

2016 Budapest, Hungary

53rd European Bridge Team Championships







16th to 25th June 2016

Editor: Mark Horton Co-Editors: Jos Jacobs, Brian Senior

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Lay-out Editor & Photographer: Francesca Canali

EBL General Assembly

The **EBL General Assembly**

will be held on Friday June 24th at 9.30 on the 3rd floor Room no. 1 in the Groupama Arena.

Agenda: **09.30**

Extraordinary General Assembly 10.00

Ordinary General Assembly Cocktails will follow

EBL President's Press Conference

A European Bridge League Press Conference will be held on Saturday, June 25th at 11.00 a.m. on the third floor Room no. 1 in the Groupama Arena

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As we move inexorably towards the end of the Championships, the opportunities for the teams at the business end of the tables to secure a spot in the 2017 World Championships in Lyon is slowly diminishing.

France still hold sway in the Open, but Sweden have moved into second place, pushing Germany down to third.

In the Women's Championship there was no real change at the top, as France continue to dominate, followed by Poland and England, while in the Seniors Israel's lead over Sweden and Poland is gradually being eroded.

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

TIME TABLE AND BBO SCHEDULE THURSDAY 23RD

10.00:	13.20:	16.00:	18.40:
O/W/S Teams	O/W/S Teams	O/W/S Teams	O Teams
BBO:	BBO:	BBO:	BBO:
HUN - POL (S)			O ICE - NED (O)
O ISR - BUL (S)	● ITA - NED (O)	DEN - POL (W)	SWE - MON (
AUT - DEN (S)	FRA - POL (O)	NOR - IRE (O)	IRE - BUL (O)
WAL - MON (O)	BUL - ENG (O)	POL - ENG (S)	FRA - DEN (C

ON SITE VG + BBO

ICE - GRE (O)

DEN - HUN (O)

BBO ONLY

NED - ISR (W)

SPA - HUN (W)

VOICE + BBO

BEL - FRA (O)

ISR - HUN (O)

















TUR - ISR (O)

HUN - CYP (O)

MATCHES TODAY

LIN			
OPEN R. 27	OPENR. 28	OPENR. 29	OPEN R. 30
ROM SPA	SCO ROM	NED ROM	ROM NOR
UKR ITA	DEN POR	GRE LAT	LAT UKR
NOR LAT	LAT ISR	CZE EST	ITA SPA
IRE BEL	BUL ENG	ENG FIN	SWE MON
WAL MON	MON CYP	RUS ICE	IRE BUL
FAR BUL	BEL CRO	CRO GER	FAR BEL
FRA SCO	ITA NED	CYP SER	FRA DEN
TUR POR	NOR CZE	ISR HUN	TUR ISR
AUT DEN	SPA GRE	DEN SWI	AUT SCO
BLR ISR	UKR EST	POR POL	BLR POR
POL CYP	SWE GER	SCO GEO	POL RUS
SWI CRO	IRE SER	BUL AUT	SWI ENG
HUN RUS	******	MON TUR	HUN CYP
GEO ENG	FAR ICE	BEL FRA	GEO CRO
GER CZE	FRA POL		GER EST
ICE GRE	TUR GEO	NOR IRE	ICE NED
FIN EST		SPA SWE	FIN CZE
SER NED	BLR SWI	UKR FAR	SER GRE
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		3076	







The World Bridge Federation, the BC't Onstein and the Nederlandse Bridge Bond are proud to announce that the

2019 WORLD BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

44th BERMUDA BOWL
22nd VENICE CUP
10th d'ORSI SENIORS TROPHY
12th WORLD TRANSNATIONAL OPEN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

will be held in The Netherlands

and the related Letter of Intent has been signed on 9th June 2016 at MORE Museum in Gorssel, the Netherlands, by the WBF President Gianarrigo Rona, the Chairman of the BC't Onstein Hans Melchers and the Nederlandse Bridge Bond President Koos Vrieze.



From left: Marc De Pauw, Gianarrigo Rona, Mrs. Monique Melchers, Hans Melchers, Koos Vrieze





ADVENTURES WITH OTTLIK

by Mark Horton

SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S PROBLEM

Dealer South.



