

2016 Budapest, Hungary

53rd European Bridge Team Championships



16th to 25th June 2016

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THE WAITING GAME



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JUNE 21, 2016



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Over the last two days, the contestants have faced a demanding set of deals that have tested their resolve, with brilliances and blunders occurring in almost equal measure.

With the Open series just past the halfway mark, France stay clear of Germany and Monaco.

In the Women's Championship Poland top the table, ahead of Israel and England, while Israel lead the Seniors, followed by Sweden and England.

**VERY IMPORTANT: ONLY AUTHORIZED STAFF
ALLOWED ON THE 3RD FLOOR DURING PLAYING SESSIONS!**

TIME TABLE AND BBO SCHEDULE TUESDAY 21st

10.00:

O/W/S Teams

BBO:

🌐 ICE - FRA (O) 🗣️

🌐 RUS - ITA (O)

🌐 DEN - BUL (O)

🌐 CRO - NOR (O)

🌐 ITA - SWE (S)

🌐 HUN - LAT (O)

13.20:

O/W/S Teams

BBO:

🌐 ISR - MON (O)

🗣️ ENG - NOR (O)

🌐 NED - IRE (O)

🌐 TUR - ISR (W)

🌐 AUT - ENG (S)

🌐 HUN - SMR (W)

16.00:

O/W/S Teams

BBO:

🌐 ITA - POL (O)

🗣️ SWE - FRA (O)

🌐 ISR - NED (O)

🌐 BUL - GER (O)

🌐 AUT - POL (S)

🌐 HUN - ITA (W)

🌐 ON SITE VG + BBO

🌐 BBO ONLY

🗣️ VOICE + BBO





MATCHES TODAY

OPEN R. 20

POL ROM
HUN LAT
GEO SWI
GER BLR
ICE FRA
FIN TUR
SER AUT
NED FAR
EST SWE
GRE IRE
CZE WAL
ENG UKR
RUS ITA
CRO NOR
CYP SPA
DEN BUL
POR MON
SCO BEL
ISR Bye

TIME: 10.00

OPEN R. 21

GEO ROM
SWI HUN
LAT POL
GER TUR
ICE AUT
FIN BLR
SER FRA
NED IRE
EST WAL
GRE FAR
CZE SWE
ENG NOR
RUS SPA
CRO UKR
CYP ITA
ISR MON
DEN BEL
SCO BUL
POR Bye

TIME: 13.20

OPEN R. 22

ROM RUS
LAT CYP
ENG CRO
ISR NED
DEN EST
POR GRE
SCO CZE
BUL GER
MON ICE
BEL FIN
ITA POL
NOR SWI
SPA HUN
UKR GEO
SWE FRA
IRE TUR
WAL AUT
FAR BLR
SER Bye

TIME: 16.00

WOMEN R. 8

NOR SER
NED BUL
DEN EST
POL SPA
TUR POR
FRA SCO
GER HUN
SWE IRE
ISR FIN
ENG GRE
RUS SMR
ITA Bye

TIME: 10.00

WOMEN R. 9

IRE FRA
GER RUS
SWE SCO
HUN SMR
ITA GRE
TUR ISR
POR FIN
POL BUL
DEN NOR
SPA NED
EST SER
ENG Bye

TIME: 13.20

WOMEN R. 10

NOR FRA
BUL RUS
SER SCO
NED SMR
ENG DEN
ISR SPA
GRE EST
FIN POL
SWE TUR
IRE POR
HUN ITA
GER Bye

TIME: 16.00

SENIOR R. 8

POL IRE
HUN POR
ROM AUT
ENG NOR
BEL SPA
ITA SWE
WAL SCO
FRA TUR
GER EST
NED BUL
FIN ISR
SER DEN

TIME: 10.00

SENIOR R. 9

EST POL
BUL HUN
TUR ROM
SWE FIN
SCO FRA
NOR GER
SPA NED
DEN WAL
AUT ENG
IRE BEL
POR ITA
ISR SER

TIME: 13.20

SENIOR R. 10

AUT POL
IRE HUN
FIN BUL
DEN ROM
ENG SCO
BEL NOR
ITA SPA
WAL SWE
FRA ISR
GER TUR
NED EST
SER POR

TIME: 16.00



ADVENTURES WITH OTTLIK

by Mark Horton

SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S PROBLEM

Dealer South.E/W Vul.

♠ Q 9 6
♥ K Q 10 2
♦ Q 4
♣ K 9 6 4



♠ A 7
♥ J 9 5
♦ K J 10 9 3
♣ Q 10 7

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♦
Dble	Pass	Pass	Rdbl
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

♠ J 8 5 4 2
♥ 7 6 4
♦ 6 5
♣ 8 3 2

♠ Q 9 6
♥ K Q 10 2
♦ Q 4
♣ K 9 6 4



♠ A 7
♥ J 9 5
♦ K J 10 9 3
♣ Q 10 7

♠ K 10 3
♥ A 8 3
♦ A 8 7 2
♣ A J 5

Play Instructions: 3NT by West.
N/S play Acol and a weak no-trump.

North to lead ♠4.

If you play the small spade from dummy to the opening lead, South may insert his ten-spot (or jack) instead of the king, a little manoeuvre which ensures at least five tricks for the defence. A very simple way to prevent it is to go up with the ace. South may well have an opening bid without the king of spades, but against a North holding of five spades to the king your contract is doomed anyway.

NEW PROBLEM

Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ Q 9 5 4
♥ A 5 3
♦ A 4
♣ K 7 5 4

♠ A 6
♥ K J 7
♦ Q 10 8
♣ Q 9 6 3 2

West	North	East	South
1♦	Dble	2♥*	3NT
All Pass			

2♥ Weak

Play Instructions:
3NT by South.

West to lead ♦6.





ENGLAND vs ITALY

by Ron Tacchi

Women Teams, Round 3

All participants were playing five-card majors with a strong no-trump system.

After two rounds England had started well and were in fourth place, whilst Italy had stuttered and were just two places off the bottom of the table.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Draper	Piscitelli	Brown	Chavarria
—	1♥	3♣	4♣*
5♣	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

When East intervened with a weak club bid South showed her control and heart support with a cue-bid. West continued the barrage, I am not privy to the agreements of N/S as to whether North's 5♥ bid showed additional values but South had no hesitation in bidding the excellent slam.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rosetta	Brock	Vanuzzi	Smith
—	1♥	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

In the closed room East did not value her hand worthy of an intervention. The N/S convention card defines the 4♣ bid as heart support with a club void. In that case then you are probably playing with a thirty-point pack and I cannot construct a hand where South does not have at least a solid second-round control of

the diamond suit, all of which suggests North should have done more than sign off in 4♥. It was 11 IMPs to Italy.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Draper	Piscitelli	Brown	Chavarria
1♣	Pass	1♦*	1NT
All Pass			

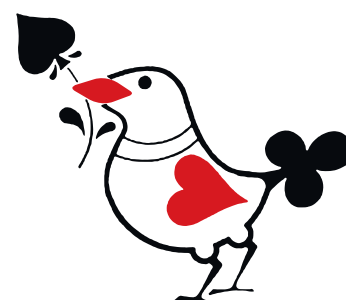
1♦ Hearts

East's 1♦ bid showed a heart suit and when South bravely interjected 1NT the English pair could not find a way back into the auction South was not denied her seven top tricks for +90.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rosetta	Brock	Vanuzzi	Smith
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass

With no intervention E/W had a comfortable ride to 2♠ which was made without any fuss for -110 and another 5 IMPs to Italy



Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ A 6 ♥ K 4 3 2 ♦ A J 10 5 4 2 ♣ 8	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q 2 ♥ Q J 9 8 ♦ 9 8 6 ♣ A 9 7 4	♠ K J 10 7 3 ♥ 10 6 ♦ — ♣ K Q J 5 3 2
---	---	--	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Draper</i>	<i>Piscitelli</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Chavarria</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

South reached a thin game in spades. West commenced hostilities with a small trump lead. Declarer rose with the ace and immediately made the understandable error of cashing the ace of diamonds to discard a heart from hand. Declarer could have put East to the test by leading dummy's club but preferred to draw trumps and play clubs from hand and now the 4-2 break thwarted the contract, down one.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Rosetta</i>	<i>Brock</i>	<i>Vanuzzi</i>	<i>Smith</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	



Margherita Chavarria
ITALY

Declarer received the more benign lead of the ace and another heart won by the king. Dummy's singleton club was led and East leapt in with her ace. This made life much easier for declarer. Had she ducked, the contract can still be made but requires careful play. England had their first sizeable swing and were now losing 17 – 15.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ A Q J ♥ A K Q 10 9 8 ♦ 6 ♣ Q 3 2	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 5 ♥ 7 6 3 ♦ K J 8 5 3 ♣ K 10 8 5	♠ 10 9 7 6 4 3 2 ♥ J 5 ♦ 9 ♣ 9 6 4
---	---	---	---

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Draper</i>	<i>Piscitelli</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Chavarria</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3NT
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

North's clearly artificial 2NT led to a swift auction to the excellent slam, which was made without difficulty.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Rosetta</i>	<i>Brock</i>	<i>Vanuzzi</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

The English pair had another slam bidding accident handing 11 IMPs to Italy. Had their failure been to arrive at the optimistic grand slam then there would have been no difficulty in making it. Assuming a trump lead, you draw trumps and attempt to ruff out the diamonds. Noting the discard by West on the second round you take the club finesse and when it succeeds you claim as East is squeezed in the minors.

