# Who has the fastest finish? 



The Jannersten book stall at the Lille Grand Palais, first floor.

Many teams are still in contention in the three team events - Open, Women's and Seniors - at the 14th World Bridge Games. Some of the current also-rans can make it to the proverbial Promised Land by mustering some winning streaks - starting today.
They will have to go some to catch the leaders in the events so far. Some of them are moving like juggernauts toward the qualification finish line. In the Open Teams, for example, Russia outscored their three opponents on Sunday
by a total IMP score of 225-48. Monaco has been so strong they can still be leading the field even after losing to Japan on Sunday.
The leaders so far: Open - Monaco, USA, Russia, Germany; Women's -Russia, Netherlands, Sweden; Seniors England and Hungary.
The round-robin for the Open and Women's events ends tomorrow. The Seniors continue through midday on Wednesday.

## OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

## ROUND 10

| GROUP A |  |  | GROUP B |  | GROUP C |  | GROUP D |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Switzerland | Netherlands | II Estonia | USA | 21 Bermuda | Italy | 31 Reunion | Monaco |
| 2 | Bosnia \& Hrzna | Chile | 12 Bangladesh | Portugal | 22 Trinidad \& Tbgo | Thailand | 32 Finland | Venezuela |
| 3 | Mexico | Jordan | 13 Ukraine | China Hong Kong | 23 Argentina | Romania | 33 Greece | Iceland |
| 4 | Bye | Guadeloupe | 14 San Marino | Pakistan | 24 Kenya | Morocco | 34 Costa Rica | Japan |
| 5 | Korea | Egypt | 15 Brazil | Ireland | 25 Singapore | South Africa | 35 Botswana | Australia |
| 6 | England | India | 16 Poland | New Zealand | 26 Sweden | Scotland | 36 China | Turkey |
| 7 | Germany | Belgium | 17 France | Austria | 27 Russia | Canada | 37 Israel | Norway |
| 8 | Denmark | Spain | 18 Chinese Taipei | Bye | 28 Slovakia | Bye | 38 Latvia | Bye |

ROUND II

| GROUP A |  |  | GROUP B |  |  | GROUP C |  |  | GROUP D |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Netherlands | Belgium | 11 |  | Austria |  |  | Canada | 31 | Monaco | Norway |
| 2 | India | Spain | 12 | New Zealand | Ireland | 22 | Scotland | Romania |  | Turkey | Iceland |
| 3 | Egypt | Denmark |  | Chinese Taipei | Brazil | 23 | South Africa | Argentina | 33 | Australia | Greece |
| 4 | Guadeloupe | Germany | 14 | Pakistan | France | 24 | Morocco | Russia |  | Japan | Israel |
| 5 | Jordan | England |  | China Hong Kong | Poland |  | Trinidad \& Tbgo | Slovakia | 35 | Latvia | China |
| 6 | Chile | Korea |  | Bangladesh | Ukraine | 26 | Thailand | Singapore |  | Venezuela | Botswana |
| 7 | Switzerland | Bye | 17 | Estonia | San Marino | 27 | Bermuda | Kenya | 37 | Reunion | Costa Rica |
| 8 | Bosnia \& Hrzna | Mexico |  | Portugal | Bye | 28 | Sweden | Bye | 38 | Finland | Bye |

ROUND 12

| GROUP A |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| I | Netherlands | Egypt |
| 2 | Guadeloupe | India |
| 3 | Jordan | Belgium |
| 4 | Chile | Spain |
| 5 | Switzerland | Denmark |
| 6 | Bosnia \& Hrzna | Germany |
| 7 | Mexico | England |
| 8 | Bye | Korea |


| GROUP B |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| II | USA | Chinese Taipei |
| I2 | Pakistan | New Zealand |
| I3 | China Hong | Kong |
| I4 | Austria |  |
| I4 | Portugal | Ireland |
| I5 | Estonia | Brazil |
| I6 | Bangladesh | France |
| I7 | Ukraine | Poland |
| 18 San Marino | Bye |  |


| GROUP C |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 21 | Italy | South Africa |
| 22 | Morocco | Scotland |
| 23 | Kenya | Singapore |
| 24 | Thailand | Romania |
| 25 | Bermuda | Argentina |
| 26 | Trinidad \& Tbgo | Russia |
| 27 | Slovakia | Sweden |
| 28 | Canada | Bye |


| GROUP D |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 31 | Monaco | Australia |
| 32 | Japan | Turkey |
| 33 | Latvia | Norway |
| 34 | Venezuela | Iceland |
| 35 | Reunion | Greece |
| 36 | Finland | Israel |
| 37 | Costa | Rica |
| 38 | China | Botswana |

## SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM

| ROUND 10 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GROUP H |  | GROUP I |  |
| 71 England | France | 81 Italy | USA |
| 72 Israel | Germany | 82 Sweden | Netherlands |
| 73 Turkey | Scotland | 83 Hungary | Denmark |
| 74 Belgium | Indonesia | 84 Spain | Poland |
| 75 China Hong Kong | Singapore | 85 Chinese Taipei | New Zealand |
| 76 Brazil | South Africa | 86 Japan | Ireland |
| 77 Australia | Morocco | 87 Pakistan | Reunion |
| 78 India | Egypt | 88 Guadeloupe | Kenya |
| 79 Canada | Bye | 89 Argentina | Bye |



## ROUND 12

| GROUP H |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 71 South Africa | France |
| 72 Belgium | Canada |
| 73 Indonesia | Egypt |
| 74 Scotland | Singapore |
| 75 Germany | China Hong Kong |
| 76 England | India |
| 77 Israel | Australia |
| 78 Turkey | Brazil |
| 79 Morocco | Bye |


| GROUP I |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 81 | Ireland | USA 1 Argentina

