

Issue No. I5

## The winner - Sweden takes it all

Playing like a team of destiny, Sweden stormed into the final of the Open series in the 14th World Bridge Games with an impressive win over Monaco and then pounded Poland 37I-234 to claim their first Open world championship. Along the way, Sweden knocked off Israel and won a nail-biter against USA before eliminating powerful Monaco. The winners are Krister Ahlesved, Peter Bertheau, PerOla Cullin, Fredrik Nystrom, Jonas Petersson and Johan Upmark, with Mats Axdorph as npc and Jan Lagerman as coach.
The World Transnational Mixed Teams was won by Reese Milner, who came from behind against an all-Canadian team to win 179-I59. The champions are Milner, Petra Hamman, Hemant Lall (USA), Jacek Pszczola (Poland), Meike Wortel (Netherlands) and Gabriella Olivieri (Italy).


Open series silver medalists from Poland.


Sweden, new world champions.


Team Milner, winners of the World Transnational Mixed Teams.


Canada, silver medalists in the WTMT.

## OPENTEAMS

| Final |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tbl |  | c/o | Boards $1-16$ | Boards 17-32 | Boards 33-48 | Boards 49-64 | Boards 65-80 | Boards $81-96$ | Boards 97-112 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Boards } \\ \text { I13-128 } \end{gathered}$ | Total |
| I | Poland | 0 | 29 | 14 | 34 | 41 | 45 | 22 | 3 | 46 | 234 |
|  | Sweden | 0 | 46 | 42 | 43 | 70 | 49 | 15 | 77 | 29 | 371 |

## TRANSNATIONAL MIXED TEAME

| Final |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tbl |  | c/o | Boards I-16 | Boards 17-32 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { Boards } \\ & 33-48 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 49-64 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Boards } \\ & 65-80 \end{aligned}$ | Total |
| 31 | Milner | 5.3 | 36 | 37 | 26 | 33 | 42 | 179.3 |
|  | Canada | 0 | 38 | 60 | 24 | 21 | 16 | 159 |

## The WBF's first 50 years



Former WBF president José Damiani, now IMSA president
A new book, The First 50 Years of the World Bridge Federation, compiled by its Presidents and published by the President Emeritus, Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, is now available.
This historical book, as its title suggests, records the ups and downs of the WBF from the point of view of some of the people who knew it best.
This is a must-have for all bridge lovers and supporters of world bridge.

## Thanks, team

We started these championships without the usual cast - Brian Senior was occupied until near the end - but Mark Horton and Micke Melander took up the slack with outstanding writing. When our photographer, Ron Tacchi, had to depart during the sec-
 ond leg of the marathon that is the world championships, Micke filled in admirably, tearing himself away from BBO while Sweden was winning its first Open world championship and taking hundreds of photos. We were happy, of course, when Ron returned today.
Akis Kanaris did his usual outstanding job as layout editor - and thanks to Monika Kümmel for helping out by taking over the IMSA publication layout from Akis.
Thanks also to Barry Rigal, of Vugraph fame. Barry doubled as our proofreader, earning the Harvey Fox Award (my creation) for his diligence in that area. Herman De Wael also helped us keep our facts straight while providing updates from the Olympic Games that were going on at the beginning of this championship.
As always, working with this team was satisfying and fun. We hope you enjoyed the Daily Bulletins as much as we did producing them.
Brent Manley
Chief Editor

## Merci Beaucoup!

On behalf of all the journalists present at the 2nd World Mind Sports Games, I would like to thank the organizing committees of both IMSA andWBF for the facilities in the Press
 Room. Unanimously, we think the championships were well organized.
Jan Swaan, Press Room chief

## And the medals go to...



Russia, Women's series silver.


USA, Open series silver.


Poland, Women's series bronze.


France, Open series bronze.


BAM Coupe de Ville medalists: from left, first six, SAIC Blue (silver); Executive Council Member Mazhar Jafri; next four, Team Stansby (gold) and Dinamo Riga (bronze).


Monaco, Open series bronze (photo from European Championships in Dublin this year).


