Brent Manley, Editor - Mark Horton, Co-Editor
Micke Melander, Brian Senior, Journalists
Akis Kanaris, Lay out editor - Ron Tacchi, Photographer

DAILY BULLETIN

Issue No. 7 Thursday, 16 August 2012

France, Sweden show the way



Bernadette Pasquier of the Bridgerama team smiles for the camera in the vugraph control room.

The knockouts are in full swing in the Open, Women's and Senior teams at the 14th World Bridge Games, and teams from the host nation are leading in all three events, as are the squads from Sweden.

These are the French results from the play in the knockouts so far: Open, 97-58 over the Netherlands; Women's, 82-60 over Scotland, and Seniors (after one round) 39-29 over the Netherlands.

Sweden is doing just as well. In the Open, the Swedes rallied in the third set against Israel to lead 97-60 at the halfway point. In the Women's, Sweden leads Australia 103-69, and the Swedish Seniors are ahead of their Australian foes 49-1 after one set.

Also of note: Canada's Open team leads consensus favorite Monaco 106-78 with 48 boards to play.

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OPENTEAMS RESULTS

	Round of 16								
ТЫ		c/o	Boards I - I6	Boards 17 - 32	Boards 33 - 48	Boards 49 - 64	Boards 65 - 80	Boards 81 - 96	Total
1	Ireland	0	33	18	30	-	-	-	81
	Germany	0	27	27	63	-	-	-	117
2	Norway	0	3	15	34	-	-	-	52
	Russia	0	36	31	14	-	-	-	81
3	Poland	0	23	36	71	-	-	-	130
	Denmark	0	9	26	25	-	-	-	60
4	Turkey	0	23	5	20	-	-	-	48
	Italy	0	29	48	73	-	-	-	150
5	USA	0	36	23	12	-	-	-	71
	India	0	13	12	18	-	-	-	43
6	Israel	0	30	18	12	-	-	-	60
	Sweden	0	7	28	62	-	-	-	97
7	France	0	25	45	27	-	-	-	97
	Netherlands	0	13	П	34	-	-	-	58
8	Monaco	0	28	29	21	-	-	-	78
	Canada	0	12	57	37	-	-	-	106





WOMEN'S TEAMS RESULTS

Round of 16									
Tbl		c/o	Boards I - I6	Boards 17 - 32	Boards 33 - 48	Boards 49 - 64	Boards 65 - 80	Boards 81 - 96	Total
11	Denmark	0	22	25	33	-	-	-	80
	Russia	0	36	40	13	-	-	-	89
12	Turkey	0	П	56	49	-	-	-	116
	Indonesia	0	15	28	22	-	-	-	65
13	Austria	0	21	61	39	-	-	-	121
	Brazil	0	26	14	57	-	-	-	97
14	Poland	0	19	40	35	-	-	-	94
	USA	0	15	23	24	-	-	-	62
15	Australia	0	14	9	46	-	-	-	69
	Sweden	0	50	42	П	-	-	-	103
16	England	0	21	16	41	-	-	-	78
	China	0	20	34	34	-	-	-	88
17	Italy	0	I	П	38	-	-	-	50
	Netherlands	0	37	13	13	-	-	-	63
18	France	0	26	36	20	-	-	-	82
	Scotland	0	23	7	30	-	-	-	60

ROUND 16

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS

	G	GROUP H		
	Mat	ch	IMP's	VP's
71 C	Canada	France	28 - 13	18 - 12
72 B	razil	Belgium	31 - 16	18 - 12
73 A	ustralia	Turkey	16 - 19	14 - 16
74 Ir	ndia	Israel	14 - 28	12 - 18
75 C	China Hong Kong	England	6 - 22	11 - 19
76 S	ingapore	Germany	13 - 12	15 - 15
77 E	gypt	Scotland	21 - 27	14 - 16
78 M	1orocco	Indonesia	21 - 32	11 - 17
79 S	outh Africa	Bye	0 - 0	18 - 0

		GROUP I		
	M	IMP's	VP's	
81	Argentina	USA	15 - 22	13 - 16
82	Japan	Spain	19 - 21	15 - 15
83	Pakistan	Hungary	16 - 50	7 - 23
84	Guadeloupe	Sweden	6 - 43	6 - 24
85	Chinese Taipei	Italy	15 - 13	15 - 15
86	New Zealand	Netherlands	19 - 14	16 - 14
87	Kenya	Denmark	13 - 20	14 - 16
88	Reunion	Poland	11 - 36	9 - 21
89	Ireland	Bye	0 - 0	18 - 0

	GROUP H							
			IMP's	VP's				
	71	France	Indonesia	45 - 45	15 - 15			
	72	Brazil	Australia	23 - 21	15 - 15			
	73	Germany	South Africa	42 - 32	17 - 13			
	74	England	Morocco	15 - 32	11 - 19			
	75	Israel	Egypt	45 - 31	18 - 12			
	76	Turkey	Singapore	46 - 40	16 - 14			
	77	Belgium	China Hong Kong	26 - 26	15 - 15			
	78	Canada	India	48 - 17	22 - 8			
اد	79	Scotland	Вуе	0 - 0	18 - 0			
Z								
200			GROUP I					
	ROUND 17	72 73 74 75 76 77 78	72 Brazil 73 Germany 74 England 75 Israel 76 Turkey 77 Belgium 78 Canada	Match 71 France Indonesia 72 Brazil Australia 73 Germany South Africa 74 England Morocco 75 Israel Egypt 76 Turkey Singapore 77 Belgium China Hong Kong 78 Canada India	Match IMP's 71 France Indonesia 45 - 45 72 Brazil Australia 23 - 21 73 Germany South Africa 42 - 32 74 England Morocco 15 - 32 75 Israel Egypt 45 - 31 76 Turkey Singapore 46 - 40 77 Belgium China Hong Kong 26 - 26 78 Canada India 48 - 17			

	GROUP I		
	Match	IMP's	VP's
81 USA	Poland	33 - 20	18 - 12
82 Japan	Pakistan	12 - 29	11 - 19
83 Netherlands	Ireland	31 - 13	19 - 11
84 Italy	Reunion	86 - 7	25 - 0
85 Sweden	Kenya	65 - 21	25 - 5
86 Hungary	New Zealand	56 - 11	25 - 5
87 Spain	Chinese Taipei	54 - 27	21 - 9
88 Argentina	Guadeloupe	36 - 38	15 - 15
89 Denmark	Bye	0 - 0	18 - 0