Q 10 8 6

AKQ5

West	North	East	South
_	_		2◊*
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

 $2 \diamondsuit 3$ suiter 11-15

Play Instructions: $4 \spadesuit$ by West. North leads $\diamondsuit 2$, and dummy plays low. As South, plan the defence.

NEW PROBLEM

♣ 4♡ KJ108♦ Q1086♣ AKQ5

South should realize that his red suit holdings will be threatened soon, possibly as soon as on the third round of trumps, especially if he cashes a club honour, allowing West to ruff away two more clubs (if necessary ruffing high and finessing in trumps). A diamond continuation is mandatory regardless, to knock out an entry, but before, not after, cashing a club. If West has a club loser or two he won't be able to dispose of them. The real danger comes when his heart holding is four to the queen, which is actually the case.

After continuing with a diamond a trick two to the king and ace declarer will lead a low heart from dummy. You must take your king and still must not cash a club. Return a high heart (or a trump) and declarer will not have the entries to be able to execute the squeeze.

Your cashing a club prematurely would help him to shorten his trumps by two ruffs so he can end in dummy with the third round of spades, squeezing you at the same time in the red suits. The point in this defence is perhaps: never make any play without a good reason, or a better purpose than just that of winning a trick quickly.

Dealer West. None	Vul. 3	West 1NT*	North Pass	East 2♣*	South Pass
\Diamond	A 9 6 2	2 ♠	Pass	3♣*	3♦
\Diamond	Q953	4 •••	4♦	5 ♣	5♦
•	8 5 4 3	All Pass			
♠ ♡	A Q 9 8 4 J 3	1NT 12-1 2♣ Stayı 3♣ To p	man		
♦	KJ 10 8 7 6	-	ctions: $5\Diamond$ by ad \Diamond A and a s		ond.

2 7 8 10 11 GO TO PAGE: 1 5 6 **15** 16 **RESULTS** 13 14 17 18 19 **ROSTERS**

LYON - the place to be in August 2017

WORLD BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS from 12th to 25th August 2017 LYON - FRANCE

Its geographic location at the heart of Europe has always made Lyon a place of warmth and cultural exchange. Today, Lyon still passionately cultivates this tradition of hospitality and openness. The French Bridge Federation is pleased to invite you to come and participate in the official events and side games. Come to Lyon and play! Schedule of play for the 2017 World Bridge Teams Championships **Teams Registration** Saturday 12th August Saturday 12th August Captains meeting **Opening Ceremony** Saturday 12th August at 19.00 1st Match Sunday 13th August Round Robin Last Match Saturday 19th August **Round Robin** Captains Meeting (Qualified Teams) Saturday 19th August 20th August Quarter-final Sunday Monday 21st August Transnational Teams 22nd August Semi-final Tuesday Thursday 24th to Saturday 26th Final & Play-Off Prize-giving & Closing ceremony Saturday 26th The Transnational World Championships start on Monday August 21 and there is no clash with the end of the KO phases of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Senior Bowl). Teams eliminated from the Transnationals can compete in the Grand Prix de Lyon 24-25 August, comprising IMPs on the 24th and matchpoints on the 25th. Contestants can compete on one or both days, which means that if you are eliminated in the transnational you can play in the Grand Prix de Lyon - and enjoy a whole week of bridge in Lyon.





D FOR DONATI

by Jan van Cleeff

The Future-of-Bridge-Quiz

With All Vulnerable, the auction is simple: North passes, East 4\$ (natural, preemptive), You 4\$\infty\$, All Pass.

West leads ♦J and dummy comes down:

10987643

K 5

♦ Q 10 9

2

AQ

A 10 9 8 7 4

8

AKQ9

You cover, East wins the king. Next comes ♦A. You ruff with the 10, West pitching a club. Plan the play.

If you, like declarer in real life, smell a rat, you may conclude that trumps are divided 5 (West) – 0 (East). You go on with a sneaky \heartsuit 7, which holds the trick. Yes, East pitches a diamond indeed. Now you cash your three top clubs and ruff the fourth club with the king of trumps. West throws a spade. Then you play $\lozenge 10$, which you ruff with the $\heartsuit 8$. At this point, whatever West does, he is (repeatedly) endplayed. So declarer brlliantly ended up with ten tricks.