At the end of the match Italy had run out 28 – 16 winners.





CROATIA vs FRANCE

by Jos Jacobs

Open Teams, Round 12

After the first day, Croatia were proudly leading the field whereas France had not started particularly well. However, after three days, Croatia had dropped to 8th but France were leading the field. On Sunday morning, the two teams were scheduled to meet in what turned out to be the most spectacular round so far. After a warming-up first board, this was the second of the day:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Combescure</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
4♣	4♠	3♣	3NT
		All Pass	

Combescure did well to raise to 4♣ as it deprived North of his 'natural' 4♣ bid. Borevkovic then settled for 4♠, holding something in reserve and Marinovski passed this, despite holding something in reserve as well. Twelve tricks, Croatia +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
Pass	4♣*	3♣	3NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	4♦
All Pass		Pass	6♠

The French got the extra bidding space they needed and used it to perfection for a well-deserved +1430 and a 13-IMP gain. Declarer gave up a trump trick

and then established the diamond suit.

The next board was a matter of politeness, one might say.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Combescure</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
Dble	3♥	4♠	2♥
			All Pass

Opposite partner's weak two-suiter, North was polite enough not to double the opposition in their pretty normal 4♠. Down two when South led a heart to declarer's king. Only then did declarer get the unpleasant surprise...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

After a Staymanesque auction, the same normal contract was reached in the other room. As West had become declarer, Lorenzini was on lead. As he could see a good lead against the opponents' clear 4-4 fit, he knew the contract would go down so he made a legal announcement. After four rounds of trumps, declarer found out that the diamonds were blocked and thus he had to lose one more trick for down two. The double was thus worth 7 IMPs to France.



In the Netherlands v. Hungary match, the Hungarians reached 4♠ in mainly the same way as the Croatians. However, Miklós Dumbovich, East for Hungary, rescued himself in 5♦ when North doubled 4♠. He too got doubled but with South on lead, the contract proved unbeatable so Hungary scored +750 here and got 17 well-deserved IMPs for their effort, as the Dutch went down 800 in 4♠ doubled.

A double game swing was to come on the next board:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Combescure</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Marinowski</i>
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Rombaut did well to sacrifice against 4♠, since this is a pretty cold contract. More important was that 5♥ proved cold too; even a trump (king) lead by North would not beat it.

When North led a spade to South who followed with his singleton diamond, declarer won with dummy's ace but when he played the ♦K next, South ruffed and declarer overruffed. The last spade was ruffed, a diamond ruffed in hand and when the ♥A next brought down the king, declarer lost just one more club and thus made his contract. France +850.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
3♥	Pass	4♥	4♠
All Pass			

In the other room, Quantin's 4♠ silenced everyone. JCQ lost the obvious three tricks so France could add 620 to 850 for a 16-IMP swing. The score now stood

at 37-0 to them after just four boards.

More was to come for France when they reached game on the next board:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Combescure</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Marinowski</i>
	1♠	Pass	1NT
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

When Combescure overcalled in hearts, the Croatians wisely stayed out of 3NT and settled for their partscore in diamonds which just made. Croatia +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
	1NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

When Lorenzini elected to open 1NT with his bad five-card suit in spades and a 5-4 shape as well, Quantin's jump to 3♣ would start the further explorations for the French. The side effect of it was that Zoric could no longer overcall so Stanicic had a blind lead against 3NT. His choice of a passive diamond was not a success as it enabled declarer to win in dummy and immediately present the ♠Q, playing low when West covered with the king. West did his best by continuing ♥A, ♥Q but it was already too late as the spades were now due to bring in four more tricks on this layout. France a fortunate +600, good for 10 more IMPs to them.





Goran Borevkovic
CROATIA

The score had gone up to 55-1 when Croatia hit back strongly:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ A Q 10 6 5 4		♠ K 9 2
♥ A Q 7		♥ 6 5 2
♦ A Q 10 2		♦ 5 4 3
♣ —		♣ K 5 4 2
♠ J 8 7	W S	♠ 3
♥ K J 9 8		♥ 10 4 3
♦ 9 6		♦ K J 8 7
♣ J 9 8 7		♣ A Q 10 6 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Combescure</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♣*	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♦*
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	6♦	All Pass	5♦

2♣ was Gazzilli. Once North showed diamonds, South's cards improved dramatically so the slam was duly reached. When diamonds and spades behaved, declarer made all the tricks for +1390.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♣*	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♠
All Pass			3NT

The French also play Gazzilli but Quantin apparently was afraid of a misfit, in which case there might not have been sufficient tricks. France +630 but 13 IMPs back to Croatia.

And the next board:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A K J		♠ Q 9 8 6 4 2
♥ K 4		♥ A J 8 6
♦ Q 7 6 4 3		♦ J 10 9
♣ K Q 4		♣ —
♠ —	W S	♠ 10 7 5 3
♥ 10 9 7 3 2		♥ Q 5
♦ A 5		♦ K 8 2
♣ A J 10 9 7 5		♣ 8 6 3 2

Open Room

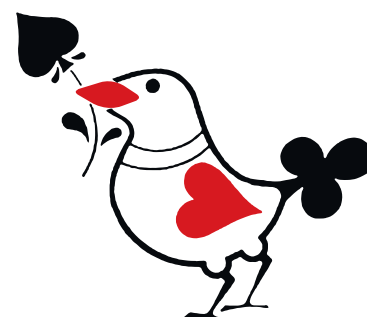
West	North	East	South
<i>Combescure</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♣	All Pass		Pass

When Combescure passed as dealer, the French lost an important piece of information. This time, it was Rombaut who was fearing a misfit and therefore did not bother to show his second suit. France +110 when Combescure finished with nine tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
1♣	1NT	2♣*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		Pass

In the Closed Room, Zoric did open his hand – not a bad idea with two aces and 6-5 distribution. It did not help Lorenzini any more to overcall 1NT as this enabled Stanicic to show both his majors by bidding 2♣. Zoric then had no problem and made 11 tricks in his now obvious contract. Croatia +450 and another 8 IMPs to them.



On the board below, a Croatian misunderstanding set a new Championship record.

misunderstanding and thus lost the round number of 2,000 points.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zoric	Lorenzini	Stanicic	Quantin
	1♠	2♣	4♣*
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

Once Lorenzini opened 1♠, the chances of a serious French misunderstanding were reduced to zero.

The contract just made for another +650 to France, which was worth a swing of 21 IMPs to them, the highest swing in the Championship to date.

Not in the least disturbed, or so it seemed, the Croats hit back immediately:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Combescure	Borevkovic	Rombaut	Marinovski
	1NT	Pass	4♦*
Dble	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

As far as we know, 4♦ by South was a transfer to spades, in which case 5♥ should simply show a second suit. Even though Rombaut gave them a second chance, the Croats persisted with their

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Combescure	Borevkovic	Rombaut	Marinovski
		Pass	1♠
2♣	2♥	4♣	4♥
All Pass			

Over 2♣, Borevkovic could introduce his hearts so Croatia quickly were in game here. With the trumps behaving, 12 tricks were easy enough. Croatia +480.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zoric	Lorenzini	Stanicic	Quantin
		Pass	1♠
1NT	Dble	Pass	2♦
All Pass			

When Zoric overcalled 1NT, Lorenzini could not freely introduce his hearts. When partner ran to 2♦, he no longer believed in a possible heart fit either. Eleven tricks, France +150 but 8 IMPs to Croatia.



 **Francois Combescure**
FRANCE

On the next board, the Croatian declarer missed the chance to shine:

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ A K Q 9 ♥ 6 2 ♦ A J 3 2 ♣ A K 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 7 4 3 ♥ 9 8 7 5 ♦ 4 ♣ 10 9 8 4 3	♠ J 8 6 5 2 ♥ K 10 3 ♦ K 10 5 ♣ Q 7
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Combescure</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
Pass	2♣*	Pass	3♥*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

2♣ was a number of strong hands and 3♥ was a transfer.

North took the bull by the horns and immediately jumped to slam, leaving the opponents in the dark. A heart lead from East would have set the contract

out of hand but East led his singleton diamond which ran to declarer's jack. Declarer drew trumps and then might well have cashed his top clubs first for a heart discard before playing off the remaining trumps. In that case, West would have been forced to blank his ♥A as he has to keep three diamonds. A low heart from both hands then sees the contract home. As West's discards would have been the ♥QJ, the winning line seems to be automatic.

With the clubs not yet cashed, the timing was wrong, so the squeeze without the count no longer worked. One down, France +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
1♦	Dble	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦*	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

The French managed to rightside the contract but the squeeze disappeared when West led a diamond to declarer's ♦10. France +680 and 13 IMPs to them, which might easily have gone the other way.

The final score: 90-31 or 19.93 – 0.07 V.P. to France.



Kiril Marinovski



NEVER ON SUNDAY

by Mark Horton

In times gone by Sunday was, in many western countries, observed as a day of rest. That ceased to be the case some time ago, but historically sporting contests did not take place on Sundays. In 1640, Puritan clerics at both Maidstone and Harbledown, near Canterbury, denounced cricket as 'profane', especially if played on Sunday. It was only in 1969 that the limited over Sunday League started in England & Wales.