			Round o	of 16			
ТЫ		c/o	Boards I - I6	Boards 17 - 32	Boards 33 - 48	Boards 49 - 64	Total
21	France	0	39	-	-	-	39
	Netherlands	0	29	-	-	-	29
22	Italy	0	32	-	-	-	32
	Israel	0	29	-	-	-	29
23	Canada	0	22	-	-	-	22
	Denmark	0	46	-	-	-	46
24	USA	0	16	-	-	-	16
	Germany	0	39	-	-	-	39
25	Singapore	0	23	-	-	-	23
	Hungary	0	78	-	-	-	78
26	England	0	52	-	-	-	52
	Poland	0	10	-	-	-	10
27	Indonesia	0	55	-	-	-	55
	Japan	0	19	-	-	-	19
28	Sweden	0	49	-	-	-	49
	Australia	0	1	-	-	-	ı

SENIOR TEAMS Ranking after 17 rounds

GROUP H						
I France	304	10 China Hong Kong	258			
2 Indonesia	296	I I India	246.5			
3 Germany	293	12 Scotland	241			
4 England	29 I	13 Belgium	227			
5 Israel	290	14 Egypt	224			
6 Canada 7 Australia	271	15 Brazil	218.5			
8 Singapore	270 262	16 South Africa	216			
9 Turkey	260	17 Morocco	196			

	GRO	UP I	
I Hungary	320	10 New Zealand	256
2 Denmark	312	II Pakistan	246
3 Sweden	311	12 Argentina	243
4 Italy	294	13 Ireland	235
5 USA	286	14 Spain	227
6 Poland	285	15 Guadeloupe	226
7 Japan	278	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
8 Netherlands	264	16 Reunion	160
9 Chinese Taipei	256.5	17 Kenya	141

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.

VUGRAPH PRESENTATIONS

Morning I	matches (10.30)	
VG	Ireland – Germany	Open Teams
		(Round of 16)
BBO 2	Turkey – Italy	Open Teams
		(Round of 16)
BBO 3	France – Netherlands	Open Teams
		(Round of 16)
BBO 4	Monaco – Canada	Open Teams
		(Round of 16)
BBO 5	Poland – Denmark	Open Teams
		(Round of 16)
Ourgame	England – China	Women's Teams
		(Round of 16)
CRS 7	USA – India	Open Teams
		(Round of 16)
CRS 8	Israel – Sweden	Open Teams
		(Round of 16)
CRS 9	Turkey – Indonesia	Women's Teams
		(Round of 16)
CRS 10	Italy – Israel	Senior Teams
		(Round of 16)
CRS II	Austria – Brazil	Women's Teams
		(Round of 16)
CRS 12	USA – Germany	Senior Teams
		(Round of 16)

Afternoon matches (14.00 and 17.00)

To be decided

Registration for the Transnational Mixed Teams Championship

With the conclusion of play in the National Teams (Open, Women and Senior series), registration for the Transnational Mixed Teams Championship will be available to eliminated players.

As usual, registration can **only** be made on line through the WBF website (go to the Lille microsite, click 'Registration', then 'Transnational Mixed Teams'). The system is accessible from any computer, tablet or smartphone connected to Internet. Registration can be done at any time after the end of the round robin; players are encouraged to enter as soon as they have made their plans in order to facilitate the work of the organizers.

Only players already enrolled in the WBF database may be registered. If there is any player who wishes to play in the Transnational Mixed Teams Championship and is not already in the WBF database, he/she should apply for enrollment at once. The relevant form which needs to be filled out is available at http://www.worldbridge.org/WBFRegistrationForm.asp. Once the form is filled out and submitted, enrollment will be concluded as soon as possible.

Panos Gerontopoulos Communications Manager

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

OPEN TEAMS Knockout Brackets



WOMEN's TEAMS Knockout Brackets



SENIOR TEAMS Knockout Brackets



OPEN

Russia v Italy

ROUND I 3

Clash of the Titans

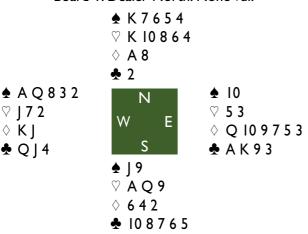
by Brent Manley

hen Italy and Russia met in round 13 of the Open Teams on Tuesday, they were first and second, respectively, in Group A. A big win by Russia would give them a chance to take over first place. They did win, but not by enough to change the standings.

The match was relatively quiet, but there were a few interesting deals.

Italy landed the first blow.

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Duboin	Khiuppenen	Sementa	Kholomeev
	I♠	2◊	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Yury Khiuppenen had a surprise for Giorgio Duboin – a low heart. Vadim Kholomeev inserted the $\heartsuit Q$ and when it held, he cashed the ace. Rather than continuing hearts, however, he switched to the $\clubsuit J$, assuring that when his partner got in he would have at least one spade trick. Duboin took the $\clubsuit A$ and tried the $\diamondsuit K$, but Khiuppenen won and cashed his major-suit winners for plus 150.

The Russians at the other table had more information – namely that they had no heart stopper – and used it well.

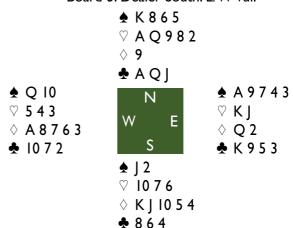


Giorgio Duboin, Italy

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	Bocchi	Gromov	Madala
	I♠	2♦	DЫ
Redbl	2♡	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4 ♦	All Pass		

Andrey Gromov lost two hearts and a diamond for an easy plus 130. That was 7 IMPs to Russia, but Italy scored a swing on board 3.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West Duboin	North Khiuppenen	East Sementa	South Kholomeev
	• •		Pass
Pass	I♡	I♠	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♡
All Pass			

Antonio Sementa started with a low diamond. Declarer put up dummy's king. Duboin took the $\Diamond A$ and switched to a trump. Declarer ducked, Sementa won the jack and continued with the king. Declarer won and tried a low spade from hand. Sementa ducked, Duboin won and played a third round of trumps. Khiuppenen won in dummy and played the $\Diamond J$, ruffing when Duboin didn't cover. Sementa took the $\triangle A$ when declarer played the 8 from hand, and he exited with a spade to declarer's king. The result was two down and plus 100 to Italy.

The defense was not nearly as effective at the other table.