## WBF President's farewell

We come to the end of the 14th World Bridge Games, incorporated in the 2nd World Mind Sport Games, and I am delighted that it has proved to be so successful.
IMSA, under the leadership of José Damiani, has done a sterling job in organizing this event despite all the difficulties that they had to face and to overcome, and the WBF Championship Committee, chaired by Ernesto d'Orsi, has gone very smoothly from all points of view. They deserve our gratitude and our applause, not forgetting of course the City of Lille and its Mayor, Mme Martine Aubry, and the French Bridge Federation and its President Patrick Grenthe for the invaluable support given to the event.
But above all I would like to thank our marvellous staff, who worked very hard during this Championship, enabling it to be such a great success. We are proud of it and I am pleased to remember the various departments:
The Championship Manager, Maurizio Di Sacco, who coordinated the entire event with professionalism and dedication. The Appeals Committee headed by Joan Gerard and John Wignall with Ata Aydin, Huub Bertens, Chris Dixon, Ton Kooijman, Bill Schoder, Brian Senior, P.O. Sundelin and Herman De Wael as scribe. The Championship Rules and Regulations Committee chaired by Ernesto d'Orsi with Jean-Claude Beineix and Jeff Polisner.The Disciplinary Commission chaired by Georgia Heth with David Harris and Mazhar Jafri.
The Tournament Directors who have worked unstintingly, headed by Max Bavin and ably assisted by Antonio Riccardi, Matt Smith, Pierre Collaros, Bertrand Gignoux, Jeanne van den Meiracker, Marc van Beijsterveldt, Bernardo Biondo, Anthony Ching, Laurie Kelso, Rhami lyilikci, Slawek Latala, Sean Mullamphy, Mihaela Balint, Christian Bordonneau and Waleed El Menyawi. The System and Convention Cards headed by John Wignall assisted by Grattan Endicott.
The Secretariat with Carol von Linstow, Marina Madia, Anna Gudge, Gildana Caputo, while Mark Newton dealt with the Master Points. The Treasurer, Marc De Pauw, and his assistant Dirk De Clercq. Protocol was run by Anna Maria Torlontano and Sevinc Atay. The Communications section was run by Panos Gerontopoulos with the assistance of the Web Master Harry Alevizos. Jan Swaan managed the Press Room with his usual professionalism and the IBPA was represented by Patrick Jourdain, John Carruthers, Jan van Cleeff and Fernando Lema, who have brought to life a daily film-reportage helping us to show the world what a fascinating discipline bridge is.
Bridgerama was coordinated by Jean-Paul Meyer and very well done by Barry Rigal, Chris Dixon and David Stern, with Chicco Battistone, who was responsible for the technical side and Bernard Delange, assisted by Bernadette Pasquier and Flora Vicens, for the broadcasting. Bas van Beijsterveldt, Robin Fellus, Eria Franco and Fabio Lo Presti did an excellent job as key-board operators.
The Hospitality Desk, chaired by Silvia Valentini, with the able assistance of Gildana Caputo, Grazia Coppola, Peter De Pauw and Carlotta Venier did a marvellous job, presenting the image of efficiency in the championship organisation.


The Main Office and Caddies were overseen by Gianni Bertotto and Fulvio Colizzi with the help of Gianluca Barrese, Alex van Dongen and Hassan El Maragi. Gianluca and Hassan additionally were responsible for printing the many thousands of Bulletin pages for your enjoyment each day.
The Daily Bulletin was coordinated by Jean-Paul Meyer and edited by Brent Manley and Mark Horton with the help of Micke Melander, who also took some photos. Brian Senior joined the group for the last few days, while Akis Kanaris provided the layout and Ron Tacchi and Elisabeth van Ettingen the photos.
The duplication team of Monica Gorreri, Franco Crosta, Deborah Corsaro, Federica Parizzi, Simona Maini and Paolo Vecchio duplicated some 58,040 boards without a single error!
Professor Gianni Baldi coordinated the technological services, where Fotis Skoularikis was responsible for managing the system, Dimitri Ballas with Manolo Eminenti for the scoring, Duccio Geronimi with Nicoletta Pinto for the IT System, while Thomas de Wolff with Guust Hilte and Niek Otten managed the Card Reader System.
The Medical Commission with Paolo Walter Gabriele, Giovanni Capelli and Jaap Sthomporst, on this occasion assisted by Federico Bruno, added to their usual championship duties concerning the anti-doping texts with the collections of opinions through the questionnaire and I am sure the results will be very valuable.
A special thanks to BBO (coordinated by Traian Chira with Harold Joels, Francesca Canali and Anna Sotti) and Our Game (Baolei Kan, Weisong Gao, Weihua Yi, Lu Wang and Zhong Fu) who broadcast and delivered the matches throughout the world.
Last but not least, I am very pleased to express our gratitude to the French volunteers Vincent Fawaz, Jenny Rogeaux, Pauline Bele, Kevin Beron, Guillaume Zacharski, Guillaume Tellier, Francois Beugin, Alain Rajim, Damien Bele, Adrien Duwez, Denise Hericotte, Sebastien Skweres, Fabrice Charignon, Ivan Cailliau, Quentin Robert, Yoram Galinsky) for their invaluable daily help, supporting us in managing this championship with such dedication, professionalism and competence. Thank you guys!
But above all, on behalf of the WBF and myself, I am pleased to congratulate the players who have been the protagonists of this event and who, with their impeccable ethics, once again guaranteed its success, creating an unforgettable atmosphere of friendship, harmony and solidarity, all together, rejecting any discrimination.
Another great bridge event ends, the curtain falls and we are a little sad to leave our old and new friends, but at the same time we are happy to go back home, taking with us the memories of these friends and of another extraordinary experience we have had the opportunity to enjoy together.
Thank you, dear friends, have a safe journey home, and I hope to meet all of you soon.
Un abbraccio
Gianarrigo Rona