## Duplimates for sale

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

## WOMEN's TEAMS PROGRAM

| ROUND 10 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GROUP E | GROUP F | GROUP G |
| 41 England Turkey <br> 42 Australia Egypt <br> 43 Russia Jordan <br> 44 Canada Chinese Taipei <br> 45 Spain Guadeloupe <br> 46 Scotland Argentina <br> 47 Poland Kenya | 51 USA New Zealand <br> 52 China Hong Kong Mexico <br> 53 Reunion Chile <br> 54 San Marino India <br> 55 Denmark Indonesia <br> 56 Netherlands Ireland <br> 57 Israel Austria <br> 58 Japan Bye | 61 China France <br> 62 Sweden Philippines <br> 63 Germany Palestine <br> 64 Italy Pakistan <br> 65 Norway Morocco <br> 66 Brazil Venezuela <br> 67 South Africa Lebanon |

## ROUND II

| GROUP E |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 41 | England | Russia |
| 42 | Canada | Poland |
| 43 | Spain | Turkey |
| 44 | Argentina | Guadeloupe |
| 45 | Australia | Jordan |
| 46 | Egypt | Chinese Taipei |
| 47 | Scotland | Kenya |


| GROUP F |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 51 | USA | Austria |
| 52 | Ireland | Indonesia |
| 53 | Japan | Denmark |
| 54 | India | Israel |
| 55 | Chile | Netherlands |
| 56 | China Hong Kong | Reunion |
| 57 | New Zealand | San Marino |
| 58 | Mexico | Bye |


| GROUP G |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 61 | China | Germany |
| 62 | Italy | Sweden |
| 63 | Norway | France |
| 64 | Brazil | Philippines |
| 65 | South Africa | Palestine |
| 66 | Lebanon | Pakistan |
| 67 | Venezuela | Morocco |

## ROUND 12

| GROUP E |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 41 | England | Chinese Taipei |
| 42 | Jordan | Guadeloupe |
| 43 | Canada | Spain |
| 44 | Turkey | Egypt |
| 45 | Poland | Australia |
| 46 | Russia | Scotland |
| 47 | Argentina | Kenya |


| GROUP F |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 51 | USA | Reunion |
| 52 | San Marino | China Hong Kong |
| 53 | Austria | Ireland |
| 54 | Netherlands | Mexico |
| 55 | Israel | Chile |
| 56 | Denmark | India |
| 57 | Indonesia | Japan |
| 58 | New Zealand | Bye |

## GROUP G

| 61 | China | Pakistan |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 62 | Palestine | Morocco |
| 63 | Philippines | Venezuela |
| 64 | France | Lebanon |
| 65 | Sweden | South Africa |
| 66 | Germany | Brazil |
| 67 | Italy | Norway |

## VUGRAPH PRESENTATIONS

| Round IO (10.30) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match | Teams | Series |
| VG | Switzerland - Netherlands | Open <br> A |
| BBO 2 | France - Austria | Open <br> B |
| BBO 3 | Bermuda - Italy | Open <br> C |
| BBO 4 | Estonia - USA | Open <br> B |
| BBO 5 | Poland - New Zealand | Open <br> B |
| Our- <br> Game | China - Turkey | Open <br> D |


| Round I I (I 4.00) |  |  | Round I2 (I 7.00) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match | Teams | Series | Match | Teams | Series |
| VG | Monaco - Norway | Open <br> D |  |  |  |
| BBO 2 | Pakistan - France | Open <br> B |  |  |  |
| BBO 3 | Italy - Canada | Open <br> C |  |  |  |
| BBO 4 | USA 2 | South Africa - France | Seniors <br> H |  |  |
| BBO 3 | Italy - South Africa | Open <br> C |  |  |  |
| BBO 5 | Turkey - Iceland | Open <br> B |  |  |  |
| Our- <br> Game | Open <br> D |  |  |  |  |

## OPEN TEAMS RESULTS



## WOMEN's TEAMS RESULTS



## SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS



| ONLINE PLAY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Round 10 (10.30) |  |  | Round II (14.00) |  |  | Round 12 (17.00) |  |  |
| Match | Teams | Series | Match | Teams | Series | Match | Teams | Series |
| CRS 7 | Netherlands - Italy | Women F | CRS 7 | China - Germany | Women G | CRS 7 | Russia - Scotland | Women E |
| CRS 8 | England - France | Seniors H | CRS 8 | India - Spain | Open A | CRS 8 | Estonia - Brazil | $\begin{gathered} \text { Open } \\ \text { B } \end{gathered}$ |
| CRS 9 | Brazil - Ireland | $\begin{gathered} \text { Open } \\ \text { B } \end{gathered}$ | CRS 9 | South Africa - Argentina | Open C | CRS 9 | Denmark - India | Women F |
| CRS 10 | Russia - Canada | Open C | CRS 10 | New Zealand - Japan | Seniors I | CRS 10 | Israel - Australia | Seniors H |
| CRS II | England - Turkey | Women E | CRS II | England - Russia | Women E | CRS II | Netherlands - Chinese Taipei | Seniors I |
| CRS 12 | Germany - Belgium | Open A | CRS 12 | Italy - Sweden | Women G | CRS 12 | Switzerland - Denmark | Open A |
| You should be able to follow live play of different matches during each round at www.bridgecardreader.com |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## OPENTEAMS - Ranking after 9 rounds

| GROUP A |  | GROUP B |  | GROUP C |  | GROUP D |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I Germany | 173 | 1 USA | 175 | 1 Russia | 190 | I Monaco | 196 |
| 2 India | 172 | 2 France | 161 | 2 Italy | 183 | 2 Israel | 189 |
| 3 Netherlands | 166 | 3 Ireland | 157 | 3 South Africa | 174 | 3 Norway | 178 |
| 4 Denmark | 165 | 4 Brazil | 156 | 4 Argentina | 160 | 4 Turkey | 169 |
| 5 Spain | 161 | New Zealand | 156 | 5 Romania | 155 | 5 Iceland | 165 |
| 6 Belgium | 158 | 6 Austria | 152 | 6 Sweden | 154 | 6 China | 155 |
| 7 Switzerland | 156 | Poland | 152 | 7 Canada | 153 | 7 Japan | 146 |
| 8 England | 133 | 8 Estonia | 143 | 8 Thailand | 128 | 8 Finland | 144 |
| 9 Guadeloupe | 127.5 | 9 Chinese Taipei | 141 | 9 Singapore | 127 | 9 Greece | 139 |
| 10 Mexico | 126 | 10 Pakistan | 121 | 10 Morocco | 122 | 10 Australia | 131.5 |
| II Egypt | 124 | II Ukraine | 118 | II Bermuda | 103 | II Latvia | 109.5 |
| 12 Bosnia Herzeg. | 121.5 | 12 Portugal | 107 | 12 Trinidad Tobago | 102 | 12 Botswana | 86 |
| 13 Jordan | 108 | 13 Bangladesh | 106 | 13 Scotland | 98 | 13 Costa Rica | 77 |
| 14 Chile | 80 | 14 China Hong Kong |  | 14 Slovakia | 96 | 14 Venezuela | 72 |
| 15 Korea | 57 | 15 San Marino | 94 | 15 Kenya | 71 | 15 Reunion | 64 |

