# $1^{\text {st }}$ EUROPEAN WINTER GAMMES MONACO 5-11 FEBRUARY 2016 

## Daily Bulletin

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## SCHEDULE

## ZIMMERMANN CUP

10.00-12.50: Semifinal $1 / 3$
14.00-16.50: Semifinal $2 / 3$
17.20-20.10: Semifinal $3 / 3$

## FMB BAM TROPHY

BAM A
24 Teams (46 boards)
10.00-11.45: 12 boards
14.00-16.50 (20 boards)
17.20-19.20 (14 boards)

## BAM B

18 Teams ( 34 boards)
14.00-16.50 (20 boards)
17.20-19.20 (14 boards)

## HEAD $\approx_{\text {то }}$ HEAD



You all remember Agatha Christie's 10 little Indians. A KO event has similar aspects with teams disappearing one after the other. Another lesser known book from the same author is The big Four and that is where we are this morning with the semifinals of Zimmermann Cup.

Lavazza will face Black, who defeated the much favoured team ERA in a convincing manner, while Zimmermann will play against Assael who took the best in a till the wire, hard fought match against Ventin.
Will the final be the one on which everyone puts its money, or will the outsiders have something to say?

24 teams - including the losing teams from the quarter final of the main event - play final A of the BAM, while 14 teams try to find some consolation in FINAL B.

Note: final B WILL NOT PLAY this morning. (JPM)

## NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF BRIDGE



## ABOUT THE BUTLER RANKING

It is always discussed: Should the Butler ranking be published or not?

Some players, especially the ones who have played well, plus curious aficionados, are in favour. Others, including Captains, are strongly opposed, arguing that this ranking has little value and they do not want to have a competition inside their team.
Anyhow, we published the Butler ranking for the Zimmermann Cup qualification. Many readers remarked that at least, 3 stars pairs were missing from this list.
The reason is simple.
They did not care to enter their code in the Bridgemates as requested by theTDs. No obligation to do so in is contained in the Conditions of Contest. On the other hand for the award of master points you should prove you played enough boards.
Affaire à suiure.


## APOLOGIES TO PETER FREDIN!

The story we published yesterday, 'Last Throw of the Dice' inadvertently ascribed an attempted brilliancy made by his partner to Peter.

The online version has been corrected!


## MORE NEWS FROM THAILAND

In bulletin 2, page 3 we told you about the 32 bridge players taking part in a daily tournament in a club in Pattaya. They were arrested by the local police under the assumption that they were playing for money (though none was found) and using illegal playing cards.

We have more details from Esther Sophonpanich, the President of Zone 6.

She states that the police were convinced that the Bridgemates were used to transmit results and calculate wins and losses.
Esther reports that the club managment will have to pay a fine for the use of illegal cards, as although Bridge is recognized by the national sports organization it is still subject to a 50 year old law and can only be played in a public place after reporting to police authorities. The arrested tourists were given back their passports and set free


As announced in earlier bulletins there will be a linear carry-over from the Qualification into the Finals A and B. Into Final A it will go from 6 points to zero and in Final B from 8 points to zero.
The teams dropping into Final A from the Quarter-finals of the Zimmermann Cup will start in shared 3rd place.


## CONVENTION CORNER

## by Mark Horton

Although an auction can consist of entirely natural bids, describing a hand by reference to possession, shape, and strength of the named suits, more often than not the players make use of conventions, which assign more specific information to certain calls, particularly at the more advanced levels of competitive play.
Bill Root defines a convention as, A specific agreement between partners to give an unusual meaning to a bid.

Let me give you a hand from the second session of the round of 16 - you have the North hand:

Dealer South. EW Vul
ค K Q 964
© K96532
$\diamond 9$
46

Imagine your partner opens $1 \diamond$ and the next payer overcalls 1NT. How will you describe you hand?
While you are considering suppose that partner's opening bid is 1NT (12-14) and the next player doubles. Now what?

In the first scenario many partnerships (especially in this part of the world) have the agreement that a bid of $2 \boldsymbol{4}$ at this point is asking for the majors (the convention has been christened Landic).
If you don't play that, then another possibility is to bid 2NT, which must promise a two suited hand.
A third option is to bid $2 \Omega$, and then decide what to do on the next round (assuming there is one).