## England v Russia

## All Quiet on the Russian Front

by Mark Horton

A$s$ the final session of the Women's final got under way the score was 184-II5, making England's lead 69 - and that's a very good position to be in.
To have any chance of retrieving such a deficit you need some luck and the right sort of deals - and the Great Shuffler was in no mood to cooperate.

This just about settled things:
Board 19. Dealer South. E/WVul.
© K Q 106
$\bigcirc$ Q J 7
$\diamond 1084$

- J 96

| ¢ J 87 | N | ¢ 953 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 10$ |  | $\checkmark$ AK 9654 |
| $\diamond$ AKQ 9763 | W E | $\diamond$ - |
| ¢ K 10 | S | \& A 53 |
|  | ¢ A 42 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 832$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ J 52 |  |
|  | \& Q 842 |  |

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Khonicheva | Brown | Gulevich | Stockdale |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| $1 \diamond$ | 19 | Db** | 24 |
| $3 \diamond$ | Pass | 38 | Pass |
| 32 | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |

North's overcall made it impossible for E/W to play anything other than the major suit game, but South led the ace of spades and continued the suit and that was one down, 100.

## Closed Room

| West <br> Senior | North <br> Gromova | East <br> Dhondy | South <br> Ponomareva <br> Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| I | Pass | $I \boxtimes$ | Pass |
| INT* | Pass | $3 \searrow$ | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass |  |  |

INT $\mid \diamond-I \diamond-I N T=6 \diamond$, fewer than $3 \diamond$, NF $\mid \diamond-I \diamond-$ $2 \diamond=6 \diamond 3 \mathrm{NF}$

N/S could cash four spade tricks, but with diamonds 3-3 declarer had the rest, +600 and 12 IMPs.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

- Q 4
$\bigcirc$ KJ
$\diamond$ Q 987
* A Q J 83
- 102
$\bigcirc 976542$
$\checkmark 10$
2 10652


Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Khonicheva | Brown | Gulevich | Stockdale |
| Pass | $1 \dot{2}$ | $1 \dot{2}$ | $2 \boldsymbol{e}^{*}$ |
| Pass | $3\rangle$ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass

2. Diamonds


Elena Khonicheva, Russia

South may have given some thought to doing more than bid 3NT, but with a big lead you don't need to put your foot to the floor. In fact, played by North, $6 \diamond$ is unbeatable (and easy to play after the overcall).
3NT was a walk in the park. The ten of spades lead was covered by the queen, king and ace and declarer took a losing club finesse. She won the spade return with the nine and knocked out the ace of diamonds. When East failed to cash the jack of spades declarer had eleven tricks, +660 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Senior | Gromova | Dhondy | Ponomareva |
| Pass | INT | Pass | 2 e* $^{*}$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond *$ | Pass | $3 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $3 N T$ | All Pass |  |

You cannot hope to get the IMPs you need by playing a completely normal game, so North might have given some thought to bidding $4 \diamond$ rather than $3 N T$. Then South would be sure to drive to the diamond slam. It's easier to make when East has overcalled, but my money would still be on declarer.
It was flat at $\mathbf{+ 6 6 0}$.
I'll sign off with a nice example of technique, all the more impressive because it came near the end of a long match and 12 days of play.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

- QJ 65

8 A 93
$\diamond 982$

- J 109
- 92

P 10862
$\diamond$ K 107

* K Q 7

| N | ¢ K 43 |
| :---: | :---: |
| W E | $\bigcirc 74$ |
|  | $\checkmark$ Q 654 |
| S | 98652 |
| ¢ A 1087 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ KQ 5 |  |
| $\checkmark$ A J 3 |  |
| \& A 43 |  |

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Khonicheva | Brown | Gulevich | Stockdale |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | $2 \wedge^{*}$ |
| Pass | $2 \Omega^{*}$ | Pass | $2 \wedge^{*}$ |
| Pass | 4 | All Pass |  |

$2 \triangleleft \quad$ 18-19 balanced, no 5 card M
$2 \vee 4$ spades
24 4 spades
West led the ten of hearts and declarer won with dummy's ace and advanced the queen of spades. When that held she played a spade to the ten and drew the outstand-
ing trump as West discarded the two of hearts. Now declarer followed the sound principle of elimination by cashing her top hearts. She exited with the jack of diamonds and West put up the king and returned the seven for the eight, queen and ace. Declarer exited with a diamond, not caring who won, +620 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Senior | Gromova | Dhondy | Ponomareva |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | 19* |
| 18 | Db* | Pass | 2** |
| Pass | $2{ }^{*}$ | Pass | 24 |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 49 | All Pass