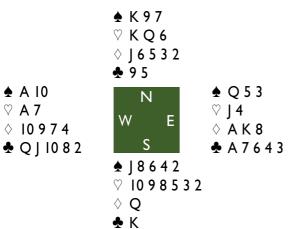
West	North	East	South
Dubinin	Bocchi	Gromov	Madala
			Pass
Pass	I♡	I♠	2♡
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♡
All Pass			

Gromov started with the Δ A, continuing the suit to the jack, queen and king. A diamond went to dummy's king and

Dubinin's ace. The club return did not paralyze declarer, who put in the jack, losing to the king. When the \$7 continuation was ruffed in dummy and Alexander Dubinin could not overruff, the trump position was clear to Norberto Bocchi. He played a heart to his ace and ruffed his last spade and soon was claiming plus 140 for a 6-IMP pickup.

Russia got it all back on the next board, where a silent opponent did much better than an active one.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Duboin	Khiuppenen	Sementa	Kholomeev
♣	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♡	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Khiuppenen hit on the great lead – for his side, anyway – of the $\heartsuit K$. Duboin took the $\heartsuit A$ and made the normal play of running the $\clubsuit Q$ from hand. Kholomeev took the $\clubsuit K$ and returned a heart. The result was two down, minus 200.

The auction at the other table warned East-West against a no-trump contract, and they landed in the superior contract of $5 \clubsuit$.



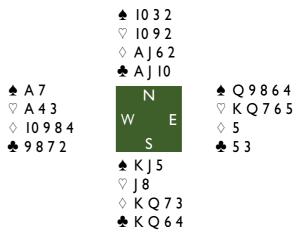
Andrey Gromov, Russia

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	Bocchi	Gromov	Madala
I♦	Pass	2♣	2♦
3♣	3◊	5♣	All Pass

After showing the majors with his $2\Diamond$ cuebid, Agustin Madala started with the $\Diamond Q$. Gromov won and plunked down the trump ace, happy to see the $\clubsuit K$ fall. He went to dummy with a second trump, finessed the $\Diamond 8$ and played a spade to the ace. With the $\clubsuit K$ on his right, he had a parking place for dummy's losing heart. Plus 620 was worth 13 IMPs.

On the following deal, Russia scored 10 IMPs by bidding and making 3NT at one table while defeating 2NT at the other.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Duboin	Khiuppenen	Sementa	Kholomeev
		Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Duboin led the ♦10, taken in dummy with the jack. Kholomeev could see he was wide open in hearts, so he made his desperation play of a low spade to the king at trick two. Duboin won the ace, and the play record ceases at that point, noting only that declarer claimed nine tricks for plus 400. It appears Duboin returned a spade to Sementa's queen, followed by a spade to declarer's jack. (It is also possible that West ducked the ♠A – that happened at at least one or two tables.)

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	Bocchi	Gromov	Madala
		Pass	INT
Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♡	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

Dubinin led a low heart, and the defense quickly rattled off five hearts and a spade for plus 50 and 10 IMPs.

At that point, Russia was up 23-14. There were no more big swings in the match, but Italy put together enough small ones to make the final score 25-24 for Russia.

In the Spotlight

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

Natalia Sakowska



How did you take up bridge?

As a student of a math-oriented high school I really couldn't avoid it. Even if I had somehow managed to, I couldn't avoid bridge as a maths and computer-science student at the university.

Biggest influence?

Because the more you play the less influenced you can become, then probably it's my partner, Piotr, who has taught me to think (as my mentor).

Bridge Club?

University of Warsaw Sport Association.

First Bridge Book

I honestly have to admit I prefer crime to bridge books.

Favourite Music?

Recently, Adele.

Favourite drink?

White Sparkling Wine.

All time favourite player?

Top Secret :-)

Favourite TV Show?

House; Lie to Me; The Sarah Silverman program; unfortunately they are all over now

Best achievement in Bridge?

Bronze in the Polish Open pairs 2011 with my beloved partner Piotr Butryn.

Least favourite opponent?

I try to make friends at the bridge table, not enemies.

Biggest failing at the table?

Not recognising when to trust my instincts.

Most important attribute in a partner?

Trust (and sometimes the opposite).

Your favourite tournament?

Warsaw Junior Mixed Pairs Championship which takes place each December. Everybody's in high spirits (Xmas is close) prettily dressed (evening dresses and suits) there are medals for the winners, gifts, sweets and fruits for all players. Pure joy!

Other interests?

Reading all sorts of books and discovering the world.

Natalia didn't mention that she was a member of the Polish women's team that finished fifth in Dublin, qualifying for the Venice Cup.

Or that a few days later In the European Youth Pairs Championship in Vejle, Denmark at the beginning of July, she finished second in the Girls Pairs.

Or that in the same month she was in the Polish team that finished third in the Universities Championship in Reims.

Still in July (but carrying on into August) she was a member of the winning Polish girls team in the World Youth Team Championships in Taicang.

Now here in Lille she has qualified for the knock-out stages as a member of the Polish women's team.

Amazing!

Championship Diary



Barry Rigal suggested the following film title for bridge players: Dummy Reversal of Fortune.

Meanwhile we spotted: The Magnificent Seven of Diamonds.

We are pleased to announce the return of Ron Tacchi's Limerick Con-

test. We give you the first line:

There was a young lady from Lille.

Returning to the opening ceremony, the representative of the City of Lille, Monsieur Olivier Henno said that a speech should be like a mini skirt: long enough to cover the essentials, but short enough to keep you interested.

Having been asked to take a picture of the English Open team by the EBU, Tacchi had to do it quickly as they were planning to return home on Wednesday following their disappointing campaign. At the appointed time and place the coach said 'We are missing Forrester and Gold'. The ever-alert Tacchi added, 'and silver and bronze'.

Nine Ever Ten Never

by Micke Melander

ne of our favourites in the Open Series, Monaco, picked Canada to be their opponents in the Round of 16. Here come four small problems from the first segment of that round.

Problem I. N/S Vul.

WestNorthEast
PassSouth
Pass $I \diamondsuit$ PassI \undersetPassPassDblRdbl $2 \heartsuit$

I \Diamond : Natural diamond opening that promised at least four, anything to add in the bidding?

Problem 2. All Vul.

Pass

♠KQ74 ♡8642 ◊Q **♣**Q942

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♡
Pass	3♡	Pass	3NT
Pass	?		

You managed to get a fit. But do you know stay in 3NT or bid 4%?

Problem 3. All Vul.

★K9 ♥AQI04 ♦AJ42 **♣**AKI0

West	North	East	South Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2◊*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3◊*	Pass
3♡*	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	?	