In the second case, after 1NT-Dble it would be nice to be playing 'system on' when you could bid 2\% for the majors, but that is not a popular treatment.
You could bid $2 \triangle$, planning to bid spades later.
If you are using transfers (and many do) then you start with $2 \diamond$, intending to bid spades later.
Bidding 2NT would suggest a two suited hand.


Let's see how the players coped:
Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

- KQ964
$\checkmark$ K96532
$\diamond 9$
\& 6

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Whittaker | Hoftaniska | Black | Charlsen |
| - | - | - | $1 \diamond$ |
| 1NT | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ | Dble | $2 \boldsymbol{\downarrow}$ |
| Pass | $4 \uparrow$ | All Pass |  |

2\% Major suit enquiry
Can't argue with that.

## Closed Room

| West <br> Padon | North <br> King | East <br> de Botton | South <br> McIntosh |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - | - | - | $1 \diamond$ |
| 1NT | $2 \bowtie$ | $3 \boldsymbol{\mu}$ | Pass |
| 3NT | $4 \boldsymbol{\omega}^{*}$ | Dble | Pass |
| Pass | $4 \boldsymbol{\omega}$ | All Pass |  |

Clearly $4 \%$ was intended to show spades, but perhaps South wasn't sure?

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nab | Gawrys | Drijuer | Klukowski |
| - | - | - | $1 \diamond$ |
| 1NT | 2NT* | $3 \%$ | $3 \diamond$ |
| 3NT | 40* | Pass | 4a |
| All Pass |  |  |  |
| 2NT Two suiter 40 Both majors |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Another sound auction.

There was a variation along these lines in Vytas Netherlands Blue:

| Closed Room |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| West | North | East | South |
| Schollardt | Gierulski | Macura | Skrzypczak |
| - | - | - | $1 \diamond$ |
| 1NT | 2 NT* $^{*}$ | Pass | $3 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | Pass | $3 \uparrow$ |
| Pass | $4 \uparrow$ | All Pass |  |

In the situation where South opened 1 NT the auction went like this (this is the companion auction to that of Gawrys-Klukowski.

Closed Room

| West | North <br> Volcker | Verbeek | East |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | | South |
| :--- |
| - |
| - |
| Dbsis |

Not a triumph for NS.
North clearly intended his bid of $4 \boldsymbol{*}$ to show the other major, but 2NT had only been alerted as being a transfer to clubs on his side of the screen, and South must have thought it was natural.
The score was subsequently adjusted to

## TAKING a SMALL CHANCE IS MUCH BETTER THAN NONE!

## by Jean-Paul Meyer

In quarter finals, Vytas played Lavazza and in the first set Board 8 was instructive.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

|  | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { A } & \text { A } 76 \\ \diamond & \text { A Q } 975 \\ \diamond & 10853 \\ \& & \text { K } \end{array}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ¢ K 10542 | N | ^ Q J |
| $\bigcirc$ J 2 |  | $\bigcirc$ K 1084 |
| $\diamond$ AK 97 |  | $\diamond 2$ |
| \& $A 9$ | S | \& Q J 10543 |
|  | - 983 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 63$ |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q J 64 |  |
|  | \& 8762 |  |

When Lauria Versace sat EW for Vytas they built a typical Gazilli sequence:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lauria | Bocchi | Versace | Bilde |
| 14 | Pass | 1 NT | Pass |
| 20** | Pass | $2 \diamond *$ | Pass |
| 3** | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |
| 2\% Gazilli |  |  |  |
| $2 \diamond 8+$ |  |  |  |
| 3-15-17 | 5422 |  |  |

Impressive don't you think?

The bidding in the other room was more competitive when North judged his hand was worth a first round overcall

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bianchedi | Vanikonis | Madala | Olanski |
| $1 \uparrow$ | $2 \varnothing$ | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | Pass | $3 \varrho^{*}$ | Pass |
| $4 \diamond$ | Pass | $5 \boldsymbol{4}$ | All Pass |

We shall never know what Madala would have decided to do on a heart lead. Probably, before he decides how he should handle the trump suit, he would know that hearts break 5-2. In that event, what are the chances for North to hold four little clubs compared to the bare king?

However, South led a club... now Madala knew that a small chance was better than no chance at all. South could not have led from \&o Kx; accordlingly declarer called for the ace of clubs from dummy with the spectacular result you can see.

THE BREAKFAST CLUB

## by Mark Horton

The Breakfast Club is a 1985 American coming-of-age comedy-drama film which follows five teenagers, each a member of a different high school clique, who spend a Saturday in detention together and come to realize that they are all more than their respective stereotypes, while facing a strict disciplinarian principal.

