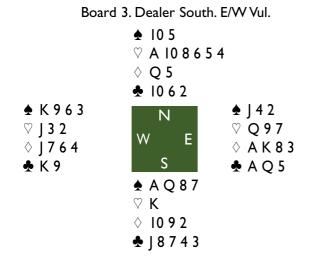


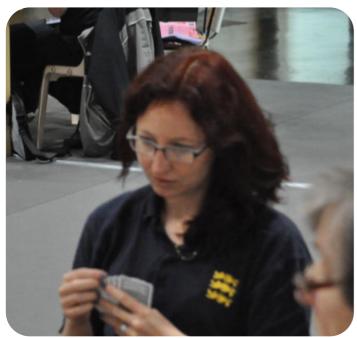
Entente Cordiale

by Mark Horton

The French term *Entente Cordiale* (usually translated as "cordial agreement" or "cordial understanding") comes from a letter written in 1843 by the British Foreign Secretary Lord Aberdeen to his brother, in which he mentioned 'a cordial, good understanding' between the United Kingdom and France. This was translated into French as *Entente Cordiale* and used by Louis Philippe I in the French Chamber that year. When used today the term almost always denotes the *second* Entente Cordiale, that is to say the written and partly secret agreement signed in London between the two powers on April 8, 1904.

Be that as it may there was sure to be no holds barred when the two countries met in the Women's semi final.





Fiona Brown, England

Open Room

We	st	North	East	South
Stoc	kdale	Puillet	Brown	Bessis
				Pass
Pass		2◊*	Dbl	Rdbl*
Pass		2♡	All Pass	
2◊	Multi			
Rdbl	Bid you	r suit		

In England the standard defence to a Multi is to double $2\Diamond$ with 13-15 balanced (or a much stronger hand). Either East downgraded her hand or the methods are different.

The English pair are noted for their aggression, so it was a surprise to see West pass 2° out.

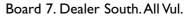
The defenders took a spade, a heart, two diamonds and three clubs for two down, +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hugon	Brock	Dauvergne	Smith
			Pass
Pass	2◊*	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

2 \diamond Weak 2%/2 \bigstar 0-8, may be 5 card suit NV 1&3

South led the five of clubs and declarer won with dummy's king and cashed two top diamonds. When the queen fell she played a spade and South took the ace and continued with the three of clubs. Declarer won, went to dummy with a diamond and played a spade foe the ten, jack and queen. South cashed the king of hearts and played a spade but declarer took he two tricks in that suit and came to hand with a diamond to cash the queen of clubs, +600 and 11 IMPs for France.



	 ▲ A K 8 2 ♡ Q 10 9 7 2 ◊ K J 9 3 ♣ — 	
 ♣ 9 7 ♡ J 8 6 3 ◊ A 10 2 ♣ K 8 6 3 	N W E S ▲ 4 ♡ A K 5 4 ◇ Q 8 7 ▲ A Q 9 5 4	 ▲ Q J 10 6 5 3 ♡ — ◇ 6 5 4 ▲ J 10 7 2



Veronique Bessis, France

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stockdale	Puillet	Brown	Bessis
			♣
Pass	∇	Pass	3♡
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT*
Pass	4 \diamond	Pass	4 ♡
Pass	5 秦	Pass	5♡
All Pass			

3NT Serious

The French had a good look but elected to stay out of slam.

East led the two of clubs and declarer took dummy's ace discarding a diamond, cashed the ace of hearts and played a diamond to the king. She cashed the ace of spades, ruffed a spade and played a diamond. West took the ace and returned the suit. Declarer won, cashed the king of hearts and claimed eleven tricks, +650.

Closed Room

We	st North	East	South
Hugo	on Brock	Dauvergne	Smith
			♣*
Pass	◊*	♠	2♠*
Pass	4♣ *	Pass	4♠*
Pass	6♡	All Pass	
♣	All weak NTs open	I♣ unless 5M	

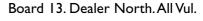
May be 4441 11-14

I ◊ Hearts

4**♣** Void

Sally Brock and Nicola Smith have been in terrific form, topping the Butler with an average of 1.52 IMPs per board and they powered into 6%.