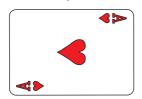
You have shown 22-24 HCPs and hearts. Partner has shown spades and is making a quantitative raise; do you have any extras or do you pass?

Problem 4. None Vul.

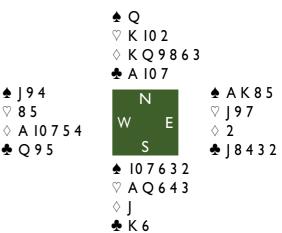
♠6 ♥KJIO ♦AQIO2 **♣**86432

West	North	East	South
[♦	Pass	Ι♡	Pass
2♡	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	?		

Would you dare to take any action?



Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Miles	Multon	Korbel	Zimmermann
		Pass	Pass
Pass	I ♦	DЫ	Rdbl
Pass	Pass	I♠	DЫ
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	L'Ecuyer	Helness	Demuy
		Pass	Pass
I ♦	Pass	I♠	Pass
Pass	DЫ	Rdbl	2♡
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Helgemo was a little short in high card points, even for a third-hand opening but his semi-psychic bid worked out extremely well when L'Ecuyer in North had nowhere to go over 2° .

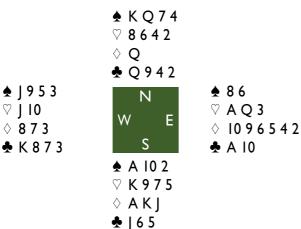
Once Helness showed up with what promised to be just below an opening hand, L'Ecuyer got the impression that Demuy was fighting for the contract rather inviting for game and simply gave up.

Against 3NT Korbel led the three of clubs, declarer jumped up with the king and called for the jack of diamonds which held the trick. Multon then played a heart to the king and played the king of diamonds, setting up his ninth trick before the defense could set enough winners to set the game.

In the Closed Room Helgemo tried to be smart for a second time on the board and kicked off with the four of diamonds, under-leading his ace, which meant ten easy tricks for declarer who won the trick with the jack of diamonds and immediately played a spade to set up his dummy for a cross-ruff. Helness got in on the king of spades and did what he could by returning a trump, but that didn't help

much. Still, it was 10 IMPs to Monaco when the Canadians missed their game.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Miles	Multon	Korbel	Zimmermann
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♡
Pass	4 ♡	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	L'Ecuyer	Helness	Demuy
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♡
Pass	3♡	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Zimmermann had no chance in the Open Room. 4° was completely hopeless, since declarer had to lose two clubs and two trumps. It went far better for the Canadian pair,

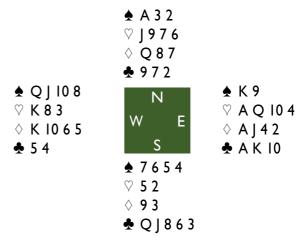


Daniel Miles, Canada

who tried their luck in 3NT on the other table, Helgemo led a small spade, which went to declarer's ten. With seven tricks in the bag declarer simply had to work on setting up two hearts to make his contract. Demuy had no problem doing that, 12 IMPs to Canada and their first game swing. Suddenly nine ever ten never was working fine...

On board six you had ♠AKJ1065 ♥J73 ♦J32 ♣3 and partner opened with INT (14-16). Again, 3NT would have been a better contract than trying to play in 4♠. But with every card placed wrong for declarer both contracts would have gone down unless there were some real favours from the defense.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Open Room

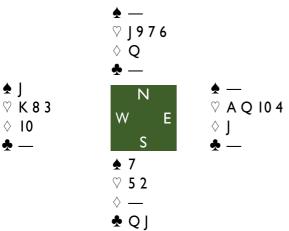
West	North	East	South
Miles	Multon	Korbel	Zimmermann
			Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♡	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	L'Ecuyer	Helness	Demuy
			Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2◊*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3◊*	Pass
3♡*	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

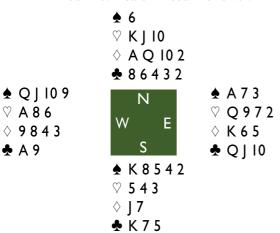
Miles and Korbel never even sniffed at bidding any higher than game. Helgemo in the Closed Room made the quantitative raise but Helness didn't take the bait, probably regretting it when he got a club lead to the ten which held the trick. Declarer played the king of spades, which held the second trick, then came a second round which North won with the ace to return a club. Helness won the return, cashed out the king of clubs, ace and king of diamonds ending in dummy. Then on the two good spades he had in

dummy he discarded his two diamonds in hand trapping L'Ecuyer in a show up squeeze on the red suits. The end position was:



Since neither of the tables were in slam, it was a push.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Miles	Multon	Korbel	Zimmermann
I♦	Pass	Ι♡	Pass
2♡	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	DЫ	Pass	Pass
4 ♡	DЫ	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	L'Ecuyer	Helness	Demuy
I♦	Pass	Ι♡	Pass
I♠	Pass	2NT	All Pass

Multon fearing that a spade led from partner might give the contract away, tried to direct Zimmermann to lead a diamond with a Lightner double. When Miles removed to $4\heartsuit$ he immediately also doubled that.

Surprisingly for the defense the king of diamonds turned up in the wrong hand, but since E/W already were in a very hard game and Zimmermann showed up with both black kings there was no play for the contract. Korbel went two

off when he tried to make the contract. It was in fact much better to play in hearts in a 4-3 fit than to attempt notrump, since the defence can put declarer down two in 3NT. Helness found this out at the other table when the defense didn't give anything away. Still, 6 IMPs to Monaco, who won the first segment against Canada with 28-12.

Eyes on the stars in Lille

by Didier Lévy

t looks like there is one particular spot in Lille where the percentage of bridge stars per square centimeter is beating all the statistics!

I'm talking of **la Brasserie André**, probably the best value your money can buy when you want traditional French food in a 1900-looking restaurant.

I was fulfilling a promise to David Bird*, that when we met in Lille I would take him to some very good restaurant and that he wouldn't forget his meal for a long, very long time.

So be it! And as we started with a bottle of Medoc 2005.

Almost immediately, I spotted the great Bob Hamman $\!\!\!\!^*$ sitting at a table next to ours.

David and I stood up to shake hands, and after David and Bob exchanged a few words, David introduced me, and I added:

'I'm Didier Lévy, a bridge Nobody'.

'Neither am I' said Hamman with a smile!

A moment later I asked David:

'Have you seen Phillip Alder* in the congress?'

And the answer came: 'He is sitting just behind you!'

Ah, good, I thought, and stood up to say bonsoir and introduce myself.