At a major event it is not unusual to pick up a good story over breakfast, and yesterday I collected one from the legendary Gunnar Hallberg. Coincidently, It features one of the many talented juniors competing here in Monaco, Sweden's Simon Hult in the second session of the BAM.

Dealer East. EW Vul.

- J 10
$\checkmark$ K 95
$\diamond$ J 108
\& K Q 762
- A9542
© A 82
$\diamond$ Q 742
\& 3


A Q63

- Q 63
$\diamond$ K 63
\& J 1085

| West | North | East <br> Hult | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ekenberg |  | 1NT | Pass |
| - | - | $2 \uparrow$ | Pass |
| $2 \varsigma^{*}$ | Pass | $4 \uparrow$ | All Pass |
| $3 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \uparrow$ |  |

South led a club and declarer won with the ace and played a diamond to the queen, followed by a diamond to the ace. After ruffing a club he played a third round of diamonds and South won and exited with a club. Declarer ruffed in dummy, cashed the ace of spades, played a spade to the king and ran the jack of hearts.


North won, but was now faced with the prospect of offering up

Simon Ekenberg, Mikael Rimstedt, Simon Hult, Ola Rimstedt a ruff and discard, or leading away from the nine of hearts.
Not a bad way to win a board!
I can't resist showing you this hand, which Gunnar mentioned inter alia:
Playing rubber bridge for serious money you have ↔AK862 ऽAK75 $\diamond$ A5 $\$ 75$ and are pleased to see your partner open $1 \bigcirc$. Gunnar jumped to $3 \boldsymbol{\%}$ (!) and when his partner raised him to $4 \%$ he bid 4 NT , discovering his partner had no ace (no RKCB at rubber bridge). He jumped to $6 \triangle$ and when Robert Sheehan (himself no slouch at the Rubber bridge table and author of the excellent The Big Game: Rubber Bridge in a London Club) doubled (holding what he assumed


Not a bad story to breakfast out on!


## THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY

## by Mark Horton

The Good, the Bad and the is a 1966 Italian epic Spaghetti Western film directed by Sergio Leone, starring Clint Eastwood, Lee Van Cleef, and Eli Wallach in the title roles respectively.
The plot revolves around three gunslingers competing to find fortune in a buried cache of Confederate gold amid the violent chaos of the American Civil War.
One deal in the third session of the round of 16 could have been ascribed to each of the characters.

## The Good

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { A } & 1082 \\
\diamond & 8432 \\
\diamond & \text { Q } 83 \\
\& & 943
\end{array}
$$

a AKJ64
$\checkmark$ K 765
$\diamond$ A J
\& 87


A Q 97
© A Q J 109
$\diamond 10965$

- 2

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Molenaar | Bessis | Verbeek | Volcker |
| - | - | $1 \boldsymbol{\%}$ | 10 |
| Dble* | Pass | $3 \boldsymbol{\%}$ | Pass |
| $4 \boldsymbol{6}$ | Pass | 50 | Pass |
| $6 \boldsymbol{6}$ | All Pass |  |  |

Whatever message East was trying to convey to West ('I have solid clubs and a heart void') was lost in translation.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Klukowski | Drijver | Gawrys | Nab |
| - | - | $1 \boldsymbol{1} *$ | $2 \varnothing$ |
| Dble* | $4 \Omega$ | $5 \%$ | Pass |
| $7 \%$ | All Pass |  |  |

## 1\% Polish Club

One tends to forget that in these days of hyper aggression in the auction judgement plays an essential role and West exercised his to the maximum.


Looking at four hearts it seemed clear that East must be void and he clearly held a powerful club suit. Backing his judgement, West went all in, a brilliant decision that secured +2140 and 13 IMPs and must make this a candidate for best bid hand of the year.