Sunday January 6th 1974 was the historic day which saw four FA Cup Third Round ties played, the first match on a Sunday being the game between Cambridge United & Oldham Athletic which kicked off in the morning.

Round 14 of the Opens Series (Round 3 for the Women & Seniors) delivered this deal:

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

In the Open Series 7 pairs bid a Grand Slam in hearts or no trumps.

Playing in no-trumps, declarer takes the diamond finesse at some point, cashes the ace and plays all his winners, which executes a show up squeeze against East.

In the Women's Championship only two pairs played in game, the rest settling in 6♥ or 6NT, while in the

Senior teams, four pairs bid a Grand Slam.

In 7♥ the obvious line is to take the diamond finesse and then attempt to ruff out the suit.

If declarer draws trumps and then tries to ruff out the king of diamonds, playing a diamond to the ace and ruffing a diamond West discards, so declarer crosses to the king of spades, ruffs a diamond and then cashes a fifth heart, forcing East to come down to ♣K1085 ♦KJ. two rounds of spades reduce everyone to four cards, and dummy keeps ♣AJ ♦Q10. East has been forced to come down to ♣K10 ♦KJ so declarer can take the club finesse, cash the ace and return to hand with a diamond ruff to cash the ♣J.

Alternatively, declarer can simply cash six hearts and three spades, the last of these squeezing East in the minors.

So, it seems that it is impossible to go down in a grand slam, but as I'm sure you are aware that is a word that should not be used lightly.

One way for declarer to go down is to pitch a club from dummy on the third round of hearts and then cash two more trumps and three rounds of spades, reducing dummy to ♣AJ ♦AQ10, when declarer must take the diamond finesse rather than play a diamond to the ace and ruff a diamond.

If declarer keeps ♣AJ7 ♦AQ10 in dummy then East will have to come down to ♣K108 ♦KJ8, but has no good move when declarer plays a third spade. The best chance is to pitch a club, hoping declarer does the same and then goes wrong by playing a diamond to the ace.

As far as I am aware, bridge has always been played on Sundays, but there are doubtless times when players wish they had the day off - especially the two unfortunate declarers who found a way to go down in 7♥.

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ENGLAND vs TURKEY

by David Bird

Open Teams, Round 13

Turkey has a huge number of BBO users and there was an impressive audience of 1500+ for this match. Gold picked up a big hand on the deal below and had to judge how high to go on an apparent misfit:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zorlu	Gold	Ucar	Bakhshi
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

North's 2♦ was a forcing-to-game transfer. I am not *au fait* with the finer details of their system (as David Gold pointed out after the Bermuda Bowl in a very polite email). However, I wonder if 3♥ would have been better than 3♠ at his third turn. This would give South a chance to bid his spades again if that was the best trump suit available.

Anyway, Gold had to consider his next move over 3NT. He held a splendid hand, of course, but no fit had come to light. Had he shown his heart length, he might have been turned off when partner's subsequent 3NT suggested a shortage there. As it was, he bid a pick-a-slam 5NT and ended in 6♣.

East gave the declarer a small chance by leading a low diamond. If he runs this to his queen, he can make twelve tricks on a cross-ruff, benefiting from the 3-3 spade break. Gold chose to rise with the ♦A.

He led a spade to the queen and ace, ruffing the ♦K return. After cashing the ♠J, he played ace, king and another heart, ruffing in the dummy. West took the opportunity to ditch his last remaining spade and was able to ruff when the ♠K was played. Declarer overruffed but was one trick short.

In the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Jason H.	Koksoy	Justin H.	Cengiz
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Koksoy chose to rebid his hearts and felt able to stop in game at his fourth turn.

That was +650 and 13 IMPs to Turkey.

For the next hour the boards were drab and there were no swings. The learned BBO commentators soldiered on manfully, hoping that at least some of the kibitzers were still awake.



Nuri Cengiz
TURKEY

This board then favoured the Hacketts' bidding methods:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jason H.	Koksoy	Justin H.	Cengiz
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass

The Hacketts play a 15-17 1NT, like most of the competitors. They are able to open 1♠ on the West hand because they use the Gazilli convention (1♠ – 1NT – 2♣) to show 16+ points. Nine tricks were made in spades – the heart pips are not quite strong enough for only one loser in the suit.

In the Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Zorlu	Gold	Ucar	Bakhshi
—	—	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass



Nafiz Zorlu
TURKEY

Ucar's 2♠ showed 8-9 points and Zorlu accepted the try. Five clubs and the ♥A meant two down and 8 IMPs to England.

This was an interesting bidding board:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zorlu	Gold	Ucar	Bakhshi
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Beginners are taught that you should use the 'Rule of 15' to decide whether to open light in 4th seat. "Add your points to the number of spades and open if it comes to 15 or more." Bakhshi demonstrated awareness of this guideline and Gold's 2NT showed a sound 4-card raise.

Many South players would now sign off, rating their hand as a minimum. No, Bakhshi rebid 3♥ to allow his partner to judge the fit. Since South was still unlimited, Gold made a disciplined cue-bid in diamonds on his way to accepting the try. Two diamonds had to be lost but the perfect trump lie allowed Bakhshi to ruff his two heart losers in the dummy for +620.

West	North	East	South
Jason H.	Koksoy	Justin H.	Cengiz
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

North bid a Drury 2♣, continuing with a raise, but South could find no reason to bid further. That was 10 IMPs to England



Zorlu bid resourcefully on this board:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

	♠ J 4 3		
	♥ Q 3		
	♦ 10 7 5		
	♣ Q 6 4 3 2		
♠ Q 7 6 2	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;">N W S E</div>	♠ —	
♥ K 10 4 2		♥ J 8 7 6	
♦ K J		♦ A 9 8 4 3	
♣ A K 7		♣ J 10 8 5	
	♠ A K 10 9 8 5		
	♥ A 9 5		
	♦ Q 6 2		
	♣ 9		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zorlu	Gold	Ucar	Bakhshi
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
1NT	2♠	Dble	Pass
?			

Ucar's double was for take-out and I was expecting Zorlu to bid 3♥. No, he bid 4♥. He could place his partner with spade shortage and liked the look of his honours in the suits that partner was likely to hold. Whatever the eventual result on the deal, I could see that he had made a very fine bid.

Zorlu ruffed the spade lead and continued with the ♦A and ♦K, aiming for a cross-ruff. After ruffing a spade, a diamond (the suit breaking 3-3) and a third spade, he returned to hand with the ♣A. He placed the ♠Q on the table and the key moment had been reached.

If Gold discards a club, the contract will go down. Declarer will ruff and play a club, but South can ruff and lead a spade to ensure that the defenders score two further trump tricks. When Gold chose to ruff with the ♠Q, he had to find an exit from ♥3 ♣Q643. Not easy! A trump would have worked because South could win and force declarer with a spade. The defenders would then score another trump and a club. Gold returned a club instead, ruffed by South, and declarer now had trump control. He discarded the ♣K on the spade exit and ruffed with dummy's bare ♥J. He then ruffed a club with the ♥2 and claimed a tenth trick from his ♥K-10. +620.

In the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Jason H.	Koksoy	Justin H.	Cengiz
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dble	Pass	2♥	2♠
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Justin ruffed the ♠A lead and led a trump. That esteemed cardplayer, Mr GIB, tells me that he would now make the contract by rising with the ♥K! Jason finessed the ♥10 and the defenders drew two further rounds of trumps for two down.

That was 13 IMPs to Turkey, who won the match by 40 IMPs to 25 (13.97 VPs to 6.03).



Jason Hackett



BULGARIA vs NORWAY

by Jos Jacobs

Open Teams, Round 13

At the start of this match, on early Sunday afternoon, Norway and Bulgaria were lying 8th and 9th in the table, a short distance from the last qualifying spot (6th) and with only 1 V.P. between them. So there was quite a lot at stake for them, even though the Championship had not yet reached its halfway point.

The match turned out to be a little disappointing for the neutral observer, mainly because the rather optimistic views taken by the Bulgarians almost never resulted in good scores for them. Below are a few examples.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Skorchev</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Popov</i>
Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4NT	All Pass	3NT

An understandable quantitative raise by North with a probably useful ♠QJ backfired badly when West led a diamond. Down two very quickly, Norway +100.

Please note that East did not open the bidding.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marashev</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Tsonchev</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
Pass	Dble	1♦	Pass
Pass	4♥	Pass	3♠
		All Pass	

In the other room, East did open the bidding, which immediately tempered any N/S ambitions beyond game level. The Norwegians settled for a quiet game in hearts, scoring +450 and 11 IMPs in the process.

On board 7, we saw a very effective Norwegian defence.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Skorchev</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Popov</i>
3♦	4♠	Pass	2♦*
Dble	All Pass		Pass

2♦ showed a Precision (11-15 hcp.) three-suiter with short diamonds, so 4♠ was quickly reached.

When 4♠ ran to him, Charlsen found a fine Lightner double to beat the contract. Club lead, ruffed, ♥A on which East played the queen, low heart to East and another club ruff. One down, Norway +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marashev</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Tsonchev</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
1♦	1♥	Pass	1♣
3♥	3♠	4♥	2♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	4♠
			All Pass


1♥ was a transfer to spades.

When West did not venture a Lightner double, East thought it a good idea to bid on in what might well be a 4-3 fit only. It did not matter that much, as 5♦ is down one and 5♥ went down three.

