

10th EUROPEAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONS CUP

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Daily Bulletin

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images: Nikolas Bausback, internet video: Elisabeth van Ettinger

The 2011 European Bridge Champion's Cup is won by **Allegra Lavazza**. In a close final the Italians defeated the 2010 Cup holders **'t Onstein** with 88 by 70. The final was decided over 48 boards. After three sessions (36 boards) the Dutchmen were still on lead with a margin of eight IMPs. The bronze medal went to **Vito**, the national champion of Bulgaria. Bundesliga champion **Karlsruhe** finished fourth.

THE CUP WINNERS, ALLEGRA LAVAZZA. LTR: GUIDO FERRARO, GIORGIO DUBOIN, NORBERTO BOCCHI, ANTONIO SEMENTA and AGUSTIN MADALA.



Check the interview with Karlsruher Bernard Ludwig half way his semi-final against Allegra Lavazza by Elisabeth van Ettinger at BridgeTopics.com.

RESULTS of the FINALS

Final

	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 1+2	Rd 3	Rd 1-3	Rd 4	Result
BC't Onstein 1	32	25	57	11	68	2	70
G.S. Allegra	17	42	59	1	60	28	88

Play off 3rd

	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 1+2	Rd 3	Result
Vito	64	19	83	15	98
Karlsruher BSC	7	48	55	19	74

Play off 5th

	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 1+2	Rd 3	Result
Auguri Warsaw	26	22	48	14	62
Lazy	20	14	34	3	37

Play off 9th

	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 1+2	Rd 3	Rd 1-3
BC Grant Thornton	23	33	56	36	92
Skara BS	28	13	41	16	57



Eric Laurant, WC Veldhoven chairman, & Hans Melchers, chairman emeritus 't Onstein, follow the Cup final on BBO.

Strong in Europe and in the rest of the world

The EUROPEAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONS' CUP is not only the strongest club team event in Europe but also one of the strongest bridge championships in the world.

The final between World Champion 't Onstein and the new Blue Team is a fine example. We are happy and proud to have reported to you about these great championships in the Daily Bulletin and on the internet.

Elisabeth, Kareen, Niko and Jan
Bulletin Staff

DYNAMIC START OF A DREAM FINAL



The final of the 10th European Bridge Champions' Cup was held between two of the world's strongest teams. BC 't Onstein 1 had a great season. First of all the club is Cup holder (Izmir 2010), and then it won respectively the Dutch national championship, the prestigious Zhejiang China Gate Cup and last but not least the Bermuda Bowl in Veldhoven.

All members of Allegra Lavazza have multiple world, European and Olympic championships to their names. Consequently the encounter between both teams certainly was something to look forward to.

Board 4 produced some excitement:

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

The board was played at 11.27 AM, way to early for Giorgio Duboin. His seat was taken by Guido Ferraro, the 'fifth' man of team Lavazza and an early riser.

West	North	East	South
Ferraro	Drijver	Sementa	Brink
	2♦*	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

*weak

After South led the ♦J there was no way for declarer to make his contract. In fact going down one (-50) was not a bad result.

At the other table the world looked completely different:

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Bocchi	Muller	Madala
	Pass	1♠	Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	Pass
dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

1♠ is limited to 15 HCP which explains De Wijs' initial pass. Later West doubled 2♦ when passed around to him. East's decision to sit was a little off-beat but understandable. Muller kicked off with the ♣10. West won the Jack when declarer ducked and returned the suit. When Bocchi played trumps East was endplayed during the rest of the hand. He made his three Aces and the Trump Queen but that was all: NS +180 and 4 IMPs to Allegra Lavazza. First blood to the Italians.

It looks as if a heart switch to 6, 7 and Queen might beat the contract, but again East is endplayed all the time and the ♠J finesse does the job for declarer.

The rest of the first segment things went much better for the Dutchies. Then came board 14 (segment II):

E/-	♠ Q 10 8 4		
	♥ K 6 5 4 3 2		
	♦ Q 7 6		
	♣ -		
♠ -		N	♠ A K J 7 3
♥ Q 8		W	♥ J
♦ 10 9 4 2		E	♦ K 5
♣ K Q J 8 4 3 2		S	♣ 10 9 7 6 5
	♠ 9 6 5 2		
	♥ A 10 9 7		
	♦ A J 8 3		
	♣ A		

Closed room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Drijver	Sementa	Brink
	1♠	Pass	
1NT	2♥	Pass	3♠
4♣	4♥	5♣	dbl
Pass	5♥	6♣	dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Onstein did a pretty good job to push its opponents all the way to 6♣, where 5♥ is down. The contract could have gone three light but after the lead of a low heart by North NS collected +300.

Open room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Bocchi	Muller	Madala
	1♠	Pass	
3♣	Pass	5♣	dbl
rdbl	5♥	Pass	Pass
dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

Simon de Wijs was ready for some action. His 3♣ was natural and invitational and his redouble was a psychological move. North Bocchi accepted the bluff and ran away to 5♥, duly doubled by De Wijs.

Bauke Muller led a top spade and West pitched ♦10 (?). When East continued with a low spade, ruffed by De Wijs and all of a sudden the contract was cold. West returned a club and Bocchi pitched a spade, drew trumps, played a diamond to the Jack, cashed the ♦A and pitched his last spade on the 4th diamond. NS +650 and 8 IMPs to Allegra Lavazza.



Simon de Wijs



FAREWELL OF THE PRESIDENT



*Mr President of the German Bridge Federation,
Dear Bridge Friends,*

The 10th edition of the European Bridge Champions' Cup is nearly ending and this EBL competition is now one of the major events of the international calendar with the participation of all top European players. I want to thank the authorities of the Federal Republic of Germany and the city of Bad Honnef, for their great support.

All my congratulations to the Deutscher Bridge-Verband e. V., its President Ulrich Wenning, my colleague Josef Harsanyi and all the organizing committee for the great job they have done to organize this 10th Champions Cup in Germany.

To celebrate this event, I will ask Ulrich Wenning, President of the DBV, to come to the stage to receive a plaque from EBL.

I will also ask my colleague Josef Harsanyi, who is also Vice-President of the DBV, to come to the stage to receive a plaque from EBL.

I would like to thank all the staff members who have contributed to the perfect organization of this competition and in particular Peter Eidt who has been here in Bad Honnef the Lynchpin for all the organization on site. Thank you Peter.

Thank you to the organizing committee
Ulrich Wenning - Josef Harsanyi - Maurizio Di Sacco -
Peter Eidt - David Harris - Betty Kuipers and Catherine Vitry

Thank you to the TDs, IT System & Scoring
Maurizio Di Sacco - Matthias Berghaus and
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Jan Van Cleeff - Kareen Schroeder -
Elizabeth van Ettinger and Nikolas Bausback

Thank you to the Key-Board operators
Yordan Boichev - Frederic Boldt - Tobias Förster - Michael
Goetze - Thomas Gotard - Lukas Schenk

Thank you to our local organizer : Thomas Peter

Thank you also to all my colleagues of the EBL Executive
Committee and the work done during the 3 days meetings.

But I would above all thank you the players, for whom this
competition became an EBL major competition.
You have given through those four days, a nice image of the
bridge, a high level of play, a sport spirit and friendships.

I am confident that the 10th Champions Cup will be for all of
you, players, officers, journalists and guests a great moment
of bridge in your memory.

Next year, we will probably hold this event in Eilat, Israel in
November. The contract is not yet signed but this should be
done during my trip to Israel next February.

Still one thank to you all and have a safe return tomorrow to
home.