East led the queen of spades and declarer won in hand and played a heart to the ace, East discarding a spade. A diamond to the king was followed by a diamond to the queen and ace and West exited with a trump. Declarer won with dummy's ten, cashed the jack of diamonds, ruffed a spade with the king of hearts, pitched a spade on the ace of clubs and took the marked heart finesse for +1430 and 13 IMPs.



	▲ Q 7 ♡ 4 ◇ J I0 3 ♣ A K J I0 7	63
 ▲ 10 9 8 5 4 ♡ J 9 6 3 ◊ K 6 ♣ 9 5 	 ▶ N ₩ E ▶ J 6 3 ♥ Q 10 ◊ A Q 9 5 2 ♥ Q 8 4 	 ▲ A K 2 ♡ A K 8 7 5 2 ◊ 8 7 4 ♣ 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stockdale	Puillet	Brown	Bessis
	♣	\square	♠*
3♡	Pass	4 ♡	All Pass

I Denies four spades

South led a club and North won with the king and switched to the queen of spades. Declarer ducked, won the next spade, drew trumps, unblocked the king of spades and claimed, +620.

Just give North the ace of diamonds and you will realise what a smart play ducking the queen of spades was.

Closed Room

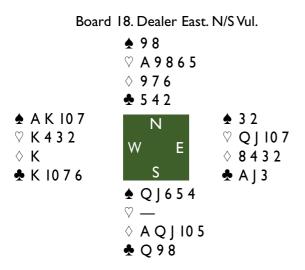
West	North	East	South
Hugon	Brock	Dauvergne	Smith
	3♣	3♡	Pass
Pass	Dbl*	Pass	4♣
4♡	All Pass		

Dbl Good 3⁺, take out

When they have passed up the opportunity to bid game the opponents don't generally do it if you protect, but they did this time to flatten the result.

France had edged a low scoring set 26-15 IMPs.





Open Room

West	North	East	South
Senior	Poizat	Dhondy	Vives
		Pass	♠
INT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♡	Pass	3♡	Pass
4 ♡	Dbl	All Pass	

North led the nine of spades and declarer took South's queen with the ace and played a heart to the queen, South discarding the four of spades (North does best to go up with the ace and play another heart, preventing an overtrick). When declarer played the two of diamonds from dummy South hopped up with the ace and returned the five of diamonds, declarer ruffing with the three of hearts and playing a club to the ace. If she now takes a club finesse it is easy enough to score an overtrick, but it was possible that North held the queen and she played a spade to the ten and continued with the king of spades. North should discard now, but ruffed with the nine of hearts and declarer overruffed with the ten. Playing clubs is still eleven tricks but declarer ruffed a diamond. Now the safe line is to cash the king of clubs and play a spade when you must make two



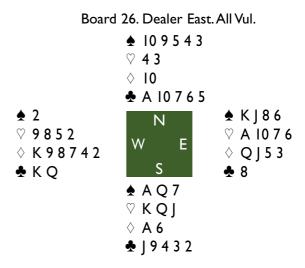
Sally Brock, England

more trump tricks. However declarer played a spade and North discarded a club. Declarer ruffed and ruffed a diamond with the king of hearts. All North had to do was discard her last club and claim the last three tricks for one down, but she overuffed and now declarer had to score a club and a trump for a fortunate +590.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bessis	Brock	Puillet	Smith
		Pass	
Pass	Pass	Dbl	2 ◇
2♡	All Pass		

Do you think West should bid more than $3\heartsuit$? Declarer got the clubs wrong and emerged with nine tricks, +140 but 10 IMPs for England.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Senior	Poizat	Dhondy	Vives
		I \diamond	Dbl
\heartsuit	♠	2♡	Pass
4 ♡	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

It is easy to be wise after the event, but West's trumps were very modest and she might have been better advised to make a try - but that is not her style.