Phillip was sitting with another person and when I shook hands with Phillip, the other person stood up too and said:

'You are Didier!'

Me (surprised): Yes, you know me? And who are you? Him: 'Of course I do, I'm Ron Klinger*!

Phillip ordered a bottle of Pomerol Château La Salle 2007, a real gift from the gods. We joined him at the same table and enjoyed the super meal you only find at André's.

La Brasserie André – 71 rue de Béthune – Lille 03 20 54 75 51

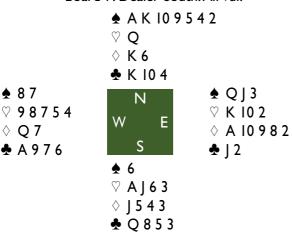
- * David Bird is the most prolific author of bridge books ever, with more than 110 bridge books published so far.
- * The great champion Bob Hamman plays with Zia Mahmood for USA in the Open Teams in Lille
- * Phillip Alder writes the bridge column for The New York Times and is currently captaining the US Senior team in Lille.
- * Ron Klinger is from Australia and probably the most renowned bridge teacher worldwide.
- * Didier Lévy is the creator of www.vubridge.com and publisher of bridge interactive "playbooks".

Okay Ron, Well Done!

by Micke Melander

drama was played out in group D of the Open Series when Turkey played Israel in the last qualifying match of the Round Robin at a moment when both of them were close to the top of the table. In theory both Iceland and China could get into the race and take one their qualifying places.

Board 7. Dealer South, All Vul.



Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Liran	Gur	Fridlander	Yilmaz
			Pass
Pass	I♠	Pass	INT
Pass All Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Kokten	Pachtman	Aker	Ginossar
			Pass
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

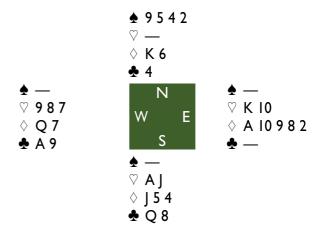
East was almost endplayed on the opening lead. In the closed room Aker tried his best by leading the two of hearts, the three and four followed and declarer won with the queen. Ron Pachtman wanted to create an entry to dummy to be able to collect his ace of hearts and tried



Okay Gur, Turkey

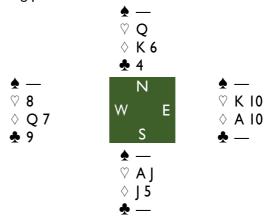
playing the king of clubs from hand. Aker now unblocked his jack and Kokten smoothly ducked when dummy played low, allowing declarer to win that trick, too.

After two top spades the ten of clubs followed, which also stood up. Pachtman now realised that he wasn't really going to get any help from defenders in getting an entry and so continued playing on trumps instead, by playing the ten of spades. That led to a position in which Aker had to make another lead, when the situation was:



Aker was now forced to play diamonds (hearts would only have made things worse...) and he had no better move than cashing the ace of diamonds. That gave declarer his tenth trick.

Meanwhile in the other room Fridlander had to kick off against the same contract. He put the jack of clubs on the table which went to the three, six and declarer's king. Okay Gur now played the ace and king of trumps discarding a diamond from dummy. A third round of trumps threw Fridlander in again, who now exited with his last club, refusing to help declarer by opening up any red suit. Liran in East simply covered in clubs and allowed declarer to win with the ten. Gur continued with all his trumps down to the following position:



Declarer now played the queen of hearts from hand and when it wasn't covered Gur won with the ace in dummy to continue the suit, throwing poor Fridlander in again to lead away from the ace of diamonds.

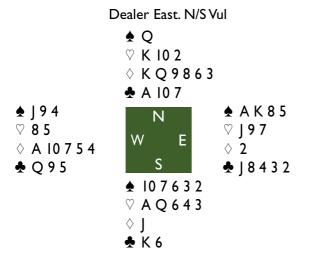
Very well done by Ron and Okay!

The Mousetrap

by Mark Horton

The Mousetrap is a murder mystery play by Agatha Christie. It opened in the West End of London in 1952, and has been running continuously ever since. It has the longest initial run of any play in history, with over 24,500 performances so far. It is the longest running show (of any type) of the modern era. The play is also noted for its twist ending, which at the end of every performance the audience is asked not to reveal.

This deal from the match between Russia and Norway saw declarer fall headlong into a trap set by his opponent:



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Berg	Gromov	Svendsen	Dubinin
		Pass	Pass
Pass	I ♦	I♠	2♡
2♠	4♡	All Pass	

West led the four of spades and East won with the king and switched to the two of diamonds, West taking the ace and returning the nine of spades. Declarer ruffed in dummy with the two of hearts and played the king of diamonds. When East ruffed with the nine of hearts declarer discarded the six of spades. He took the trump switch with dummy's ten, ruffed a diamond and claimed, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khiuppenen	Hoftaniska	Kholomeev	Charlsen
		Pass	I♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♡
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♡
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4 ♡
All Pass			

West hit upon the lead of the queen of clubs (this type of play is discussed in *The Rodwell Files*) and declarer won in hand and played the jack of diamonds. West took the ace



Yury Khiuppenen, Russia

and continued with the nine of clubs. The unsuspecting declarer put in the ten, losing to East's jack. After cashing the king of spades East played the four of clubs. Declarer ruffed with the ace and was no doubt charmed when West followed with the five of clubs.

He cashed the queen of hearts and continued with a heart to the ten. For the second time East produced an unwelcome jack and a club return meant declarer had to go three down, -300 and 14 IMPs to Russia.

West's brilliant lead had paid a handsome dividend, but declarer should not have been fooled. This is a classic hand where the correct technique is to develop the side suit first. At trick three declarer should take dummy's ace of clubs and play a top diamond. East ruffs but declarer overruffs, goes to dummy with a trump and plays another top diamond. East's ruff is countered by an overruff and declarer then goes to dummy with a trump and plays the nine of diamonds pitching a spade. The defenders take only two diamonds and a spade.

Smoking forbidden in Grand Palais

Please be reminded that the Grand Palais is a non-smoking 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."

OPEN

USA v Ireland

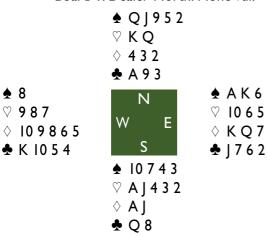
by Brent Manley

ROUND I 5

oing into the final round-robin match, Ireland was in the final qualifying position in Group B in the Open series, I I victory points clear of fifth-place Austria. So long as Ireland didn't get blitzed in round 15, they appeared to be in excellent position to make it to the round of 16. Austria managed only 16 VPs in the final match, but even 25 would not have helped because Ireland took care of business against USA, winning 20-10.