Anyway, Norway scored again, +300 amounting to 11 more IMPs.

Two boards later, Brogeland beat par when the defence did not come up with the best lead:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

	North	East	South
West			
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Skorchev</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Popov</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

The Bulgarians reached the proper contract, making 11 tricks for a score of +450.

The proceedings in the Closed Room were much more interesting, however:

Closed Room

	North	East	South
West			
<i>Marashev</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Tsonchev</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

2NT was a general force and after North had described his 5-5-3-0, South could use 4♦ as the “last train” to the slam. Not that the slam is particularly good but as long as the defence does not lead the ♦K, declarer has some chances.


Brogeland won the actual trump lead with dummy’s ace and immediately led a club to the jack. West won the king and now had to attack diamonds as the side entry to the clubs had to be removed – he could see

that the clubs were 3-3.

Brogeland, however, won the ♦A, unblocked the ♣A, ruffed a spade and cashed dummy’s ♣Q for a diamond discard. He now could ruff a diamond in hand, ruff his last spade and ruff another diamond to get back to his hand. When the outstanding trumps fell under his ♥KQ, the ♠AK were trick 11 and 12. Well played indeed, perfectly exploiting the chances given to him.

At the table, East twice ruffed in when diamonds were led from dummy, but this did not matter, as the cards lie, as you can see.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

	North	East	South
West			
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Skorchev</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Popov</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♣	2NT	5♣	Pass
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

There should be a way, I would think, to find out in time that a weakish opening hand and a weakish support hand probably are not enough for 11 tricks. Down two, Norway +200.

Closed Room

	North	East	South
West			
<i>Marashev</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Tsonchev</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
2♣	Pass	3♣	Dble
Pass	4♣	4♦	Pass
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

After the Precision 2♣, the Bulgarians went for an advanced sacrifice once N/S announced they were going to bid game. Game was on but the sacrifice was a little expensive, even more so in view of what had happened in the other room.

Down four, Norway +800 and 14 more IMPs to them.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠ K J 10 7					
	♥ A 3					
	♦ 8 3 2					
	♣ 9 7 5 2					
♠ 8 4 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: none;"> <tr><td style="padding: 0 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 0 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 0 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 9 6 5	
N						
W E						
S						
♥ K 10 9 8		♥ 7 6 2				
♦ K Q 9		♦ J 7 6				
♣ K 10 4		♣ J 8 6 3				
	♠ A Q 2					
	♥ Q J 5 4					
	♦ A 10 5 4					
	♣ A Q					

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Skorchev</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Popov</i>
		Pass	1♣*
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1♣ was 16+ (Precision) and 1♥ showed 8-11 hcp. Due to their system, Bulgaria were in 3NT by South, which made all the difference.

West led a passive spade to dummy's jack. Declarer immediately led a low diamond to his ten. West won the queen and tried the ♥8 which ran to declarer's queen. Another low diamond was taken by East's jack and now, finally, a club could come back. Declarer's queen lost to West's king but when the diamonds broke 3-3, declarer was home with four spades, two hearts, two diamonds and the ♣A. Bulgaria +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marashev</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Tsonchev</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥*	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

After a natural auction (1♥ being a transfer to spades), North became declarer in 3NT, so a club lead by East defeated the contract out of hand. West won the ♣K and returned the ten, so declarer could no longer establish his diamonds in time. Bulgaria another +50 for a much-needed 10 IMPs back.

On the last board, both E/W pairs were overboard but the natural optimism shown by the Bulgarians throughout this match led to a much worse result than they deserved.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

	♠ 3 2					
	♥ Q 7 6 5 4					
	♦ 6					
	♣ K J 10 9 4					
♠ Q 10 9 6 5	<table style="margin: auto; border: none;"> <tr><td style="padding: 0 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 0 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 0 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A J 8 4	
N						
W E						
S						
♥ A K 3		♥ 10 2				
♦ J 8 7		♦ A Q 10 5 3 2				
♣ Q 8		♣ 7				
	♠ K 7					
	♥ J 9 8					
	♦ K 9 4					
	♣ A 6 5 3 2					

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Skorchev</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Popov</i>
1♠	2♠*	4♣	4♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

2♠ showed a rounded two-suiter.

In a sense, E/W were just unlucky when both the pointed finesses were wrong but North's 2♠ might as well have been taken by them as a warning sign.

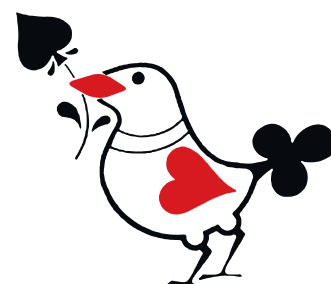
Down one, Bulgaria +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marashev</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Tsonchev</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6♦	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Looking at this auction, I wondered whether 2NT followed by 4♦ over the club splinter would deny the ♦K. Would West have raised diamonds immediately, holding Kxx? Should he have bid 4♥ instead?

Anyway, on the ♦6 lead declarer had no option but to finesse, so the defenders got two ruffs in the suit as well. Down four, +400 to Norway and 7 more IMPs to make the final score 69-13 or 19.69 – 0.31 in V.P.





ISRAEL vs DENMARK

by Ram Soffer

Open Teams, Round 11

In the Slam Zone

Slam deals are the favourites of spectators and commentators alike. They often lead to swings, and the swings are always big. Besides, they play is often (but not always) easier to understand or analyse compared to game or part-score deals.

In our featured match there were three big swings when one side bid a slam which was not bid at the other table, and another potential swing which didn't materialize when at one table a slam could have gone down after a challenging lead, but didn't (more on that later).

Israel started well when a clever play by Josef Roll saved two non-vulnerable undertricks in 3NT, and then came a successful solo sacrifice by his partner Amir Levin in 5♣ over the opponents' 4♠. The score was 11:1 in Israel's favour before the following deal:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ —										
	♥ 10 8 7 3										
	♦ A Q 8 3										
	♣ A 9 7 5 4										
♠ J 8 6 3	<table style="border: none; width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 9 5 4 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ Q 9 6 2		♥ A 5									
♦ 7 5		♦ J 10 2									
♣ Q 3 2		♣ 10 8 6									
	♠ A K 10 7										
	♥ K J 4										
	♦ K 9 6 4										
	♣ K J										

West	North	East	South
M. Bilde	Barel	D. Bilde	Zack
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♠*
3♠	6♦	All Pass	

South's 2♠ indicated a strong hand without heart support, and Michael Barel didn't waste any time bidding a small slam with his maximal passed hand.

West led ♠3 and declarer took East's queen with his ace. Zack immediately went after dummy's clubs, ruffing the third round with his ♦9. When that suit broke 3-3, it was all about guessing hearts, but East

(the overcaller) was a clear favourite to hold the ♥A. Zack drew trumps and cashed dummy's club tricks before tackling the critical suit. Naturally he guessed correctly (East who overcalled 1♠ turned out to have only 3 HCP outside hearts). In addition, West kept his ♥Q protected to preserve any chance for a set, so after East ducked the ♥A and declarer won his ♥K, West's ♠J dropped under the king for an overtrick. Israel +1390.

West	North	East	South
Levin	Schaltz	Roll	Christiansen
	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			


According to the system used by the Danish pair, North's hand qualified for a 1♥ opening. There followed a relay sequence, with North presumably showing a minimum. Somewhat surprisingly, South quickly settled for 3NT with his 18-count. A diamond was lead. Declarer misguessed hearts, but West returned the favour by leading clubs immediately thereafter. Denmark +660 and Israel's advantage grew to 23:1.



Martin Schaltz
DENMARK

Later on, Denmark staged a comeback based on their superior efforts of their East/West pair in the slam department.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Bilde</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>D. Bilde</i>	<i>Zack</i>
		1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	3♦*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

East/West's convention card indicates "Gazzili" meaning that a 2♣ rebid after 1♠-1NT incorporates all strong hands. Thus the 3-level is preserved for showing special hands in the intermediate range, and Dennis was able to describe his 15 HCP 5-5 hand by bidding 3♦. Thereafter West took control with a 4♣ cuebid which was followed by a keycard asking bid over his partner's 4♦ cuebid on the way to the excellent slam.

Declarer's plan of play was ruffing spades three times in dummy (if necessary), and it worked out – conceding only one trump trick to North.

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Schaltz</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Christiansen</i>
		1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

The auction looks strange, but according to East/West's convention card all 2♣ responses to 1-level openings are artificial game forces. Their convention card does not elaborate on the meaning of the 2♠ rebid – presumably it showed hearts. Levin, who earlier forced to game with a 11-HCP hand decided to be cautious, so he continued with a direct 4♥ call showing weakness, even though his shape and controls were very good. Thus the good slam was missed.

Notably, in both this deal and the previous on, the pair choosing the "stronger" option in the first round was the one that ended up missing the slam.

Having bid only 4♥, Levin did have more freedom in the play and he established his own club suit in order to make all 13 tricks after ruffing only one spade. That extra overtrick cut Israel's loss to 12 IMPs rather than 13.

The next deal enabled Denmark to take the lead for good in this match. One may argue that it is not really a slam hand, since the field bid to 5♣ almost unanimously (and at some tables this contract went down). Still, in our featured match the Israeli pair did bid a slam and the odds of making 12 tricks were only slightly below 50%.