## WOMEN's TEAMS - Ranking after 9 rounds

| GROUP E |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| I Russia | 196 |
| 2 Scotland | 170 |
| 3 Turkey | 160 |
| 4 Australia | 158 |
| 5 England | 157 |
| 6 Poland | 150 |
| 7 Canada | 143 |
| 8 Egypt | 125 |
| 9 Chinese Taipei | 123 |
| IO Spain | 120 |
| II Kenya | 111 |
| I2 Jordan | 104 |
| I3 Argentina | 92 |
| I4 Guadeloupe | 50 |


| GROUP F |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| I Netherlands | 175 |
| 2 Denmark | 166.5 |
| 3 Israel | 160.5 |
| 4 Indonesia | 160 |
| 5 Austria | 151 |
| Japan | 151 |
| 7 USA | 146 |
| 8 India | 144 |
| 9 Ireland | 138.5 |
| IO China Hong Kong | 134 |
| II New Zealand | 125 |
| I2 Chile | 115 |
| I3 San Marino | 106.5 |
| I4 Reunion | 84 |
| I5 Mexico | 81 |


| GROUP G |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| I Sweden | 191 |
| 2 China | 166 |
| 3 France | 164 |
| 4 Brazil | 157 |
| 5 Norway | 152 |
| 6 Italy | 149.6 |
| 7 Germany | 130 |
| 8 South Africa | 124 |
| 9 Philippines | 116 |
| IO Morocco | 110.4 |
| II Venezuela | 109 |
| I2 Palestine | 108 |
| I3 Pakistan | 104 |
| I4 Lebanon | 94 |

## SENIOR TEAMS - Ranking after 9 rounds

| GROUP H |  |  |  | GROUP I |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I England | 181 | 10 Germany | 134 | I Hungary | 171 | 10 Netherlands | 136 |
| 2 Israel | 168 | 11 Singapore | 132 | 2 New Zealand | 168 | Pakistan | 136 |
| 3 France | 155 | 12 Egypt | 129 | 3 Japan | 161 | 12 Ireland | 131 |
| 4 Indonesia | 149 | 13 South Africa | 123 | 4 USA | 159 | 13 Spain | 114 |
| 5 Turkey ${ }^{6}$ China | 146 | 14 Scotland | 114 | 5 Denmark | 157 | 14 Argentina | 108 |
| 7 Canada | 142 | 15 Brazil | 111.5 | 7 Italy | 152 | 15 Guadeloupe | 106 |
| 8 Australia | 140 | 16 Morocco | 103 | 8 Sweden | 151 | 16 Reunion | 75 |
| 9 India | 139.5 | 17 Belgium | 102 | 9 Chinese Taipei | 148.5 | 17 Kenya | 68 |

## Big Bang Theory

by Brent Manley

Some matches are quiet, some are loud - that is to say, with lots of IMPs flying around. The third-round USABrazil match in the Open series fit that latter description to a tee.
The action started right away.
Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

|  | $\text { A } 3$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $8 \mathrm{~J} 108$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark 542$ |  |
|  | \& KJ762 |  |
| - 10972 | N | - Q 64 |
| $\bigcirc$ A 953 |  | $\bigcirc 7642$ |
| $\diamond$ K Q 63 |  | $\checkmark$ A 8 |
| * 4 | S | \& A 953 |
|  | - KJ 85 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{KQ}$ |  |
|  | $\diamond$ J 1097 |  |
|  | \& Q 108 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Branco | Rodwell | Barbosa | Meckstroth |
|  | Pass | Pass | $1 \diamond$ |
| Pass | INT | All Pass |  |

Roberto Barbosa started with a low heart against Eric Rodwell's INT.The $\oslash$ Q held the trick, and it was a simple matter for Rodwell to knock out the m and take his eight tricks for plus 120.


Zia Mahmood, USA
West
Zia

Pass
$2 \triangleleft$

Miguel Villas-Boas led the 8 K, taken by Bob Hamman with the ace. He played quickly: club to the ace, club ruff, diamond to the ace, club ruff, $\diamond \mathrm{K}, \diamond \mathrm{Q}$ (spade pitch), then the $\diamond 6$. When Joao-Paulo Campos ruffed in with the $\vee I 0$, Hamman pitched another spade. The $\vee \mathrm{J}$ went to the queen. Hamman lost only a spade and a club from there for plus 140 and a 6-IMP lead.
The lead changed on the next board thanks to a nifty endplay by Villas-Boas.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

|  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 43 |  |
|  |  | 2 |  |
|  | 98 |  |  |
| 4 185 |  | 4 | 632 |
| $\bigcirc$ |  |  | 1085 |
| $\diamond$ Q 9 |  |  |  |
| \% 109 |  |  | K 74 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Branco | Rodwell | Barbosa | Meckstroth |
|  |  | 1\% | Db |
| Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |  |

The bad trump split doomed this normal contract. Rodwell could do no better than eight tricks for minus 200.
In the closed room, a better contract was found.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Zia | Campos | Hamman <br>  <br> Is |  |
| Villas-Boas |  |  |  |
| All Pass | Dbl | 24 | Pass |
|  |  |  | $3 N T$ |