## The Bad

| Open Room |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West | North | East | South |
| Versace | Polak | Lauria | v. Overbeeke |
| - | - |  | $1 \bigcirc$ |
| Dble* | 30 | 5\% | Pass |
| $5 \diamond^{*}$ | Pass | 50* | Pass |
| 5 ${ }^{\text {* }}$ | Pass | 64 | All Pass |

West must have been sure his partner held a heart void, but perhaps fearing a non solid clubs suit (say of AKJ10985) he was unwilling to advance.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Schollardt | Gierulski | Macura | Skrzypczak |
| - | - | $1 \%$ | 18 |
| Dble* | 30 | 40** | Pass |
| 4NT* | Pass | 6\% | Pass |
| 74 | All Pass |  |  |
| $4 \bigcirc$ Cue bid |  |  |  |
| 4NT RKCB |  |  |  |
| 6\% 2 key | ards and a |  |  |

East clearly intended his cue bid to show a solid suit, but, as he discovered, the danger is that partner will assume you have a spade fit.

Declarer ruffed the heart lead and played a spade to the jack. He was soon entering +2210 onto his score sheet along with 13 IMPs.

## The Ugly

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Combescure | Lorenzini | Bernard | Quantin |
| - | - | 3NT | All Pass |

I refer the honourable reader to the remarks I made in Bulletin 2.
With a four card suit on the side and a void 3NT is dreadful. Even so, West should have bid 6\%, but when he passed an even worse fate was in store.
South led the queen of hearts, and declarer ducked, North following with the four. The jack of hearts was ducked, North contributing the three, and on the next trick South's ten of hearts left declarer with a nasty guess, which he got wrong, -100 .

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wrang | Deheeger | Ventin | R.Labbé |
| - | - | 1\% | $1 \checkmark$ |
| Dble* | Pass | 3\% | Pass |
| 4\% | Pass | 40* | Pass |
| 40** | Pass | 6\% | All Pass |

I don't see why East was in such a hurry to bid 6\% - it looks routine to bid $5 \diamond$, when West would have certainly considered the possibility of a grand slam.
EW could afford to smile - they picked up 16 IMPs.

Before I leave this deal I must mention what happened in the last of the matches being featured on BBO :

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Padon | Hallberg | de Botton |  |
| - | - | $1 \%$ | $1 \Omega$ |
| $1 \boldsymbol{B e r t h e a u}$ |  |  |  |

What a pity Gunnar Hallberg did not emulate Terence Reese by passing out 1NT doubled. No doubt he would have been -1700 , but what a story he would have had to tell if his teammates had reached 7
$7 \%$.
(On the other hand imagine he was scoring up with the French Juniors!)

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| King | Sandquist | McIntosh | Townsend |
| - | - | $1 \mathbf{4}$ | $3 \varnothing$ |
| $3 \uparrow$ | $5 \circlearrowleft$ | $6 \mathbf{4}$ | All Pass |

Nic Sandqvist's brilliantly timed bid left EW with no room to manoeuvre and West was unwilling to gamble.



## European Youth Bridge Pairs Championships

 Liepaja, Latvia, 13 to 20 July 2016

## DOWN TO THE WIRE

## by Maurizio Di Sacco

Vytas was favourite to win its round of 16 match against the mainly Dutch team Netherlands Blue. However, the opposition was expected to be tough, and so it proved to be.
After two segments - 40 boards played and 20 more to go - Vytas led 89-80, still anybody's match.

Vytas immediately extended its lead thanks to a better view on matter of leads. You try: in one room, LHO (north) opened two clubs and South jumped to three spades, inviting to game, raised to four. In the other, the opening bid was $1 \%$ and South followed up with a transfer response of $1 \Omega$, then jumped to $4 \uparrow$ after North rebid clubs.

Here you are:
©Q6 ऽ10743 $\diamond$ K1065 \&Q95.
Alfredo Versace picked the $\bigcirc 4$, while Martin Schollardt tabled the $\diamond 6$. Better the former:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

- 10
$\checkmark$ AK 82
$\diamond J 3$
\& AJ 10842


After the diamond lead, there was no way for the defence to beat the contract, because East could not play hearts profitably to attack declarer's communications and South was eventually able to set up dummy's clubs. However, the heart lead immediately achieved that goal: van Overbeeke desperately ducked it, but Lauria won with the queen and switched to diamonds, the defenders cashing two tricks in the suit and awaiting the trump winner. 10 IMP to Vytas.


Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.
A 7432
© J 5
$\diamond 10974$
\& 876


Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Versace | Polak | Lauria | v.Overbeeke |
| Pass | Pass | $1 \boldsymbol{1}$ | Dble |
| $1 \varnothing$ | Pass | $3 \boldsymbol{4}$ | All Pass |

Versace, afraid of the possible lack of the spade stopper, passed his partner's jump.