Morten Bilde
DENMARK

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	♠ 10 4 2		
	♥ K Q 7 5		
	♦ 7 5 2		
	♣ Q 3 2		
♠ 8	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">N W E S</div>	♠ 7 3	
♥ 10 4		♥ A J 6 2	
♦ K 9 4		♦ A Q 8 3	
♣ A K J 9 7 5 4		♣ 10 8 6	
	♠ A K Q J 9 6 5		
	♥ 9 8 3		
	♦ J 10 6		
	♣ —		

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Bilde</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>D. Bilde</i>	<i>Zack</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	3♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Morten Bilde showed a lot of restraint by passing over 3♠ with seven good clubs. It turns out that the important thing is not only to bid your hand but also to give partner an accurate picture of your strength. When East reopened with a non-penalty double and West jumped to 5♣, East knew exactly what kind of hand his partner had.

Didn't West risk a part-score swing in case 3♠ was passed out? Well, in case East is too weak to balance, there is a good chance that N/S can make 4♠, in which case it would be better not to push them.

Then there was the question of how to make 5♣,

which was complicated by this particular diamond distribution, since after South drops ♦10 (or ♦J) in the second round of the suit, declarer must guess what to do.

Morten delayed this guess until trick 12. Meanwhile Barel (not too cleverly) led the ♥K upon winning the ♣Q, and the ♥Q didn't show up. Declarer assumed that North's remaining unplayed card was not the ♦J, and he was correct – Denmark +400.

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Schultz</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Christiansen</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	3♠
4♣	4♠	6♣	All Pass

Amir Levin did bid 4♣ over 3♠, and after North's raise Roll had to choose between 5♣, 6♣ and double (the winning action in this case).

He had to estimate his partner's strength according to his bids, and not unreasonably he assumed that West should be somewhat stronger than his actual hand, which would have given the pair very good odds of making a slam.

The play followed a similar pattern to the other table, with the same result of 11 tricks. Israel -50. With diamonds "behaving", it was a pity that the player who overcalled a vulnerable 3♠ would be so indecent as to possess a club void.



Amir Levin

There was one more slam deal lurking:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Bilde</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>D. Bilde</i>	<i>Zack</i>
Pass	2♠*	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	4♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	6♣	All Pass	4♦*

Barel started with a transfer to clubs, and then showed heart shortness (possibly a singleton). Zack's 3NT indicated some wasted values, but Barel persisted



Soren Christiansen
DENMARK

with 4♣. When his partner cuebid 4♦ he jumped immediately to slam (had South not bid 3NT earlier, he may have been looking for a grand slam).

In the play, there are basically two possible lines: drawing trumps, discarding a spade on the ♥A and finessing diamonds, or playing ♦AK before drawing a second round of trump, discarding a diamond on the ♥A and establishing diamonds with a ruff.

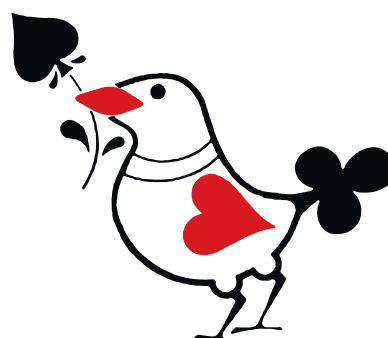
After Morten Bilde's trump lead, the second line depended on 3-2 diamonds and 2-2 trumps, while the first line offered 100% safety. Unsurprisingly, declarer drew trumps and finessed diamonds for +1370.

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Schaltz</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Christiansen</i>
Pass	2♥*	Dble	1NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	2♠
Pass	6♣	All Pass	3NT

According to North/South system, the 2♦/2♥ responses to a 1NT opening are transfers, but they don't necessarily promise five cards in the major! The same contract was reached, this time from North's side, and Josef Roll led a spade.

After this challenging lead there was no longer any safety play, so there was a real choice between the two lines described above. Line 1 depended on the location of the ♦Q (odds slightly higher than 50%). Line 2 was more complicated. In order to succeed declarer had to find a singleton or doubleton ♦Q or else find ♦Qxx at either defender's hand together with clubs 2-2. According to my calculations the odds of this line were slightly lower, but not by much, and there were some factors not taken into account such as East's lead directing double over 2♥ and his actual lead of ♠4 (3/5 best leads).

In such cases table feel may be more useful than science. Schaltz chose the second line, and his reward was making all 13 tricks. Denmark +1390. This final 1-IMP swing completed their rally and the final scoreline was 29:25 in Denmark's favour.





POLAND vs ICELAND

by Jos Jacobs

Open Teams, Round 14

At the start of this match on Sunday late afternoon, Poland were enjoying 4th spot in the rankings but Iceland found themselves back in a disappointing 20th place. In this tournament, considered by many to be the world's strongest event with so many good teams participating, no match is ever easy. This match proved no exception, as we shall see.

On the opening board, the Poles immediately ran away from their opponents.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ A 5 2		
	♥ A K Q J 6		
	♦ J 9 8		
	♣ 9 2		
♠ J 8 3	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">N W E S</div>	♠ Q 7 6 4	
♥ 10 2		♥ 9 5	
♦ Q 5 3		♦ 10	
♣ A K 8 7 6		♣ Q J 10 5 4 3	
	♠ K 10 9		
	♥ 8 7 4 3		
	♦ A K 7 6 4 2		
	♣ —		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Th Jonsson</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Kalita</i>
	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Dble	Pass	4♣	Dble
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣*
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

The E/W intervention offered Kalita an easy chance to describe the structure of his hand, so the slam was quickly reached for a fine +980 to Poland.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Jorgensen</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>B Jonsson</i>
	1♥	Pass	4♣*
Dble	4♥	All Pass	

South's 4♣ showed a void by agreement so it is difficult to see why North contented himself with 4♥ only. Iceland +480 but the first 11 IMPs to Poland.

On the next board, we saw the first of the many problems in the play during this match. Both the declarers and the defenders were in position to win or lose a bushel of IMPs by solving them correctly or not. Here is the first example.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ A J		
	♥ Q J 9 8 6 4 3		
	♦ A 10		
	♣ 9 5		
♠ 8 6 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">N W E S</div>	♠ K Q 10 4 3	
♥ —		♥ K 10 7	
♦ Q J 9 6		♦ 8 5 3	
♣ A Q J 10 7 6		♣ 3 2	
	♠ 9 7 5		
	♥ A 5 2		
	♦ K 7 4 2		
	♣ K 8 4		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Th Jonsson</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Kalita</i>
		2♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

2♥ showed a weak two in spades so North's first problem was to find a lead. When he hit upon the ♦A and another, all seemed well for the defence until South elected to cash his ♥A first before giving partner a diamond ruff. As declarer could ruff the ♥A and lead a spade, he went on to make his contract with the help of a working club finesse. Iceland +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Jorgensen</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>B Jonsson</i>
		Pass	Pass
3♣	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

In the Closed Room, spades were never mentioned so N/S peacefully went down one in 4♥ when the ♣K was wrong for them. Poland +100 but 8 IMPs back to Iceland.

More IMPs for Iceland on the next board:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ 9 5 3 2		
	♥ J 9 5 3		
	♦ 9 7 6 2		
	♣ 2		
♠ A J	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K 10 6 4	
♥ 4		♥ A K 8 2	
♦ K 10 4 3		♦ J 8	
♣ A K 8 6 5 4		♣ 10 9 3	
	♠ Q 8 7		
	♥ Q 10 7 6		
	♦ A Q 5		
	♣ Q J 7		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Th Jonsson</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Kalita</i>
			1♣
2♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

A simple natural auction to the proper contract. Declarer won the heart lead and next ran the ♣9 successfully, ending up with no less than 12 tricks. Iceland +690.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Jorgensen</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>B Jonsson</i>
			1NT
3♣	All Pass		

Apparently, the Poles were not on the same wavelength against a weak NT opening bid. Eleven tricks, Poland +150 but 11 IMPs to Iceland.

A play problem caused a big swing on board 26.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

	♠ Q 10 6 5 4		
	♥ A K		
	♦ Q 6 5 2		
	♣ 6 3		
♠ K 9 7 3	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 8	
♥ J 8 6		♥ Q 10 7 3	
♦ 10 9 8		♦ J 7 3	
♣ Q 7 4		♣ K J 9 8	
	♠ A 2		
	♥ 9 5 4 2		
	♦ A K 4		
	♣ A 10 5 2		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Th Jonsson</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Kalita</i>
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
			All Pass

After East's well-timed double, West hit upon the best lead of a low club but declarer would still have made his contract had he handled the spades successfully. When he cashed the ♠A and played a low spade to the ten and East's jack, he could no longer make the contract. Iceland +100.