Zia Mahmood led a low club to Hamman's king. Had Hamman led a low club from hand at trick two, there would be no story to tell, but he switched to a spade, influenced no doubt by Zia's response to the lo opening.
Villas-Boas won the A and played a heart to dummy's king. Hamman won the ace and persisted in spades. Now declarer played the $\diamond$ J, covered by the queen and ace, fol-
lowed by a low club from dummy, Hamman ducking. It might seem that winning and exiting with a club would have helped, but Villas-Boas had his contract in hand at that point.
After winning the eg, Villas-Boas played a diamond to dummy's king, a diamond back to his hand, leaving this end position:

| ( | Q - |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ Q 943 |  |
|  | $\diamond 7$ |  |
|  | 9 - |  |
| 4 | N | ¢ 96 |
| $\bigcirc$ - |  | $\bigcirc 108$ |
| $\diamond$ Q 9 | W E | $\diamond-$ |
| \% 109 | S | $\stackrel{4}{ } \mathrm{~A}$ |
|  | , Q 4 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 76$ |  |
|  | $\diamond-$ |  |
|  | $\%$ Q |  |

Villas-Boas cashed the $\Phi \mathrm{Q}$ and followed with the 9 Q . Hamman won and cashed the 49 , but at trick 12 he had to lead from the $\vee 108$ into dummy’s $8 Q 9$. Plus 600 was good for 13 IMPs to Brazil. Had Hamman taken his \% on the second round of the suit and continued with a club or a spade, he would have been squeezed out of his club exit card on the play of the diamonds, suffering the same end play with a spade to the 9 at trick II.
It is double-dummy defense to be sure, but a low club by Hamman at trick two would have done the trick, so long as he also ducked declarer's heart to the king (winning and cashing clubs rectifies the count for the inevitable squeeze).

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

| - Q 43 <br> - K 106 <br> $\diamond 163$ <br> \& Q 743 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A A } \\ & \diamond A Q 8754 \\ & \diamond \text { K Q } 1054 \\ & \& 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \& K 9765 \\ & \vee J 2 \\ & \diamond A 7 \\ & \& A 962 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | N |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | W E |  |
|  | S |  |
|  | - J 1082 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 93$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark 982$ |  |
|  | KJ105 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Branco | Rodwell | Barbosa | Meckstroth |
| Pass | 19* | 19 | Pass |
| 2 | 3 | Pass | 39 |
| Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

A low spade went to the 2,3 and ace, and Rodwell cashed the $\vee A$, following with his singleton club. Barbosa ducked, and Rodwell rose with ek and now had the entry to
dummy he needed to play a heart up: 9, 10 , queen, jack. He ended up losing one heart and two diamonds to score plus 620.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Zia | Campos | Hamman | Villas-Boas |
| Pass | $1 \vee$ | $1 Q$ | Pass |
| $2 Q$ | $4 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \nabla$ |

## All Pass

Hamman also led a spade, ducked by Zia to declarer's singleton ace. Campos cashed the $\vee \mathbf{A}$ and played a club from hand. Hamman did not err, winning the A and exiting with a spade, ruffed by declarer. Campos played a low heart, hoping for a doubleton king, but it was not to be and he was one down after losing two hearts, the club and one diamond (Zia led away from the jack).
Board number 6 provided 3 IMPs to the Americans, but it could have been more - or less, had declarer at one table played the same way as at the other.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/WVul.
. K 8754
$\bigcirc 4$
$\diamond A K 10742$
Q Q


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Branco | Rodwell <br> Barbosa <br> Reckstroth |  |  |
| 48 | Dbl | I\& | Pass |

As you can see, North-South can take the first five tricks against $4 \checkmark$ doubled: two top diamonds, two top spades and a spade ruff by North. That's easy looking at all the cards. At the table, Rodwell cashed two high diamonds and got out with his singleton club to dummy's ace. Marcelo Castello Branco discarded a spade on the high club and discarded a second spade on the 2 K .When Rodwell ruffed, Branco was down in a contract he could have made on the defense against him by simply cashing a heart in dummy. He could then have ruffed a club to hand and ruffed his third diamond for trick number 10 .
At the other table, Zia did take 10 tricks. Unfortunately for his side, he was in 5 .

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Zia | Campos | Hamman <br> INT | Villas-Boas |
| $4 \diamond$ | Dbl | Pass | Pass |
| $4 \odot$ | 49 | Pass | Pass |
| $5 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |  |

Campos cashed two high diamonds and played a third, ruffed by Zia with the ace. He took the precaution of cashing the 810 before playing on clubs, allowing him to discard two spades from hand to go down only one.
The American were leading 26-23 when board 10 came along. It was not pretty for the USA.

Board IO. Dealer East. All Vul.

- 1065

ค742
$\diamond$ KQJ 62

* 12


In the closed room, Zia played 24 on the 4-3 fit, finishing with nine tricks for plus 140. In the open room, Meckstroth made an aggressive overcall that was costly.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Branco | Rodwell | Barbosa <br> le | Meckstroth <br> Db |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

In the five-card major systems, it is not unusual to see a id opener on three low cards. Meckstroth was obviously betting on that situation when he introduced his less-thanrobust suit. Barbosa did not have a difficult decision after his partner's negative double, and the result was four down for 1100 to Brazil, a I4-IMP gain. With six deals to go in the set, Brazil had surged ahead 37-26.
The Americans got to within 5 IMPs on this interesting board, where $4 \diamond$ was down three at one table while $3 \diamond$ made at the other.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.

- 532

Q QJ 1087
$\diamond$ A 5
2 Q 93

- 1984
$\bigcirc 53$
$\diamond 8643$
」 106

- KQ 1076
$\checkmark 96$
$\diamond$ Q 10
- AK 72

| West | North <br> Zia | East <br> Hamman | South <br> Villas-Boas |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | $1 \uparrow$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Db | Pass |
| 2NT | Dbl | $3 \diamond$ | All Pass |

Villas-Boas led the $\mathbf{K}$ to declarer's ace. Hamman cashed his two high hearts and played a third.Villas-Boas ruffed in with his $\diamond 10$, Hamman discarding a club. The K and were followed by a third round of the suit, ruffed in dummy. Hamman then played a trump to his king, dropping South's queen. He lost only two clubs and two diamonds for plus 110.

In the open room, Meckstroth and Rodwell pushed their opponents one level higher, then took the maximum on defense.