The Irish did not start well, however.

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.



The auction was the same at both tables.

West	North	East	South
Zia	Fitzgibbon	Hamman	Mesbur
McGann	Rodwell	Hanlon	Meckstroth
	I♠	Pass	4♠

All Pass



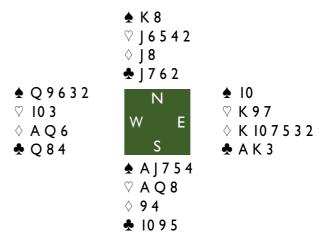
Nicholas Fitzgibbon, Ireland

Against $4\clubsuit$ by Nicholas Fitzgibbon, Bob Hamman led the $^{\circ}$ K, taken by declarer with the ace. He played a spade to his jack and Hamman's king at trick two. Hamman won and cashed the $^{\circ}$ Q, then made the killing switch to a low club. Fitzgibbon put up the queen, but Zia Mahmood covered with the king. Fitzgibbon took the \clubsuit A, unblocked the heart honors from his hand and ruffed a diamond in dummy. He pitched his losing clubs on the $^{\circ}$ A and $^{\circ}$ J, but Hamman ruffed the fourth round of hearts with his low trump. The defense took three trumps and a diamond for one down – plus 50 to USA.

Against Eric Rodwell's $4 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$, Tom Hanlon started with the $\stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$ A, which cost his side a tempo. He switched to the \Diamond K, but there was no club trick coming, so Rodwell finished with plus 420, a 10-IMP gain for his team.

Ireland got 7 IMPs back on the next board.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Again, the bidding was the same at both tables.

West	North	East	South
Zia	Fitzgibbon	Hamman	Mesbur
McGann	Rodwell	Hanlon	Meckstroth
		I ♦	I♠
Pass	Pass	DЫ	All Pass

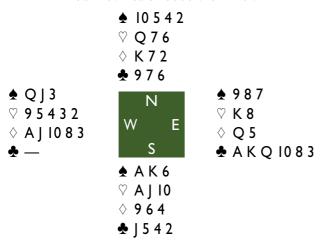
Zia started with a low club to Hamman's king. The ♠10 was covered by the jack, ducked by Zia. Declarer led a low diamond from hand, taken by Zia with the queen to exit with a spade to dummy's king. Now Mesbur took the heart finesse and played a second diamond, won by Zia with the ace. Zia cashed the ♣Q and continued with a diamond to Hamman's king, ruffed by Mesbur. He played the ♡A and a club to Hamman's ace. He got only one more trick – the trump ace – but he had six tricks for one down and minus 200.

At the other table, the defenders did not give Jeff Meckstroth an opportunity to make one of his low trumps by ruffing. Hugh McGann started with the $\heartsuit 10$ to Meckstroth's queen. He played a low diamond from hand, taken by McGann with the queen to switch to a low trump, which

went to the 10 and declarer's jack. Meckstroth played a spade to the king and tried the $\lozenge J$, taken by Hanlon with the king. Three rounds of clubs followed, and McGann exited with his second heart to Meckstroth's ace. Meckstroth then got out with his third heart, McGann pitching the $\Diamond A$. In the end, Meckstroth had \$A75, McGann \$Q96. Meckstroth had to lose two of the last three tricks for two down, minus 500 and 7 IMPs to Ireland.

The Irish took the lead on the next deal.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Zia	Fitzgibbon	Hamman	Mesbur
			I ♦
ΙŸ	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The club split turned this poor contract into a disaster. Fitzgibbon started with a low diamond, taken by dummy's queen. Zia cashed the top three clubs and, with no jack falling, played a spade. Mesbur won the $\bigstar K$ and returned a diamond. Zia put in the 10 and Fitzgibbon won the king, switching accurately to a low heart. Mesbur's $\triangledown 10$ won, and he cashed the ace, then the ♣J, Fitzgibbon pitching his last diamond. A heart to the queen was followed by a spade to the ace, Zia getting the last two tricks with the $\Diamond A$ and $\mathbf{\Phi}Q$ - at three down, Zia could be grateful he wasn't doubled.

West	North	East	South
McGann	Rodwell	Hanlon	Meckstroth
			I ♦
Pass	I♠	2♣	Dbl*
Pass	2♠	All Pass	
* Support			

Hanlon cashed his top clubs and continued the suit, Mc-Gann ruffing with the ♠J. McGann continued with the ♦10 to Rodwell's king. Rodwell then pulled trumps and played the ∇Q from hand. He took four spades, three hearts and a diamond for plus 110 to hold the loss to 5 IMPs.

Ireland's last significant swing came thanks to some expert play by McGann on the following deal.

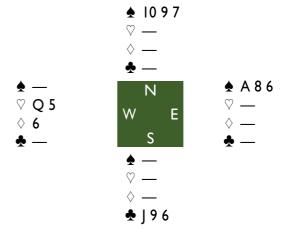
One more time, the auction was the same at both tables.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul. \triangle 10973 ♡ K 8 6 3 ♦ 1084 ♣ K Q ΛKJ **★** A 8 6 5 4 2 \heartsuit Q 5 4 2 ♥ 1097 W ♦ A K J 6 3 \Diamond 7 ♣ A 7 4 **\$** 10.8 **♦** Q ♡ A J ♦ Q952 ♣ | 96532

West	North	East	South
Zia	Fitzgibbon	Hamman	Mesbur
McGann	Rodwell	Hanlon	Meckstroth
INT	Pass	4 ♡	Pass
4	All Pass		

Fitzgibbon led the ♣K, taken by Zia with the ace. Zia played a diamond to his jack at trick two, then cashed the two high diamonds, pitching hearts from dummy. He pitched another heart on the \lozenge 6. Mesbur won the \lozenge Q and played a club to his partner's queen. A low heart from North was ruffed in dummy. When Zia cashed the A, the contract could no longer be made. He played a spade to his king, but had to concede two trump tricks to Fitzgibbon to finish one down - minus 50.