The same contract was reached in the Closed Room:

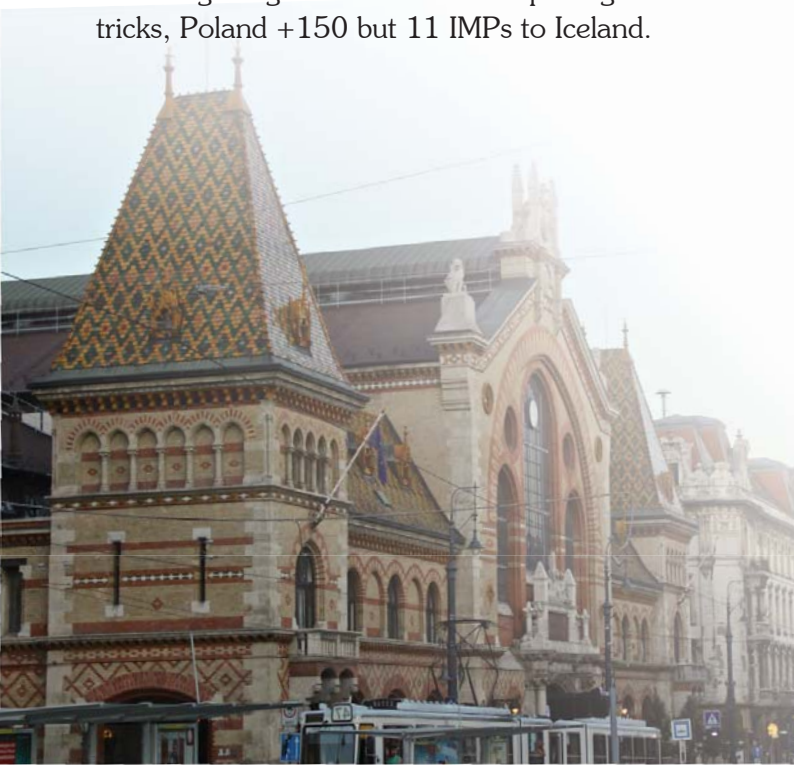
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Jorgensen</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>B Jonsson</i>
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Without anything to guide him, West still hit upon a heart lead, which was good for the defence.

However, when declarer next played a spade to his ace and a spade to dummy's queen, he had time to establish his 5th spade as the ninth trick, losing just two spades and two hearts. Iceland +600 and 12 more IMPs to them.

The question just remains: What is the best way to tackle this spade combination and why? Missing all the intermediates, it seems everybody's guess... but the real reason to "guess" spades right is that if your RHO has ♠Kx he may sink you with a club shift, whereas if your LHO wins the second spade the club play comes from the other side.





Two boards later, a nice misfit came by:

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	♠ A 6		
	♥ K 4 3 2		
	♦ A J 10 5 4 2		
	♣ 8		
♠ 9 8 5 4	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q 2	
♥ A 7 5		♥ Q J 9 8	
♦ K Q 7 3		♦ 9 8 6	
♣ 10 6		♣ A 9 7 4	
	♠ K J 10 7 3		
	♥ 10 6		
	♦ —		
	♣ K Q J 5 3 2		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Th Jonsson</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Kalita</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

With the help of a nice little relay, the Poles reached a sensible enough contract which just made for +140. West led ♥A and switched to a trump. Declarer won in hand and immediately led the ♣K, scoring five spades, two clubs and a trick in either red suit.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Jorgensen</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>B Jonsson</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Against this more ambitious contract, Jassem, too, led the ♥A and played a trump next. Declarer ran this to his hand, cashed the ♠A and led a club to his king. He went on to draw trumps on which East is sort of squeezed. When he discarded a heart, the hand was effectively over as declarer could now ruff himself back to his hand in hearts with his last trump, setting up dummy's last heart in the process, with the ♦A still there as an entry to it. East had to give the lead to dummy after winning his second club trick.

However: if East discards two diamonds on the spades and is then given his first club trick, he can establish a heart winner for himself when he is given his second club trick.

So at the table, Iceland scored +620 and gained 10 IMPs to lead 51-22.

The penultimate board settled the issue for Iceland. Both N/S pairs reached the normal 3NT played by South and neither West found the spade lead but led a low club instead.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ K 5		
	♥ Q J 2		
	♦ 10 9 7 6		
	♣ A 9 8 4		
♠ A 7 6 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q J 10 9 8	
♥ 10 8 7 4		♥ K 6	
♦ Q		♦ J 5 4 3	
♣ Q 10 7 6		♣ 5 3	
	♠ 4 3		
	♥ A 9 5 3		
	♦ A K 8 2		
	♣ K J 2		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Th Jonsson</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Kalita</i>
Pass	3♣*	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♦*

Kalita won the ♣J in hand and chose the line of a low heart to dummy's queen, hoping for three tricks in each rounded suit. When East won the king and returned the ♠Q to dummy's king, he might have cashed a top diamond first to create an extra chance if the hearts would not break. When he immediately went after the clubs, he could no longer make the contract, even though four diamond tricks would have been there for the taking. One down, Iceland +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Jorgensen</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>B Jonsson</i>
Pass	2♣*	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♥
All Pass			3NT

Jonsson won the club lead with dummy's eight and immediately ran the ♦10. West won the queen and led a low spade, dummy's king winning. When West showed out on the next round of diamonds, Jonsson knew he had three club tricks, three diamonds and a spade so he simply took a heart finesse of the king for his ninth trick. Iceland +600 and 12 more IMPs to win the match 68-22 or 18.77 – 1.23 V.P.



POLAND vs FRANCE

by John Carruthers

Senior Teams, Round 5

Poland met France in Round 5 of the Seniors. Although they'd both been among the pre-tournament favourites, for the time being they were languishing in the middle of the pack.

Things were pretty quiet for the first five boards, with Poland taking a 4-3 lead, when ...

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ K Q J 9 6		
	♥ 9		
	♦ 9 8 3		
	♣ A 10 7 2		
♠ 10 8 5	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">N W E S</div>	♠ A 7 4 3 2	
♥ K		♥ 8 7 5 4	
♦ K Q 10 2		♦ J 6	
♣ K 8 6 5 3		♣ Q 4	
	♠ —		
	♥ A Q J 10 6 3 2		
	♦ A 7 5 4		
	♣ J 9		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	Schmidt	Romanski	Toffier
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Toffier's auction conveyed quite a bit of information to the defence. Kowalski led the king of diamonds nevertheless. Everyone played low on that, so West shifted to the king of clubs: two, four, jack. Kowalski continued with a low club, but Toffier was not taken in: he won with dummy's ace, dropping the queen from Romanski. To make his contract from here, he thought, declarer needed the singleton or doubleton king of hearts onside and diamonds 3-3. If that were the case, he'd lose just one more trick, a diamond. So, declarer ran the nine of hearts to Kowalski's king. With the entry to dummy gone, it was safe for West to play spades, and declarer ruffed out East's ace. Toffier drew trumps, blanching when West showed out, and led a diamond. No matter whether West won the queen or East the jack, that player would be

endplayed for down one, minus 50. Seemed a normal enough result.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Guillaumin	Lasocki	Palau	Russyan
—	—	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Russyan provided the defence with no more information than was necessary. Again the king of diamonds was led, but this time an unwary East unblocked the jack. That was good news to declarer, who won with his ace of diamonds and played another. West won with his ten, cashed the queen and led a third round for East to ruff. Unfortunately for Guillaumin, East could not overruff dummy's nine of hearts. When the nine of hearts won the trick, Russyan led the king of spades from the dummy and, when East played low, discarded a club on it. Declarer took the ace of clubs and ruffed a club, cashed the ace of hearts, seeing the drop of the king as nothing more than his due, drew trumps and claimed an overtrick! That 450, added to the other table's plus 50, meant 11 IMPs to Poland.

It would have been more prudent, after the jack-of-diamonds unblock, for West to win the ten of diamonds and let East ruff the third round of the suit. That would have allowed East to shift to a trump, denying a fourth-round ruff and ensuring one off and a flat board unless declarer divines the singleton king in West's hand and the defence gets careless.



Philippe Toffier

FRANCE

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	Schmidt	Romanski	Toffier
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	4♠	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Toffier made a decent speculative double. He was very disappointed to find himself with the expected three trump tricks and no more. Plus 590 to Poland.



Jacek Romanski
POLAND

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Guillaumin	Lasocki	Palau	Russyan
2♥*	Pass	2♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♥ 5+ hearts and 4+ either minor, 5-10 HCP

Palau could have bid three spades, invitational. When he chose the low road, Poland had a 9-IMP gain.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 10 9 8 7 6 4 3		♠ 5
♥ K 5		♥ —
♦ Q 10 9		♦ AK765432
♣ 2		♣ J 10 7 5
♠ K J 2		
♥ Q J 6 3 2		
♦ J		
♣ 8 6 4 3		
♠ A Q		
♥ A 10 9 8 7 4		
♦ 8		
♣ A K Q 9		



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	Schmidt	Romanski	Toffier
—	Pass	5♦	5♥
Dble	All Pass		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Guillaumin	Lasocki	Palau	Russyan
—	Pass	5♦	5♥
All Pass			

Either Toffier was rather unlucky or Russyan was rather fortunate, take your pick. Kowalski led the diamond jack to the queen and king. Romanski led his spade, declarer winning with his ace. Toffier ran the ten of hearts through West, then started on the clubs. He had to ruff the fourth with the king of hearts and could not quite trump-endplay Kowalski. Thus he was two off for minus 500.

At the other table, Guillaumin was 'content' with five hearts until the scoring up. He also led a diamond and made one spade trick, two heart tricks and a diamond trick. That was the same two off, but 7 IMPs to Poland.

Board 30 was a curiosity, with both Romanski, East for Poland, and Russyan, South for Poland at the other table, opening a Multi Two Diamonds.