North led the ten of diamonds and South took the ace, cashed the ace of spades and played a diamond for North to ruff. The ace of spades was followed by a spade and declarer put in dummy's eight and ruffed in hand. She ran the nine of hearts to South's jack and there was still another trump trick to lose, -800.

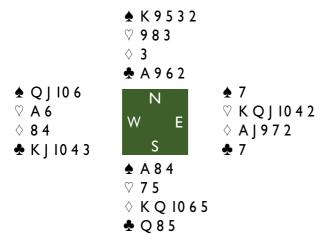
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bessis	Brock	Puillet	Smith
		$ \diamond$	INT
3 & * All Pass	3♠	Pass	4 ≜

East led the queen of diamonds and declarer took dummy's ace played a club to the ace and a spade. When East followed with the six declarer might briefly have considered putting in the seven - it would have made the contract provided declarer simply gives up a club at this point!

When she put up the queen and cashed the ace all hope had gone. She exited with a club, ruffed the diamond return and played another club. With a defensive error she took nine tricks, -100 and 14 IMPs to France.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Senior	Poizat	Dhondy	Vives
		\square	Pass
	Pass	2 ◇	Pass
2NT	Pass	40	All Pass

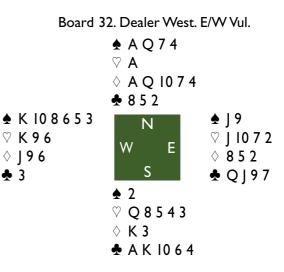
3NT has more practical chances than $4\heartsuit$ - you might get there if East rebids 3 \Diamond and then passes 3NT but $4\heartsuit$ was a practical shot.

South led the five of clubs and North took the ace and returned a diamond. South won with the ten and returned the king of diamonds (perhaps the queen is better). When North refused to ruff declarer won, crossed to the ace of hearts, pitched a spade on the king of clubs and claimed, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bessis	Brock	Puillet	Smith
		$\square \heartsuit$	Pass
I. ≜	Pass	2 ◇	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3NT	Pass	4 ♡	All Pass

South led the five of hearts and declarer won and tried a club to the king and ace. North played a second trump and declarer won and played a diamond to the seven and ten. South cashed the ace of spades and played a second spade to the king, declarer ruffing, drawing the last trump and then trying the ace of diamonds. She was three down now, -300 and 11 IMPs to England.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Senior	Poizat	Dhondy	Vives
Pass	I \diamond	Pass	\bigcirc
	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Declarer won the spade lead with her queen and played a club to the ace followed by two rounds of diamonds and the five of clubs. When East put up the jack declarer ducked and now had twelve tricks, +490.

That might or might not be a good result - for example if you reached $6\frac{1}{2}$ would you make it?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bessis	Brock	Puillet	Smith
2◊*	Pass	2♠*	All Pass
Oods!			

Having co-authored a book on the Multi I will confine myself to saying that I think North is right to pass but South should do something over $2\clubsuit$ - double is one option and N/S can take nine tricks against a spade contract.

The defence was less than optimal and declarer took six tricks, -200 and 7 IMPs for France, leading 54-44 after two sets.



WOMEN

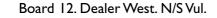
Poland v Russia

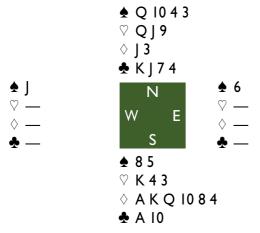


Has the pairs tournament started yet?

by Micke Melander

This tournament seems to have consisted of nothing but close finishes for days now, as was seen the day before yesterday, when several games were decided on the very last board. This has probably shaken the players up a little bit and they are more careful than ever, in trying to take all the tricks they can. That might however sometimes rebound on you.