McGann played along similar lines, at least at first. He won the opening club lead with dummy's ace, played a diamond to his jack and discarded hearts from dummy on his $\Diamond A$ and $\Diamond K$. Instead of pitching a heart on the fourth round of diamonds, however, he ruffed his \$\displays 3\$ low and played a club to Rodwell's queen. Rodwell played a heart to Meckstroth's ace, and McGann ruffed the heart continuation in dummy. He ruffed dummy's club with the ♠J and cashed the ♠K. This was the position with three tricks to go:



McGann played the \heartsuit 5, and when Rodwell put in the \spadesuit 9, McGann underruffed in dummy, leaving Rodwell to play from the \$10 7 into dummy's \$A 8. Well done! Plus 420 was good for 10 IMPs in a match won by Ireland 36-13.

The 20 victory points left Ireland comfortably in qualifying position. Their next opponent: Germany.

OPEN

Sweden v Israel

KO-16 SET 2

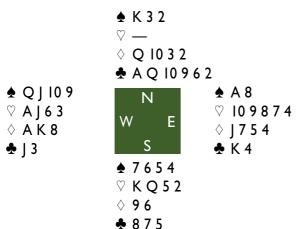
Suddenly, nothing happened

by Brent Manley

n a 96-board match, a deficit of 23 IMPs is not serious, especially with five of six rounds to play. Still, if you are Sweden and have lost the first set in the Open Teams, round of 16, to Israel 30-7, you want to bounce back sooner rather than later. Sweden did just that on Wednesday in set notable for a lively exchange of IMPs on the first six boards and almost no action — at least in terms of swings — thereafter.

Israel expanded their margin on the first deal of the set, both East-West pairs missing a nine-card heart fit.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Liran	Upmark	Fridlander
	♣	Pass	ΙŸ
INT	2♣	3NT	All Pass

After Ehud Fridlander's 1° response, it was not so easy for Fredrik Nystom and Jonan Upmark to find their fit in hearts – and Nystrom was lucky his partner supplied the club stopper he was missing. That was not sufficient for him to come to nine tricks, however. Inon Liran led the $\clubsuit Q$, taken in dummy with the king to play a heart to the queen and ace. The $\spadesuit Q$ was next, ducked all around, then Nystrom more or less gave up by playing a heart to the 10 and South's king. The result was two down – minus 100.

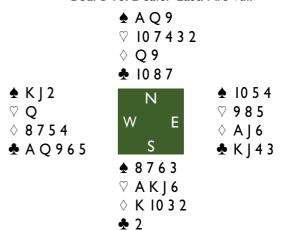
West	North	East	South
Bareket	Cullin	Lengy	Bertheau
	♣	Pass	I ◊*
DЫ	2♣	2♦	All Pass
* Hearts			

Obviously not expecting his partner to have heart length, Assaf Lengy bid his second suit and was left to play there. Peter Bertheau led a club to Per-Ola Cullin's ace. Lengy won the club return and played a diamond to the ace. The \$10 held the trick, and declarer continued with a spade to

the ace. On the \heartsuit 4, South followed with the 2, so Lengy put in the 6, ruffed by North. The \clubsuit 10 was returned, declarer dumping a heart while dummy ruffed with the \diamondsuit 8. The \clubsuit 1 was covered by the king and ruffed by Lengy, who led a diamond to dummy's king and played the \clubsuit Q. Cullin declined to ruff, but he took the \diamondsuit Q when Lengy played the \heartsuit A. That was plus 110 to Israel, now leading 35-7.

Sweden got 10 of those IMPs back on the next board when Bertheau and Cullin bid a thin but cold vulnerable game not bid at the other table.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Bareket	Cullin	Lengy	Bertheau
		Pass	Pass
♣	Pass	INT	DЫ
3♣	3♡	Pass	4 ♡
All Pass			

Lengy started with a low trump, and things were looking up for Cullin when the queen fell under dummy's $\heartsuit A$. A club from dummy was taken by the ace, and Ilan Bareket switched to a low spade to the nine and ten. A spade was returned to the king and ace and Cullin ruffed a club in



Ehud Fridlander, Israel

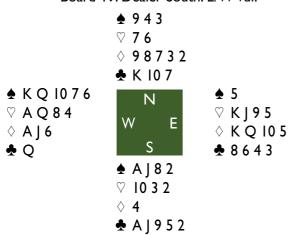
dummy. A low diamond went to the queen and ace, and a third spade to the jack and ace established South's 13th spade. Cullin could claim plus 620 at that point.

West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Liran	Upmark	Fridlander
		Pass	1♦
Pass	Ι♡	Pass	2♡
Dbl	3♡	All Pass	

Liran also took 10 tricks for a 10-IMP loss.

More IMPs went to Sweden on the next board when the Israelis had a bidding accident.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Liran	Upmark	Fridlander
			Pass
I♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2◊*	Pass
2♡	Pass	3♡	Pass
4♣	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 7	All Pass		

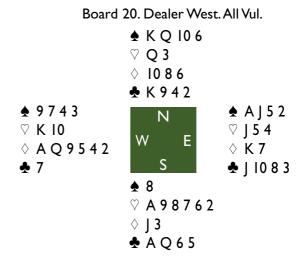
There were no problems for Nystrom in this contract, and he easily scored plus 650.

West	North	East	South
Bareket	Cullin	Lengy	Bertheau
			Pass
I♠	Pass	INT	Pass
3♡	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♡	All Pass

This auction might serve as an example of why the weaker hand should normally not use 4NT to ask for key cards. In this case, the response carried the pair to the six level missing two aces. East could not pass 5♠ holding a singleton, although he might have survived if West had South's ♠J to go with his other honors. The 4♠ cuebid, facing likely shortage, also seems unwise.

In any case, there was no way, short of a gross defensive error, for the contract to be made. Plus 100 for Sweden mean another 13 IMPs. In two boards, Israel's lead had been cut by 23 IMPs to 35-30.

The Israelis picked up 3 IMPs on the next deal, however, when Nystrom and Upmark overbid and were doubled for their transgression.



West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Liran	Upmark	Fridlander
I♦	Pass	I♠	2♡
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	DЫ	All Pass	

Fridlander started with the $8 \triangleq$ to the queen, ducked. A club at trick two went to the jack and Fridlander's queen. His club return was ruffed, and Nystrom went to dummy with the $\lozenge K$ to ruff another club. He then played the $\spadesuit 9$ to the 10 and jack and ran diamonds. Liran eventually ruffed in and punched out dummy's last trump with the $\clubsuit K$. The $\heartsuit A$ was the setting trick for the defense.