Toffier saved his side's bacon with that seemingly incredible protective three hearts. Since West had shown a willingness to go on to three hearts himself if East had had that suit, it was a brave venture. Twelve tricks were easy with no possibility of a heart misguess, plus 490 for North/South.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Guillaumin	Lasocki	Palau	Russyan
—	—	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

- 2♦ Weak two in hearts or spades, no strong option
- 2NT Asking bid
- 3♦ Bad hand with hearts

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kowalski	Schmidt	Romanski	Toffier
—	—	2♦*	Pass
2♠*	Pass*	Pass	3♥(!)
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

- 2♦ Weak two in hearts or spades, 6-11 HCP
- 2♠ Pass or correct
- Pass 2NT = 16-18;
Double = takeout of spades, promising 4+ hearts. Thus pass by North.

The defence and play were moderately amusing (on a deal like this, we must take our amusement where we can). Palau led a low spade. Rather than win with his ten to take a heart finesse, Lasocki won in dummy and led a heart to the queen and king. That restricted him to 11 tricks. East shifted to the nine of clubs to take their side's second trick, but Guillaumin ducked the ace. Lasocki won and was back up to 12 tricks (three spades, five hearts, two diamonds with the finesse, one club, and a minor-suit squeeze on West). Alas, he led a second club and made only 11 tricks after all, losing an IMPs.

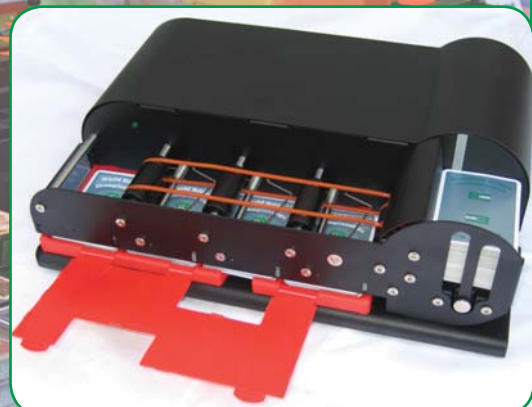
It did not go all Poland's way. They missed bid two games reached by France, one of which could have been beaten. The final score was 31-25 to Poland.

DUPLIMATE AND CARDS

The Duplimates used for the duplication during the championship are already sold out.

You can either pre-order a new Duplimate for delivery at a special price during the World Championships in Wroclaw, or buy an older model for EUR 1280 here in Budapest. Contact Jannerstens at the bridge stall in the Reception area, or drop a line to per@jannersten.com.

The [new] Budapest cards that you find in the boards will be sold after usage for EUR 136 per 200 decks.





THE PLAYS THE THING

by Mark Horton

As I am sure you are all aware this year marks the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare. References to cards and card play a significant role in the Bard's writings and I can unreservedly state that he would have revelled in the outstanding play that took place on this deal from the match between Poland and France in Round 7 of the Women's Championship.

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

	♠ 9 5 2						
	♥ K J 9 3						
	♦ Q 8 7						
	♣ A J 9						
♠ 7 ♥ Q 10 6 5 4 ♦ A K 6 5 3 ♣ 10 5	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">E</td></tr> </table>	N	W	S	E	♠ K Q 8 ♥ 8 7 ♦ 10 9 4 ♣ Q 7 6 4 2	
N							
W							
S							
E							
	♠ A J 10 6 4 3						
	♥ A 2						
	♦ J 2						
	♣ K 8 3						



Bénédicte Cronier
FRANCE

France led 16-14, and in the Open Room Croatia had played in 4♠, recording ten tricks for +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sarniak	Cronier	Baldysz	Willard
2♥*	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♥ Hearts and a minor

With a flat hand North's decision to bid 3NT was totally understandable, but theoretically it was the wrong action and gave Poland a chance to secure a last gasp victory.

East led the nine of diamonds and when West made the understandable error of winning with the king before returning a diamond declarer was handed the thinnest of lifelines.

Even so, it was apparent that only a seemingly miraculous series of plays could deliver nine tricks and it was hard to imagine that they might be found.

Declarer won the diamond return with dummy's jack, cashed the ace of hearts and played a heart to the nine. When that passed off peacefully, she played the jack of clubs from her hand, running it when East followed impassively with the two. A club to the king was followed by the ace of spades and declarer returned to hand with the ace of clubs and exited with the queen of diamonds. West could win and cash two more diamonds but then had to lead into declarer's heart tenace.

We were following the play as it happened and each winning view was accompanied by an ever increasing sense of incredulity and delight.

France lost an IMP, but had won the match 16-15.

To quote the Bard it was 'A dish fit for the gods'.
(Julius Caesar)

VIDEOS FROM THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Readers who are interested in more detailed view of the Championships whether it is news, interviews or simply looking at the surroundings can find it on youtube on the EBL channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN6ZMmC9FxsqBVn9PermDuw>



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Christian TERRANEO
Andreas BABSCH pc
Arno LINDERMANN coach

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npc & coach

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Krista P.EDWARDS coach





RESULTS OPEN TEAMS

ROUND 16

1	ROMANIA	WALES	68	5	20.00	0.00
2	FAROE ISLANDS	SWEDEN	8	41	2.83	17.17
3	IRELAND	LATVIA	59	18	18.21	1.79
4	FRANCE	SPAIN	18	58	1.91	18.09
5	TURKEY	UKRAINE	26	34	7.71	12.29
6	AUSTRIA	ITALY	32	63	3.12	16.88
7	BELARUS	NORWAY	37	41	8.80	11.20
8	POLAND	BELGIUM	40	23	14.39	5.61
9	HUNGARY	BULGARIA	43	61	5.40	14.60
10	GEORGIA	MONACO	2	43	0.79	18.21
11	GERMANY	PORTUGAL	21	38	5.61	13.89
12	ICELAND	SCOTLAND	48	13	17.45	2.55
13	FINLAND	ISRAEL	11	68	0.23	19.77
14	SERBIA	DENMARK	18	43	4.08	15.92
15	NETHERLANDS	CROATIA	67	29	17.85	2.15
16	ESTONIA	CYPRUS	36	34	10.61	9.39
17	GREECE	ENGLAND	32	26	11.76	8.24
18	CZECH REPUBLIC	RUSSIA	40	27	13.52	6.48
19	SWITZERLAND	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 17

1	SWEDEN	ROMANIA	30	18	13.28	6.72
2	WALES	LATVIA	23	66	1.56	18.44
3	FAROE ISLANDS	IRELAND	25	44	5.20	14.80
4	FRANCE	UKRAINE	48	6	18.33	1.67
5	TURKEY	ITALY	17	41	4.26	15.74
6	AUSTRIA	NORWAY	29	26	10.91	9.09
7	BELARUS	SPAIN	19	89	0.00	20.00
8	SWITZERLAND	BULGARIA	22	44	4.62	15.38
9	HUNGARY	MONACO	23	15	12.29	7.71
10	GEORGIA	BELGIUM	10	62	0.66	19.34
11	GERMANY	SCOTLAND	54	28	16.09	3.91
12	ICELAND	ISRAEL	26	33	7.97	12.03
13	FINLAND	DENMARK	26	8	14.60	5.40
14	SERBIA	PORTUGAL	62	24	17.85	2.15
15	NETHERLANDS	CYPRUS	56	7	19.07	0.93
16	ESTONIA	ENGLAND	34	55	4.81	15.19
17	GREECE	RUSSIA	42	18	15.74	4.26
18	CZECH REPUBLIC	CROATIA	18	33	6.03	13.97
19	POLAND	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 18

1	ROMANIA	AUSTRIA	28	53	4.08	15.92
2	BELARUS	FRANCE	46	29	14.39	5.61
3	TURKEY	LATVIA	45	39	11.76	8.24
4	POLAND	FAROE ISLANDS	27	15	13.28	6.72
5	SWITZERLAND	WALES	27	32	8.52	11.48
6	HUNGARY	IRELAND	49	25	15.74	4.26
7	GEORGIA	SWEDEN	19	47	3.58	16.42
8	GERMANY	UKRAINE	33	18	13.97	6.03
9	ICELAND	SPAIN	29	38	7.45	12.55
10	FINLAND	NORWAY	17	69	0.66	19.34
11	SERBIA	ITALY	34	39	8.52	11.48
12	ESTONIA	BELGIUM	44	27	14.39	5.61
13	GREECE	MONACO	37	71	2.69	17.31
14	CZECH REPUBLIC	BULGARIA	24	48	4.26	15.74
15	ENGLAND	SCOTLAND	86	10	20.00	0.00
16	RUSSIA	PORTUGAL	33	64	3.12	16.88
17	CROATIA	DENMARK	25	52	3.74	16.26
18	CYPRUS	ISRAEL	32	32	9.50	9.50
19	NETHERLANDS	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 19

1	UKRAINE	ROMANIA	36	26	12.80	7.20
2	NORWAY	SPAIN	52	45	12.03	7.97
3	LATVIA	ITALY	45	22	15.56	4.44
4	SWEDEN	BULGARIA	21	23	9.39	10.61
5	SERBIA	ESTONIA	21	37	5.82	14.18
6	WALES	BELGIUM	10	35	2.08	15.92
7	FAROE ISLANDS	MONACO	18	65	1.13	18.87
8	FRANCE	ISRAEL	54	17	17.72	2.28
9	TURKEY	SCOTLAND	52	25	16.26	3.74
10	AUSTRIA	PORTUGAL	34	53	5.20	14.80
11	BELARUS	DENMARK	36	31	11.48	8.52
12	POLAND	ENGLAND	20	5	13.97	6.03
13	SWITZERLAND	CYPRUS	19	16	10.91	9.09
14	HUNGARY	CROATIA	45	30	13.97	6.03
15	GEORGIA	RUSSIA	0	64	0.00	20.00
16	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS	16	11	11.48	8.52
17	ICELAND	CZECH REPUBLIC	38	33	11.48	8.52
18	FINLAND	GREECE	32	43	6.96	13.04
19	IRELAND	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