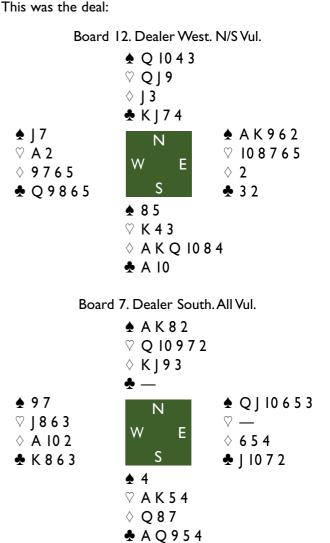
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Chubarova	Zmuda	Vorobeych	nikova Dufrat
Pass	Pass	♠	2 ♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Playing as North you receive the lead of the six of spades, you call for the five from dummy and West plays the jack. Reviewing the situation you realize that partner really had a sound overcall with $2\Diamond$ creating lots of tricks in your contract. Counting it all fast; your side has 26 HCPs, 14 are missing and East has opening hand values... remembering that every IMP counts – how do you play?

Zmuda for Poland didn't believe that Vorobeychikova had opened with $l \triangleq$ without the ace of hearts, especially not after also seeing the jack arriving from East at trick one and went for the pairs play and put the queen of hearts on the table at trick two, West won with the ace and returned the seven of spades, Vorobeychikova overtook it with the nine when declarer played low and contined with three more rounds of spades taking the contract one down.

The bidding was duplicated in the Closed Room, but there Sakowska for Poland led the eight of hearts, West won with the ace and shifted to the jack of spades, and declarer had no problem in covering that with the queen and claiming her ten tricks as soon as she got in. The potential I IMP win for Poland after Zmuda's play turned out to be 12 IMP in the other direction!



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kazmucha	Gulevich	Sakowska	Khonicheva
			2♣*
Pass	2◊*	Pass	2♡
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3◊*
Pass	3♡	Pass	4♣*
Pas	5 ♣ *	Pass	5NT*
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

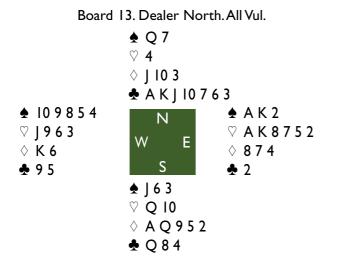
A short summary of Gulevich/Khonicheva's bidding from the Closed Room: $2\clubsuit$ was precision style and $2\diamond$ relayed for information, $2\heartsuit$ Natural, 2NT GF Relay, $3\diamond$ I-4-3-5, $3\heartsuit$ set hearts as trumps, $4\clubsuit$ cue bid, $5\clubsuit$ no real agreement – but driving on could be Exclusion Keycard may be could be another cue bid...,5NT I don't know what's happening any longer, $6\heartsuit$ let's stop in the small slam.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Chubarova	Zmuda	Vorobeychi	kova Dufrat
			♣*
Pass	♡*	2♠	3♡*
Pass	3♠*	Dbl	4♣ *
Pass	4 \0*	Pass	4 ♠*
Pass	5 ♣ *	Pass	5NT*
Pass	6♣*	Pass	6♡
All Pass			

In the open room the Poles bid their slam in a controlled sequence but Dufrat opted for another strategy by opening with the strong version of the Polish Club, rather than going the Precision style, as Khonicheva did in the Closed Room.

Neither of the declarers had any problem in ruffing a spade in the South hand to set up their twelfth trick.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Chubarova	Zmuda	Vorobeychikov	a Dufrat
	2♣*	2♡	3♡*
4 ♡	5♣	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kazmucha	Gulevich	Sakowska	Khonicheva
	2♣*	2♡	3♣*
3♡	Dbl	4 ♡	DЫ
All Pass			

Gulevich isn't probably that proud of her T/O double over $3\heartsuit$. Whatever message she was trying to transfer to partner it was misinterpreted and when East raised to game South had no problem going for business with her maximum hand for the limit raise she had shown in the bidding. When the ace of diamonds was in South, Sakowska had no problem making her ten tricks to bring home the game.

In the Open Room Zmuda bid 5 \clubsuit when Chubarova was there with 4 $\!\heartsuit$ in front of her. The defense took their four

tricks, bringing it two down. The Poles still collected 11 IMPs when they registered 790 in the Closed Room. The first segment ended 16-25 to the Russian women.