Is I2-14 bal may be $5 \diamond$, or 4414 ||-I5, or I6+ any
2\% GF+
$2 \triangleleft$ minimum

West led the jack of hearts and the first variation in the play did not come until tricks seven, when it was East who won the jack of diamonds with the queen. She switched to the six of clubs and East won with the queen and played the ten of diamonds. All declarer has to do is win this and exit with a diamond, but when she ducked West could exit with the king of diamonds and now it was declarer who was endplayed. One down, - 100 and I2 IMPs to the Champions.


Fiona Brown, England

## Best defense in Lille? <br> by Micke Melander



Fredrik Nyström, Sweden
Fredrik Nyström demonstrated that he isn't just an Olympic Champion but also an illusionist creating magic. Before looking at what happened, let's put you in Balicki's position as declarer to try to solve the problem. The hands are rotated.

You are in $4 \checkmark$, neither of the opponents having interfered in the auction. This is what you see when West leads the six of clubs:


You win the first trick with the ace of clubs; East follows with the queen, indicating the jack, but not the king. You think for a while and finally play a trump to the king, West
wins with the ace and plays back the four of clubs, you call for the ten from dummy and the jack appears from East. You ruff and continue by playing the jack of hearts, and you realise that you probably misguessed, solving the trump suit since West follows suit and East wins the trick with the queen. East cashes the ace of diamonds and returns the nine of spades, which you win in dummy. Then what?

- AKQ 83
$\bigcirc 9$
$\diamond$ K Q 1094
- A 10
- J 10742

ค A 6
$\checkmark 6$

- K 864

- 9

Q Q 52
$\checkmark$ A 82
\& QJ9753
. 65
© KJIO 8743
$\diamond J 75$

- 2


## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Upmark | Zmudzinski | Nyström | Balicki |
| Pass | $1 乌$ | Pass | INT |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | Pass | $3 \triangle$ |
| Pass | $3 N T$ | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

All Pass
Balicki got the impression that Nyström had the singleton ace of diamonds, and instead of playing a diamond back to hand, he tried to cash the king of spades and ruff a spade to return to his hand so he could pull the last remaining trump from the defense! Pure Magic when Nyström held the singleton in spades rather than diamonds.


International
Mind Sports Association

## Three Step(ping-stone)s

 to heavenby Barry Rigal
Board 3. Dealer South. E/WVul.

- KQ 873
- QJ 4
$\diamond$ KQ64
- 8
- A942

ค 102
$\diamond 85$

- Q 10752


$$
J 65
$$

$\vee A 965$
$\diamond$ AJ 932
$* 4$
©K873
$\diamond 107$
AKJ963

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Buras | Cullin | Narkiewicz | Bertheau |
|  |  |  | 19** |
| Pass | $19\left({ }^{\text {c }}\right.$ ) | 14 | 2 |
| Pass | 3NT | Pass | Pass |
| D ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | All Pass |  |  |

3NTx by Cullin would have been no fun at all on a club lead, but Narkiewicz quite reasonably started with a low diamond to dummy's ten. East ducked the first heart play (necessary) but won North's $\vee \mathrm{J}$ at trick three and returned the j - ducked by West. Yes, a club shift or an unlikely overtake of the by West would have worked. Given a reprieve, Cullin made no mistake. He finessed in hearts and cashed the last heart winner squeezing West.


In the diagram West has to make a discard; at the table he pitched a club. Cullin led a diamond to the king and ace, won the club return to cash the second spade and threw West in to lead spades to give him a steppingstone to his diamond winner. Had West kept a club winner and pitched a spade, Narkiewicz could have won the $\diamond A$ and played a club, but declarer can finesse and all West can take is one club and one spade trick.

## If it wasn't for bad luck...

by Barry Rigal

...we'd have no luck at all. That was certainly the way that the Poles would have felt about the seventh set.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.


It is hard to criticize Narkiewicz for his pass of 3 ; the ruffing value in hearts was surely going to be worth a trick or two but was that really enough here? I suspect West would have gone on to game whether or not that was justified.

In the other room N/S had a different auction altogether - one in which the E/W players were sucked into doing more bidding

| West | North <br> Nath | East <br> Upmark | South <br> Zmudzinski |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bystrom |  |  |  |

The key to the auction was East's decision to show both minors at his second turn. Now when the big heart fit came to light Nystrom took out a little insurance against $4 \oslash$ and was rewarded with +750 instead of -790 .