RANKING AFTER ROUND 19

1	FRANCE	271.97
2	GERMANY	257.86
3	MONACO	254.92
4	SWEDEN	251.73
5	NETHERLANDS	234.23
6	BULGARIA	233.42
7	NORWAY	232.47
8	ENGLAND	228.67
9	POLAND	228.31
10	ITALY	224.87
11	IRELAND	224.21
12	ISRAEL	217.79
13	HUNGARY	210.31
14	SPAIN	209.83
15	ICELAND	204.43
16	FINLAND	202.03
17	DENMARK	200.69
18	BELGIUM	196.68
19	TURKEY	191.89
20	WALES	189.62
21	CROATIA	188.91
22	GREECE	180.73
23	ROMANIA	180.61
24	SERBIA	179.29
25	AUSTRIA	172.92
26	RUSSIA	165.16
27	ESTONIA	162.04
28	UKRAINE	158.70
29	CZECH REP.	156.08
30	PORTUGAL	155.30
31	SWITZERLAND	152.99
32	BELARUS	140.14
33	LATVIA	139.11
34	FAROE ISLANDS	134.09
35	GEORGIA	116.28
36	CYPRUS	115.50
37	SCOTLAND	93.22



RESULTS WOMEN TEAMS

ROUND 5

21	FINLAND	FRANCE	11	65	0.48	19.52
22	ENGLAND	RUSSIA	21	56	2.55	17.45
23	ISRAEL	SCOTLAND	64	39	15.92	4.08
24	GREECE	SAN MARINO	60	9	19.25	0.75
25	SWEDEN	SERBIA	56	36	15.00	5.00
26	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS	3	51	1.03	18.97
27	IRELAND	NORWAY	16	65	0.93	19.07
28	HUNGARY	BULGARIA	46	40	11.76	8.24
29	ITALY	ESTONIA	41	28	13.52	6.48
30	TURKEY	POLAND	9	64	0.39	19.61
31	PORTUGAL	SPAIN	34	37	9.09	10.91
32	DENMARK	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 6

21	SPAIN	FRANCE	37	46	7.45	12.55
22	DENMARK	RUSSIA	30	21	12.55	7.45
23	POLAND	SCOTLAND	68	10	19.85	0.15
24	ESTONIA	SAN MARINO	17	26	7.45	12.55
25	NORWAY	TURKEY	36	34	10.61	9.39
26	BULGARIA	ITALY	32	80	1.03	18.97
27	SERBIA	PORTUGAL	36	26	12.80	7.20
28	ENGLAND	IRELAND	66	6	20.00	0.00
29	ISRAEL	GERMANY	20	41	4.81	15.19
30	GREECE	SWEDEN	30	34	8.80	11.20
31	FINLAND	HUNGARY	54	19	17.45	2.55
32	NETHERLANDS	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 7

21	POLAND	FRANCE	15	16	9.69	10.31
22	ESTONIA	RUSSIA	32	63	3.12	16.88
23	SPAIN	SCOTLAND	48	32	14.18	5.82
24	DENMARK	SAN MARINO	53	23	16.73	3.27
25	NETHERLANDS	ITALY	35	26	12.55	7.45
26	NORWAY	PORTUGAL	21	40	5.20	14.80
27	SERBIA	TURKEY	27	51	4.26	14.74
28	ENGLAND	SWEDEN	50	22	16.42	3.58
29	ISRAEL	HUNGARY	38	14	15.74	4.26
30	GREECE	IRELAND	25	30	8.52	11.48
31	FINLAND	GERMANY	31	19	13.28	6.72
32	BULGARIA	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

RANKING AFTER ROUND 7

1	POLAND	107.51
2	ISRAEL	103.54
3	ENGLAND	98.13
4	FRANCE	97.44
5	RUSSIA	97.38
6	DENMARK	89.22
7	NORWAY	87.03
8	NETHERLANDS	86.07
9	TURKEY	85.47
10	GREECE	70.46
11	SWEDEN	68.82
12	HUNGARY	66.80
13	ITALY	66.53
14	GERMANY	66.45
15	PORTUGAL	62.53
16	SCOTLAND	58.53
17	SERBIA	57.27
18	SPAIN	52.80
19	FINLAND	52.37
20	IRELAND	45.15
21	BULGARIA	41.66
22	ESTONIA	39.62
23	SAN MARINO	19.22





RESULTS SENIORS TEAMS

ROUND 5

41	FRANCE	POLAND	25	31	8.24	11.76
42	FINLAND	HUNGARY	49	40	12.55	7.45
43	GERMANY	ROMANIA	33	16	14.39	5.61
44	BULGARIA	ENGLAND	22	39	5.61	14.39
45	ISRAEL	WALES	34	31	10.91	9.09
46	TURKEY	ITALY	51	25	16.09	3.91
47	ESTONIA	BELGIUM	19	54	2.55	17.45
48	SWEDEN	DENMARK	47	7	18.09	1.91
49	SCOTLAND	PORTUGAL	27	56	3.42	16.58
50	NORWAY	IRELAND	67	32	17.45	2.55
51	SPAIN	AUSTRIA	38	59	4.81	15.19
52	NETHERLANDS	SERBIA	63	24	17.97	2.03

ROUND 6

41	AUSTRIA	PORTUGAL	30	62	2.97	17.03
42	DENMARK	IRELAND	21	30	7.45	12.55
43	SCOTLAND	SPAIN	44	22	15.38	4.62
44	SWEDEN	NORWAY	23	25	9.39	10.61
45	ISRAEL	ESTONIA	57	22	17.45	2.55
46	BULGARIA	TURKEY	37	36	10.31	7.69
47	GERMANY	FINLAND	41	27	13.75	6.25
48	FRANCE	NETHERLANDS	16	56	1.91	18.09
49	BELGIUM	WALES	30	25	11.48	8.52
50	ENGLAND	ITALY	27	29	9.39	10.61
51	HUNGARY	ROMANIA	23	25	9.39	10.61
52	SERBIA	POLAND	7	52	1.34	18.66

ROUND 7

41	NORWAY	POLAND	46	21	15.92	4.08
42	SCOTLAND	HUNGARY	38	38	10.00	10.00
43	WALES	FINLAND	30	41	6.96	13.04
44	SPAIN	ROMANIA	31	40	6.95	12.05
45	DENMARK	TURKEY	13	43	3.27	16.73
46	AUSTRIA	ISRAEL	21	41	5.00	15.00
47	IRELAND	BULGARIA	18	33	6.03	13.97
48	PORTUGAL	ESTONIA	83	41	18.33	1.67
49	ENGLAND	NETHERLANDS	57	17	18.09	1.91
50	BELGIUM	GERMANY	84	36	18.97	1.03
51	ITALY	FRANCE	15	53	2.15	17.85
52	SWEDEN	SERBIA	59	31	16.42	3.58

RANKING AFTER ROUND 7

1	ISRAEL	101.13
2	SWEDEN	89.32
3	ENGLAND	85.91
4	HUNGARY	83.21
5	POLAND	79.67
6	PORTUGAL	79.37
7	BULGARIA	78.87
8	BELGIUM	77.93
9	ITALY	76.29
10	AUSTRIA	75.68
11	DENMARK	71.00
12	FRANCE	70.06
13	FINLAND	69.68
14	NORWAY	68.87
15	NETHERLANDS	68.37
16	TURKEY	67.70
17	IRELAND	67.57
18	ROMANIA	66.89
19	SCOTLAND	64.81
20	GERMANY	62.24
21	ESTONIA	58.00
22	SPAIN	46.07
23	WALES	39.04
24	SERBIA	24.32



*Simon Fellus
and Mark Horton*

MARIT ♡ INTERNATIONAL SVEAAS ♣ BRIDGE TOURNAMENT



Fredrikstad



5.-7. aug '16

The Norwegian Bridge Federation will host the 1st edition of the
Marit Sveaas International Bridge Tournament
in August this year in Fredrikstad
- you're welcome to participate!

TOURNAMENT:

When: Fri 5th - Sun 7th August
Entry fee: 2.000 NOK
Entries: www.msibt.org
Boards: 126
Scoring: Matchpoint
Movement: Swiss

WHERE:

The 2016 edition will be held in the city of Fredrikstad, situated 1 hour by train from Oslo.

TRAVEL:

Oslo Airport Gardermoen has direct connections to cities all over the world and there is easy to travel by train to Fredrikstad.

Oslo Airport Rygge also has some connections to major European cities with RyanAir and is situated only 20 min from Fredrikstad.

PRIZES:

1st	300.000*
2nd	150.000*
3rd	100.000*
4th - 13th	20.000*

Special prizes in these categories (top 3):
Juniors - Mixed - Seniors - Women
Norwegian beginners - Last session

* Prizes are paid in NOK and are subject to taxation - all prizes are per pair.

HOTELS:

There are several hotels in Fredrikstad which can be booked online.

All hotels will be listed on www.msibt.org

Most hotels have breakfast included.