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Branco | Rodwell | Barbosa | Meckstroth |
|  |  |  | 14 |
| Pass | 2 | Dы | Redbl |
| 3 | Pass | 34 | Pass |
| 3NT | D ${ }^{\text {l }}$ | Pass | Pass |
| $4 \checkmark$ | All Pass |  |  |

Rodwell led the $\subset \mathrm{Q}$ to dummy's ace. Branco cashed the $\rho \mathrm{K}$ and ruffed a heart, Meckstroth declining to ruff in. A spade went to dummy's ace and a fourth round of hearts was ruffed in the West hand. Branco played a diamond to dummy's jack, and the roof fell in. Meckstroth won the $\diamond \mathbf{Q}$, cashed two high clubs and put Rodwell in with a third round of clubs. Rodwell then played the $\overbrace{\mathrm{J}}$ and declarer misguessed in trumps again, ruffing with the 9 . Meckstroth scored the $\diamond 10$ and the defense still had the trump ace to go. Plus 150 and plus 110 was good for 6 IMPs.
USA gave 4 IMPs back on the next board thanks to another aggressive action on a ragged suit.

Board I2. Dealer West. N/S Vul.


## All Pass

Campos and Villas-Boas were not troubled to exact a penalty of 800 against Zia's weak two-bid. It went K ,
duck, 9 to the ace, a club ruffed by South with the 6 and overruffed with the 7 . Zia cashed the $\checkmark \mathrm{A}$ and played a heart to the jack and queen. South cashed $\Phi K$ and the $\diamond K$, then two more hearts. Zia was down to all trumps, ruffing with the 3 on South's diamond continuation. North overruffed and still had two trump tricks to come. Meckstroth and Rodwell bid to their vulnerable heart game despite the equally aggressive 24 opening at their table, so the damage was 4 IMPs. Brazil was leading 4I-32 at that point.
With two boards to go, USA was trailing 4I-40 thanks to an 8-IMP pickup on board 13 .

This deal put the Americans in the lead.
Board I5. Dealer South. N/S Vul.
4 A 9

- A 94
$\diamond 1042$
* J 10843
¢ J 7
ค K Q 1052
$\diamond 73$
- K 972

- 102
$\vee$ J 76
$\diamond$ AKQJ 6
9 A 65
- K Q 86543
$\bigcirc 83$
$\diamond 985$
\% Q

The auction was the same at both tables.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Branco | Rodwell <br> Zia | Barbosa <br> Campos | Meckstroth <br> Hamman |
| Villas-Boas |  |  |  |
| Pass | Pass | Db | Pass |
| $4 \nabla$ | All Pass |  |  |

Rodwell led the $\Phi$ A and continued with a spade to Meckstroth's queen. Meckstroth exited with the eq, taken in dummy with the ace. Branco played a heart to his king, but Rodwell won the ace and gave his partner a club ruff. That was plus 50 to USA.
At the other table, Campos started with a low club, apparently playing his partner for a singleton or void in the suit. Zia took full advantage, winning the A in dummy and playing three top diamonds, discarding a spade. Zia then played a sneaky $\diamond 6$, planning another spade discard. Zia held to his plan, pitching his second spade, when South ruffed in. It would have not helped for North to overruff and give his partner a club ruff. South would have been ruffing a loser. Zia lost two trump tricks and a club for plus 420. The 10 IMPs put USA ahead 50-4I.

The match ended with USA winning 50-47 when the Americans were minus in partscores at both tables for a 6IMP loss.

## Interactive play

You can play deal Number 2 from this report with interactive comments at www.vubridge.com/London2012


## Championship Diary



You may have noticed that yesterday's front cover featured a photograph from the WBF Congress Meeting that included an empty chair. For a modest fee we can we can put your picture into the empty space.
We were trying to ascertain Usain Bolt's time for the last leg of the $4 \times 100$ meters relay. Our guess was 9.5 seconds, which is (according to the Guinness Book of Records) the fastest time ever recorded for skinning a Possum. When I suggested we should try to beat that time Tacchi said 'Yes, but who's going to play Possum?'

We have another game for you to play: Can you think of ways of adapting film titles so they would be suitable for bridge players? For example, The Bridgeurs of Madison County, Diamonds are for one, Bury my Hearts at Wounded Knee.
Answers to markhorton007@hotmail.com
There is a rumour that the IOC have had observers at the first few days of the bridge at the World Mind Sport Games. Their report has yet to be published but we believe they will call on the WBF to ban relay bidding systems, reverse attitude signals and weak jump overcalls and at future events. Such conventions are, they say, contrary to the Olympic motto 'Citius, Altius, Fortius', 'Faster, Higher, Stronger'.
Nick Nickell's squad suffered a blow when it was announced that Manchester City's bid for Rodwell has been accepted.

Congratulations to Tony Priday, European Champion in 1961, who celebrates his 90th birthday today.

## Calling all nonqualifiers

If your team failed to qualify for the knock out matches and you intend to
 take part in the Transnational event please make sure you visit the Registration Desk as soon as possible.

## Don't Forget

If you leave something at hospitality - a phone, a bag, etc don't forget to collect it after play!
The desk closes at 19.30.


Two undefeated teams met in this Group F Round 4 Women's match. There was not a lot of action, and the match turned on these three significant deals:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/WVul.

$\bigcirc 10$
$\diamond A 2$
\& AKQ9853

- K 52
- AK 875
$\diamond$ K 10
2 J 74

- AJ 3
$\bigcirc 964$
$\diamond 9765$
\& 1062


## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tal | Michielsen | Tal | Dekkers <br>  <br> I $\varnothing$ |
| 3ass |  | $4 \odot$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dbl | All Pass |  |

3 Asking for a heart stopper
North's double was extremely optimistic to say the least. (Do you think South should run?) She led a top club and declarer ruffed and played a diamond to the king and ace. North won and switched to a spade but South's ace of


Laura Dekkers, The Netherlands
spades was the last trick for the defence, +990 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Simons | Saada | Pasman | Nosatzki |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| 18 | 3 ${ }^{*}$ | $4 \bigcirc$ | Pass |
| Pass | 5\% | Pass | Pass |
| Dbl | All Pass |  |  |

North's bidding here looks much sounder and although she had to go one down Israel had 13 IMPs.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.
4 AK 1086
$\bigcirc 72$
$\diamond$ A Q 1086
\% J
¢ 532
ワK 9643
$\checkmark 5$
\& Q 82


Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tal | Michielsen | Tal | Dekkers |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | $1 乌$ | Pass | INT |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

East led the ace of clubs and switched to the jack of hearts. Declarer put up dummy's ace and ran the jack of spades. East took the queen and returned the ten of hearts. When that held she played the king of clubs and declarer ruffed, ruffed a spade and drew trumps, +130.