I. Dealer North. None Vuln. ♠| 4 ♡Q 9 6 5 4 ◊K 10 8 ♣10 7 4

West	North	East	South
Kazmucha	Gulevich	Sakowska	Khonicheva
	♣*	Pass	◊*
DЫ	\bigtriangledown	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	?	

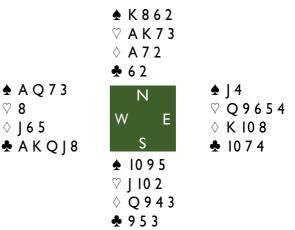
20. Dealer West. All Vuln.

≜K Q 3 ♡Q 10 8 5 2 ◊10 3 **♣**K Q 5

West	North	East	South
Khonichev	a Banasziewicz	Gulevich	Baldysz
Pass	Pass	\heartsuit	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	?

Two problems from the match. Sakowska thought for a long time before taking the double out, bidding INT on the first of them. Kazmucha raised to 2NT and Sakowska bid their game. That wasn't right when they simply didn't have enough tricks and their opponents weren't there to give any gifts.

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

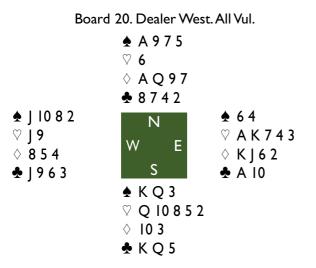




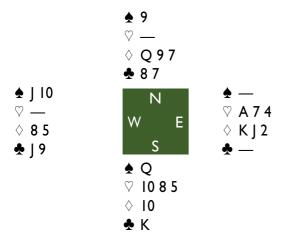
Danuta Kazmucha, Poland

When Sakowska tried to make something good happen in diamonds after the defense had led hearts she eventually went one more down than she had to. That was 2 IMPs to Russia when they played the same contract in the other room but only went one down after the Polish girls cashed out their five winners by a diamond to the ace, diamond to the queen, a spade to the king and their two hearts.

On the second problem Baldysz had a similar problem, but with slightly more HCPs in her hand. Still having to decide whether to defend against a one-level contract.



Baldysz decided to defend by passing the double out and led the king of spades, to the two, five and four. South now shifted to a small trump, which declarer won in dummy with the jack. When declarer called for a diamond from dummy, North went in with the ace and cashed the ace of spades before shifting to a small club, declarer won with the ace and exited with a club. Baldysz won and played back a trump, won by Gulevich who was down to the remaining cards with six cards to play:

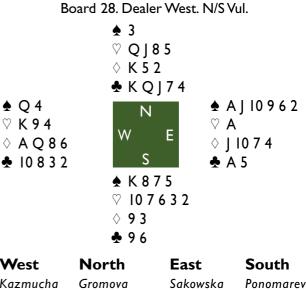


Declarer played the king of diamonds, all following suit, a low diamond to the eight revealed that diamonds weren't 3-3 and the Poles could just cash out their winners and wait for the trump tricks to arrive. Two down was 500 and a good score when in fact they couldn't make any game here, just a part score. Another 5 IMPs to Poland, one of their very few gaines from the second segment.

The Poles didn't have much luck at all in the first two segments of the semifinal. One final deal that illustrates it;



Elena Khonicheva, Russia



West		Last	South
Kazmucha	Gromova	Sakowska	Ponomareva
Pass	2♣*	2♠	Pass
3 ◇	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	6�	All Pass

Unluckily for the Poles both kings were offside, if just one of them would have been onside the slam would have been lay-down. Having said that $6 \pm$ should be a better contract to be in than $6 \diamond$. In the other room Gulevich the Russian women were happy to reach game, until the rescue patrol arrived in South.

West	North	East	South
Khonicheva	Banasziewicz	Gulevich	Baldysz
Pass	2♣*	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	

Gulevich re-doubled and easily took her eleven tricks. So even if the Poles could have made their slam on the other table for 920, they would have had to pay out to the Russians who scored 1080 for $4 \pm XX$ with an overtrick. Now it was a double large swing for Russia, bringing them 15 IMPs.

The standing after two segments was 24-77.