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Schollardt | Gierulski | Makura | Skrzypczak |
| Pass | Pass | $1 \boldsymbol{\sim}$ | Dble |
| $1 \diamond^{*}$ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

$1 \diamond$ Hearts
Makura chose a good moment for a much more incisive action than Lauria's, and was rewarded with 10 IMPs when the spades divided.

With eight deals to go the scores were tied, 105105.

Vytas looked to be on the way out after this deal:
Board 16. Dealer East. EW Vul.

- AK 4
© J 62
$\diamond$ J 96
\& AK 85
- Q 93
© A Q 5
$\diamond 742$
\& J 974


ค 10872
© 10743
$\diamond$ Q 103
\& Q 6

AJ 65
© K 98
$\diamond$ AK 85
\& 1032
Both teams declared 3NT from the North seat, and both Easts led the $\mathbf{\$} 7$.

Play went on a bit differently at the two tables, before reaching almost the same ending.

Polak, for Netherlands Blue, put up dummy's jack and ducked West's queen. He won the spade continuation and presented the $\diamond \mathrm{J}$, for Lauria to contribute an interesting ten(!). This convinced Polak to win it, and to follow with a club to his ace, and a small club to East's queen. A third round of spades saw declarer win and run the $\diamond 9$, followed by two more rounds of the suit, leaving:



Polak continued with the $\uparrow 10$, covered in turn, and had to decide whether to play for East to be the holder of the $\checkmark A$, or to play a further club to endplay West. He chose the latter: bingo!

Gierulski ducked the opening lead in dummy to win in his hand and play the $\diamond J$, covered by East's queen and won by dummy's ace, then ducked a club to East's queen. A second spade followed, ducked, and then a third round, which declarer won to finesse in diamonds, leaving:


I don't know exactly what went wrong, but declarer didn't cash dummy's diamond winners - he didn't realise they both were - and decided to try first for clubs to be 3-3, eventually relying on East to hold the $\checkmark$ A. Accordingly, he played a club to his king, and was doomed. A heart to dummy's king and West's ace followed and with it went 10 IMPs , Vytas down by 2 IMPs with just, four deals to go.

Vytas got back the lead by the narrowest of margins on the very next hand, thank to a better competitive action.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.
か K 87
© A 95
$\diamond$ A 10842
\& 72


| Open Room <br> West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Versace | Polak | Lauria | v.Overbeeke |
|  | $1 \mathrm{NT}^{*}$ | Pass | Pass |
| $2 \uparrow$ | Pass | $2 \diamond \uparrow$ | Dble |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | $3 \diamond$ | All Pass |

1NT 11-14
2\% Majors
$2 \diamond$ Pick your best one, can be inviting game
Game is lay-down for EW, but it is quite awkward to bid it (tens and nines are decisive here).
After the weak 1NT opening bid, competing to $4 \diamond$ was difficult. $3 \diamond$ scored the obvious ten tricks, +170 .


Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Schollardt | Gierulski | Makura | Skrzypczak |
|  | $1 \diamond$ | Pass | $3 \propto$ |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | Pass | $3 \diamond$ | $4 \diamond$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

## 3\% Diamond support, inviting

Even though you might argue that Skrzypczak played with fire when he went to $4 \diamond$, his decision proved to be a winning one, and how, even though Schollaard and Makura found the way to beat $4 \diamond$.
Vytas had 3 IMPs to lead by one, and they held on to survive a nail biting match by just 1 IMP, and earned the right to face Lavazza in the quarter finals.


The 2016 World Bridge Games have a new format!
The first events, starting on 3rd September, will be the National Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed Teams, with each WBF Member Bridge Organisation being entitled and invited to send a team in each category to compete in these exciting and challenging Championships.
The second week is for the new National Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed Pairs Championships, and for these there is no limit to the number of pairs each NBO may nominate to participate. The pairs events will start on Tuesday 13th September.

More information can be found on the WBF Website: www.worldbridge.org
and on the special website set up for the event at: www.worldbridgegames2016.com
where details of the hotels can be found.
Registration can be done through the website at www.worldbridge.org after 1st April 2016.

The World Bridge Federation and the Polish Bridge Union look forward to welcoming participants from all over the world to enjoy the 2016 World Bridge Games in the magnificent Hala Stulecia in Wroclaw, Poland.

## FMB BAM TROPHY - RESULTS

## RANKING AFTER 36 ROUNDS*