## Closed Room

| West <br> Simons | North <br> Saada | East <br> Pasman | South <br> Nosatzki |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | 14 | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | $2 \searrow$ | Pass | INT |
| Pass | $3 \boldsymbol{P a s s}$ | 2NT |  |
| All Pass |  | Dbl | 3NT |

For the moment I have no idea why North bid $3 \boldsymbol{3}$.
West led the two of clubs and East won with the king and switched to the jack of hearts. Declarer won with the ace
and ran the jack of spades. East won and played the ten of hearts for the queen, king and seven. West cashed the nine of hearts and then went back to clubs, +300 and 10 IMPs to the Netherlands.

| Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - 852 |  |  |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 6 |  |  |
| $\checkmark 82$ |  |  |
|  | \& A Q 7432 |  |
| - J 7 | N | - A 10643 |
| 8 J 109732 |  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K} 8$ |
| $\checkmark 7$ |  | $\checkmark 1093$ |
| \& KJ108 | S | -965 |
|  | - K Q 9 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 54 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ AKQ |  |
|  | - - |  |

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tal | Michielsen | Tal | Dekkers |
|  |  | Pass | $2 \diamond *$ |
| Pass | 2®* | Pass | $3 \diamond$ |
| Pass | 38* | Pass | 3s |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass |  |

$2 \triangleleft$ Weak with a major or strong balanced or strong diamonds
2 - Relay
38 Feature

East led the king of hearts and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the king of spades. East won and switched to the nine of clubs, so declarer claimed twelve tricks, +490 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Simons | Saada | Pasman | Nosatzki |
|  |  | Pass | 2\%* |
| 28 | 3\% | Pass | 3 - |
| Pass | 38 | Dbl | Rdbl |
| Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ |
| Pass | 5\% | Pass | $5 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $6 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

When South redoubled and then bid $4 \checkmark$ it was clear she had a first round heart control, but N/S were overboard when North bid 5\%. Perhaps South should have bid 3NT after all a void in the suit where partner had shown values was hardly a plus.
This misadventure cost Israel II IMPs.
Netherlands had won their fourth match in a row 38-19 IMPs, I9-II VP.

## Three problems from day one

by Micke Melander

- n the first round North-South were tested to see if they could land on their feet by bidding the grand slam in diamonds.


## Round I

Board 3. Dealer South. E/WVul.

\[

\]

© 976

- KJ 2
$\diamond 1087$
* 865

- A Q 85

Q Q 10984
$\diamond$ J 6

- 32

8 A 5
$\diamond A K 94$

* AKQJIO 97

In the match Scotland vs Canada the Scottish pair had a straightforward auction.


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 2e* |
| Pass | $3{ }^{*}$ | Pass | 48 |
| Pass | 4 | Pass | 78! |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

2e was either strong or a preempt in diamonds, and to cover the latter case North just raised the preempt when he thought he had a suitable hand to up the ante. South probably should have thought about that before jumping to the grand slam in clubs. With clubs as trumps declarer only had twelve tricks and that was a loss of II IMPs when the Canadians "only" managed to reach 3NT at the other table.
In another match Norway battled Turkey and the bidding in the Open Room went 2e-2 $\$; 3\%-34; 4\%-5 while the Norwegians in the closed room were close to succeeding, but eventually came to stop in $6 \diamond$ after:

| West | North | East | South 29* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | 3\% |
| Pass | 3s | Pass | $4 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $5 \diamond$ | Pass | 5NT |
| Pass | $6 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

In the Open Series only seven countries managed to bid $7 \diamond$ and at eleven tables they came to a stop in 3NT! A very difficult hand in other words..
Let's move on and have a look at a playing problem from the next round.

## Round 2

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.
$4-$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \diamond A 9542 \\
& \diamond \text { A } 10964 \\
& \& \text { K J } 7
\end{aligned}
$$


¢ A 106
$\triangleright$ K Q 8
$\diamond 87$
\& A 10962
You play $6 \triangleleft$ and get a low spade lead from North. What's your plan?
By the way Spain was the only team who managed to reach 6\%, which on the predictable spade lead was a slightly better contract than playing in hearts. Many declarers in $6 \checkmark$ went down, while those who played in $4 \oslash$ scored twelve tricks.
Once you look at the cards you have a feeling that you would like to combine your chances by trying both the diamond and the club suits to see if that would give you the extra tricks (provided trumps behave). The slam is at worst about $50 \%$ on a club finesse.

## Line I

Finesse North for the queen of clubs, since that is the only 4-I distribution you are able to handle.

## Line 2

Duck a diamond, win the spade return with dummy's ace and throw away the jack of clubs from hand. You can now try ace and king of clubs to see if the queen falls; if not you have to rely on diamonds being 3-3.

## Line 3

Ruff the spade lead. Duck a diamond, ruff the next spade, cash the king of hearts, then play the ace of diamonds and lead a third diamond. If they split you are home, if North has two diamonds you may now be able to pull trumps and play on clubs.
When the full lay-out of the hand was as below, many actually went down.

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Q } 954 \\ & \& 103 \\ & \diamond K J 3 \\ & 885 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| , - | N | - A 106 |
| ¢A9542 |  | $\bigcirc$ K Q 8 |
| $\diamond$ A 10964 | W E | $\checkmark 87$ |
| \& KJ7 | S | * A 10962 |
|  | - KQJ 7 |  |
|  | QJ76 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ Q 52 |  |
|  | - Q 43 |  |

Speaking with the Polish Women after the match I asked the declarer how she played in 4 万. She said 'I simply won
the spade lead and played a club to the jack. Twelve easy tricks.' 'But why... you could only handle 4-I with North, if clubs were like that.' 'Ehhh, call it women's intuition,' she said and laughed and last but not least added,'by the way it was a push, same contract and line of play at the other table'. Don't argue with success!
A third very interesting and difficult hand was played in Round 3. Here Helgemo and Helness showed why they are to be considered as one of the best pairs in the world!