West	North	East	South
Bareket	Cullin	Lengy	Bertheau
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♡
All Pass			

Bertheau held the loss on the board to 3 IMPs by making his contract. West started with his singleton club, taken in

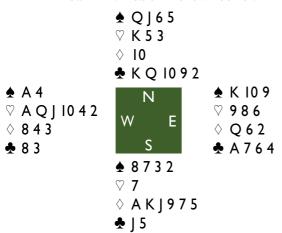


Per-Ola Cullin, Sweden

hand by Bertheau. He played a low heart at trick two, taken by Bareket with the king. A spade went to the king and ace, and Lengy cashed the $\Diamond K$, getting a discouraging signal from West. Lengy exited with a club, ruffed by Bareket, who cashed the $\Diamond A$, the last trick for the defense.

The Israelis earned another swing with good defense on the next deal.

Board 21. Dealer North, N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Liran	Upmark	Fridlander
	♣	Pass	I♠
2♡	2♠	3♡	3♠
All Pass			

Nystrom led the $\clubsuit 8$, taken by Upmark with the ace, Fridlander following with the jack. Upmark returned a club to dummy's 9. Declarer then played a diamond to the ace and a spade to his jack and East's king. On the return of the $\clubsuit 4$, Liran discarded his heart as Nystrom declined to ruff with the $\spadesuit A$. The $\clubsuit Q$ was cashed and a heart ruffed, followed by the $\lozenge K$, pitching a heart from the North hand, and another spade from dummy. Nystrom won the $\spadesuit A$ and led a third diamond, but Liran discarded a heat from dummy and had nine tricks for plus 140.

The defense was sharper at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Bareket	Cullin	Lengy	Bertheau
	I♣	Pass	I ♡*
Dbl	2♠	Pass	3♡
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

^{*} Spades

Lengy led a heart to his partner's ace, and a club was returned to the king and Lengy's ace. A club to the jack was followed by a spade to the queen and king. When Lengy returned a third club, Bareket ruffed with the ♠A, and now the defenders had three trump tricks instead of two. Combined with the aces of hearts and clubs, that was two down, minus 200, and 8 IMPs to Israel.

That was the sixth board of the set. Over the next 10 boards, there were eight pushes, I IMP to Israel and a 2-IMP swing to Sweden.

The final score was 28-17 to Sweden, trailing 47-35 after two sets.

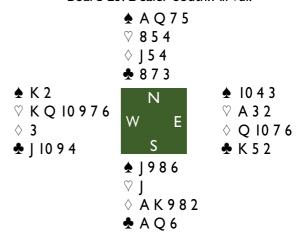
Same contract in both rooms

by Herman De Wael

hile looking for some people who had to serve on the Appeals Committee, I walked into the Vu-Graph theatre, just when PO was asking "can anyone tell me why the Belgians played 4\Delta X in both rooms?" My reply was quick: "The answer that they're Belgians is not sufficient?"

This was the board:

Board 23. Dealer South, All Vul.



This was the bidding in the closed room:

West	North	East	South
			I ♦
2♡	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

The Belgian pair had decided that over certain types of $I\diamondsuit$, $2\diamondsuit$ ought to be natural so $2\heartsuit$ showed the majors. West had forgotten this, and they then supported each other's supposed spades three times. Two tricks, and -300.

When this result appeared on the running scores, one Belgian texted his friend here, asking him to take a picture of the face of the Belgian North in the Open Room, who had played and made $4 \pm X$, when he learned that this had cost him 17 IMPs.

Note that the Belgians only scored 12 combined tricks as declarer. Indeed our North apologized for failing to take the overtrick. But considering that it would have brought in only one extra IMP, he can be excused.

Duplimates for sale

an book stall for

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

A Vu of the Bridge

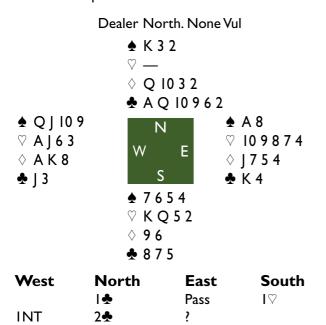
by Mark Horton

ne of the highlights of any major bridge championship is the VuGraph presentation. Here in Lille it looks very spectacular, with four giant screens displaying all the information you might need. One innovation I like is that when the running scores are shown the IMPs of the teams that are leading are highlighted.

Commentary is provided by some combination of Barry Rigal, Chris Dixon, PO Sundelin and David Stern, plus the odd guest commentator. They adopt different techniques - Chris & PO favour the odd almost stealth-like intervention while Barry and David favour a more front-on approach, bombarding the audience with anything from analysis to the running scores.

The speed of play may or may not allow time for a detailed analysis - and even with all 52 cards on show it is quite easy to miss something.

As it happens the deals were not that exciting, but there were still some points of interest.



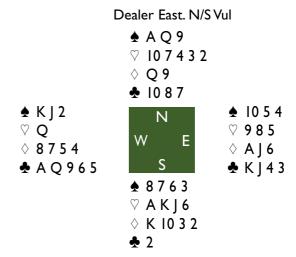
The discussion revolved around how E/W might find a heart contract despite South showing the suit. One point made is that if North had passed what would 20 by East mean? The consensus was that it should suggest a shortage in hearts. One way to do it is to use Stayman with the agreement that partner must show any four-card major, even one bid by the opponents.

You can't bid $2\clubsuit$ here but you could agree that a double of $2\clubsuit$ replaced Stayman.

As an aside, if West were on lead (or if North had a singleton heart say and West an extra diamond) two rounds of spades are followed by a diamond switch, a spade ruffed, a diamond and a fourth spade promoting the king of clubs - for +300/500 (if you had a heart to cash).

Anyhow, East tried 3NT and that was easily defeated when North led the queen of clubs.

This was worth 5 IMPs when E/W played $2\diamondsuit+1$ at the other table (North had opened $1\clubsuit$ and South responded $1\diamondsuit$ showing hearts - how you get to $4\heartsuit$ now is a different question).



West	North	East	South
		Pass	I ♦
Pass	I 🛇	Pass	2♡
Dbl	,		

What should North bid?

I was taught that when partner supports your five-card suit you should upgrade your hand — one way to do this is to think of your fifth trump as an extra king, so around 3 points.

Thanks to West's double you can upgrade your spade holding and I would be tempted to bid 4%.

Those of a more nervous disposition might make some kind of game try – were you to bid $3\lozenge$ for example I think partner should go to $4\heartsuit$.

At the table North bid 3%, which did not encourage his partner to go on – it cost 10 IMPs.

Do make the effort to visit the VuGraph - the graphics are fabulous and the chairs extremely comfortable.





Rue de Richemont 19 1202 Genève Tél. 022 909 25 25 Fax 022 909 25 50 www.regiezimmermann.ch