## Round 3

Board I4. Dealer East. None Vul.


| West <br> Helness | North | East <br> Helgemo | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $4 \diamond *$ | Pass | $5 \diamond!^{*}$ | 3 |
| $7 \diamond$ | All Pass |  | Pass |
| $7 \diamond$ |  |  |  |

$2 \checkmark$ was 5-5 with hearts and a minor in the range of 3-9 HCPs. South overcalled with $3 \triangleleft$ giving the Monegasques some help at solving their bidding problem. $5 \diamond$ told the story for partner who then had heard enough and just bid the grand slam. Playing the contract wasn't any problem. It was easy to ruff a couple of diamonds in hand playing on a reverse dummy and claim. Very well done and a nice solution for a real problem.
A couple of gold stars should also be given to Mexico who managed to reach $7 \vee$ and Romania who ended up in 78.

## 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."

## Eight winning Slams

by Herman De Wael

'I wonder if anyone made that slam', said Mark, so I went and looked it up.
This was the deal:
Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

|  | -10976 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc 1097$ |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K 52 |  |
|  | ¢ K 62 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { \& K QJ } 53 \\ & \text { \&J } 53 \end{aligned}$ | N | - 4 |
|  |  | ¢ K Q 86 |
| $\checkmark$ A 86 |  | $\diamond$ QJ 73 |
| - A | S | * QJIO 5 |
|  | - A 82 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 42$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark 1094$ |  |
|  | 298743 |  |

There are 132 tables in these championships ( 58 open, 42 women's and 32 seniors) and on 36 of them ( 16 open, 14 women's and 6 seniors) the contract was 69 , almost exclusively played by West. Only 9 declarers made the contract, and I went and found out how.
At four tables, the lead was the $\diamond 2$.The contract is easily made from there. No prizes for Andres Knap (Spain), Geir Helgemo (Monaco),Véronique Bessis (France) and Marina Breytenbach (South Africa).
At the other five tables, the lead was the 810 . All the declarers took this on the table and played a spade. One defender, Steven De Donder from Belgium, thought it was a good idea to duck this. Samir Dolarevic of Bosnia \& Herzegovina had no trouble making it from there.
Faten Farhat (Lebanon) now received a club return, which she was forced to take in hand. She made the contract from there, in the same manner as described below.
James Hay (Scotland Open), Mehmet Copur (Turkey Seniors), and Mary de Guzman (Philippines Women) all received a diamond return, and they (and many others around the room) were faced with a choice: either to let this run to the queen (and go down if the $\diamond \mathrm{K}$ was to the left, as it actually was) or to fly up with the ace. These three declarers did that, and they proceeded carefully as follows: one more round of trumps, and then the spades, discarding diamonds. Now they ruffed a diamond, came back to hand in clubs, and ruffed another diamond. A club ruff, the last trump and the thirteenth spade made 12 tricks.

## WBF Laws Committee

The WBF Laws Committee will meet at 10:30 am. on Tuesday,August I4th, in the Cologne I room on the ground floor.


## On your agenda: DEAUVILLE BRIDGE FESTIVAL 2013

Barriere trophy: 15-I7 july Open pairs : 18-19 july
Teams: 22-24 july
Men and women pairs: 25 july
Mixed pairs : 26-28 july


## Do You Care For Bridge Shopping?

You will find everything you need - bridge books and bridge supplies - at the Jannersten book stall on store first floor in Lille Grand Palais
Vous trouverez également un large choix de livres en français, offerts par Le Bridgeur, qui propose, par ailleurs, pour la durée du championnat, l'abonnement à sa revue pour un prix défiant toute concurrence.

## Credentials, Systems Committees meet:

Monday, I 3th August - Credentials Committee at II:00
Tuesday, 14th August - Systems Committee at 9:30
Both meetings will take place in the WBF Meeting room - Cologne 2.

## WBF Women's Committee Meeting

Monday 13th August at 09.30 In the room Cologne 2 (the WBF Meeting Room)
As you enter the Grand Palais, go past hospitality to the end of the corridor. Cologne 2 is the last room on the right.


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/20I2-2nd-world-mind-sports-games


## Speed of Lightning

by Mark Horton

Light travels at 186,000 miles per second in a vacuum. So the light from a flash of lightning travels at the speed of light in air, which is slightly less than the speed of light in a vacuum (e.g., space).
But lightning itself travels nowhere near as fast as the speed of light. Lightning is an electrical discharge and is bound by the laws of physics. Its speed depends on many factors, including the conductivity of the medium it is travelling through. Careful scientific measurements of many lightning flashes have revealed that the electricity moves at different speeds at different stages of its journey in the lightning flash. Also, its returning upstroke is much faster than its downstroke.
Usain Bolt is the fastest man on earth and I can't help but wonder how he would react to the speed of play in a bridge match?
When England met the Netherlands in Round 6 of Open Group A, both sides fielded their speed merchants, Bauke Muller for the Netherlands and Andrew Robson for England.

Board I8. Dealer East. N/S Vul.


## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Robson | Drijver | Allfrey | Brink |
|  |  | I® | Pass |
| 19 | Pass | INT* | Pass |
| $2 \diamond *$ | Pass | $2 \nabla$ | Pass |
| 3\% | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |
| INT Balanced or $\odot+\boldsymbol{q}$ Relay |  |  |  |

South led the four of diamonds and declarer won in hand and played the queen of clubs. When South covered with the king declarer ducked and was disappointed to see North discard the five of spades. South switched to the ten
of spades and dummy's queen lost to the king. Declarer won the diamond return and ran the nine of spades to North's jack. When North switched to the two of hearts South took the ace and cashed the queen for one down, +50 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| de Wijs | Gold | Muller | Forrester |
|  |  | 18* | Pass |
| 14* | Pass | 29* | Pass |
| $2 \checkmark *$ | Pass | 2 ${ }^{*}$ | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass |  |  |
| I $\vee$ II-I5, 5+ $\downarrow$, maybe 5+¢ |  |  |  |
| 1s C | orcing rel |  |  |
| $2 \bigcirc$ m | m, 5332 |  |  |

After the game force West relayed for shape, controls and location of honours settled for 3NT.
North led the five of spades and declarer won with the queen and played a club to the queen and king, North discarding the six of diamonds. When South returned a spade declarer won with the ace and played a club to the jack, North pitching what proved to be a fatal two of hearts. A club to the nine and ace was followed by another club. South could win, but had no good move. He tried a low heart, but that saw declarer win and claim, +400 and 10 IMPs for the Netherlands.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

- 10976
- 1097
$\triangleleft K 52$
-K 62
- K QJ 53

คAJ5 3
$\checkmark$ A 86
\& $A$


- A 82
$\bigcirc 42$
$\diamond 1094$
298743



## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Robson | Drijver | Allfrey | Brink |
| $1{ }^{1}$ | Pass | INT | Pass |
| 20* | Pass | $2 \checkmark^{*}$ | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 24* | Pass |
| 3 ${ }^{*}$ | Pass | 4** | Pass |
| 4NT* | Pass | 5\%* | Pass |
| 5 $\diamond^{*}$ | Pass | 68* | All Pass |

2\% Natural or 16+
$2 \triangleleft \quad$ GF opposite 16+
2 16+, three or more hearts
2. Relay

384 hearts
5\% I/4 key cards
$6 \bigcirc \vee Q$
I confess I'm guessing a little about the exact meaning of the E/W bids, but convention cards are not a big help when relays are involved.
North led the ten of hearts and declarer won in dummy and played the four of spades. South took the ace (ducking does not work) and switched to the nine of diamonds.
As you might expect declarer took some time over his next play.
The alternative to finessing is to take the ace of diamonds. Then, as the cards lie declarer has to draw another round of trumps then cash spades, discarding diamonds from dummy. A diamond ruff is followed by a club to the ace, then a diamond ruff and a club ruff allow declarer to take the last two tricks with the master trump and the five of spades.
There is little to go on, just a few very minor inferences (no double of 5\%, the trump lead from North) but they were not enough to persuade declarer to do anything other than finesse. That was one down, -IOO.

## Closed Room



Another attempt to interpret a relay auction - can't these boys ever go INT-3NT?
Had E/W bid the slam at this table a diamond lead would have been a killer, but against $4 \checkmark$ South led a club. Declarer won and played the king of spades and when South won
and switched to the four of diamonds he played low, +650 and another 13 IMPs.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

- 53

Q Q 83
$\diamond 87$
\& KJIO 974

- AQJ64
$\bigcirc 4$
$\diamond$ A 432
Q 83


Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Robson | Drijver | Allfrey | Brink |
|  |  | Pass | $1 / 8$ |
| 1s | 28 | 34 | All Pass |

This was not a good time to miss game. North led the three of hearts and South won and switched to the king of diamonds. Declarer won, drew trumps and played a diamond. He lost a club as well, +170 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| de Wijs | Gold | Muller | Forrester |
|  |  | Pass | 18 |
| 14 | 28 | 2NT* | 38 |
| 4 | All Pass |  |  |

2NT Good raise with four spades
After the same opening lead South won with the ace and switched to the five of diamonds. Declarer played low and won with dummy's nine. Ace of clubs and a club set up a club ruff and declarer was soon claiming +620 and 10 IMPs.


Bauke 'lightning’ Muller

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

- 9

8 J 74
$\diamond$ J 1085

- A8653

| - Q <br> Q Q 82 <br> $\diamond A K 7632$ <br> \& Q 109 | N | - A 52 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | - A 109653 |
|  | W E | $\diamond$ Q |
|  | S | - 742 |
|  | - KJ 108 | 43 |
|  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K}$ |  |
|  | $\diamond 94$ |  |
|  | * KJ |  |

## Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Robson | Drijver | Allfrey | Brink |
|  |  | 2 ® $^{*}$ | 3s |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |  |  |
| $2 \bigcirc$ 9-1 |  |  |  |

South led the nine of diamonds and declarer won in hand with the queen, cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade. North overruffed, cashed the ace of clubs and continued with the eight of clubs. South won and played a spade and declarer could not avoid the loss of a trump trick, - 100.
Jeff Meckstroth followed the same line (at his table South had overcalled only 24) so I leave it to you to decide how unlucky you think declarer was.

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| de Wijs | Gold | Muller | Forrester |
|  |  | $I \backsim$ | 39 |

$4 \bigcirc \quad$ All Pass
34 looks the down the middle choice - but 4s is certainly a possibility.
South led the three of spades and declarer won with dummy's queen, crossed to the ace of hearts, unblocked the queen of diamonds, ruffed a spade high and parked two clubs on top diamonds, +650 and yet another 13 IMPs for the Netherlands.
They had won 55-10 IMPs, 25-5 VP to stay on top of the table while England plummeted to twelfth.


First timeless tournament proves too much for South

## How To Handle a 6-0 Trump Split

by Marek Wójcicki

n the fifth match of Open Group B Poland played Estonia. Polish superstar Cezary Balicki demonstrated one more time his dummy play perfection.


On this deal the Estonian N/S stopped in 24, making. The Poles were more ambitious:

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Laanemae | Balicki | Karpov | Zmudzinski |
|  | $1 \$$ | Pass | INT |
| Pass | $2 \$$ | Pass | $2 \Delta$ |
| Pass | $2 \Phi$ | Pass | $2 N T$ |
| Pass | $4 \infty$ | Dbl | All Pass |

East doubled, but was not clever enough to find the trump lead which would probably beat the contract. (Specifically East must lead the ace of spades and then switch to a red suit. Editor) He led the $\triangle$ K. Balicki played as if with open cards. He took the first trick with the ace, finessed the queen of clubs and cashed the ace. Now he finessed in diamonds, discarded a club on the ace of diamonds, ruffed a diamond, and played a club. This was the position:


East did the best he could - he discarded the diamond, but declarer ruffed in dummy and could lose only three trump tricks, making the contract.