This was the full board:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

10987643

KJ2

QJ632

J

8643

♥ K 5

Q 109

2

W

AK765432 J 10 7 5

A Q

A 10 9 8 7 4

S

AKQ9

Giovanni Donati

Quiz

Who was declarer?

A. Geir Helgemo

B. Alfredo Versace

C. Bauke Muller

D. Somebody else

The answer is D., because declarer was Giovanni Donati, the new kid on the block. With 17 years of age, Donati is by far the youngest player at the EC in Budapest. Looking at the hand and also the fact that he plays a lot with the great Alfredo Versace, one may conclude that the future of bridge is secured in the hands of Giovanni, who is making his debut in the Italian Open team. And yes, the hand was published in an earlier Budapest Bulletin, but in that article declarer went down in the same contract. Moreover, $4\heartsuit$ was played 11 times at the EC, but Giovanni Donati was the only player who made it.







NORWAY vs ENGLAND

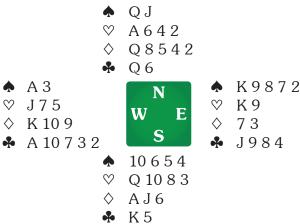
by Mark Horton

I, Claudius is an unfinished 1937 film adaptation of the novels I, Claudius and Claudius the God by Robert Graves. Starring Charles Laughton in the title role, the production was dogged by adverse circumstances, culminating in a car accident involving co-star Merle Oberon that caused filming to be ended before completion. Footage from the production was incorporated into a 1965 documentary on the making of the film, The Epic That Never Was.

It was produced by Sir Alexander Korda, the legendary Hungarian born British film producer and director, the first to receive the honour of a knighthood.

The Round 21 match between England and Norway was not an epic, but it did contain a number of newsworthy deals.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open	Koom
------	------

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Forrester	Lindqvist	Robson
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	$1 \heartsuit^*$	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2♡	All Pass	

1♥ Spades

East led the eight of clubs and West took dummy's king with the ace and returned the three, declarer winning with the queen and playing the jack of spades which gave the defenders the opportunity for a brilliant defence.

West won with the ace and returned the suit, East taking the ace and retuning the nine. If West ruffs this with the seven or jack of hearts then declarer can



overuff and play a heart, but East goes up with the queen and plays a fourth spade, allowing West to score a ruff with whichever remains of the seven/jack and in due course the king of diamonds will be the setting trick.

However, West did not ruff and when he pitched a club declarer ruffed and played a heart to the ten and jack. East returned a diamond and declarer won with dummy's jack, cashed the ace of diamonds, played the queen of hearts to his ace and drew the outstanding trump, conceding a diamond at the end for +110.

To be sure of defeating $2\heartsuit$ the defenders need to find the winning sequence of plays from trick two onwards, as after the club return declarer can always get home by guessing to play a heart to the queen at trick three.

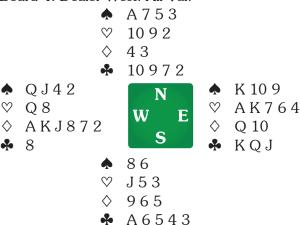
Closed	Room
Ciosea	LIOOIII

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Simonsen	Gold	Berg
_	$1 \diamondsuit$	1	Dble*
Rdbl	2 %	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2 ♠	3♡
All Pass			

When East led a club West took the ace and played two rounds of spades, but his partner went back to clubs and declarer won and played a diamond to the jack and king. West returned the ten of clubs and declarer ruffed and played ace of hearts and a heart. East won and now played a third spade, securing a trick for the jack of hearts, two down, -100 and 5 IMPs for England.



Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



Open Room

- 1			
West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Forrester	Lindqvist	Robson
1♦	Pass	1 %	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	$2 \diamondsuit^*$	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♡*	Pass	5 ♠ *	Pass
5NT	All Pass		

2\$ Forcing

4♣ Cue bid

4NT RKCB

5♥ 2 key cards, no \Diamond Q

5♠ Forces 5NT

Not an everyday sequence, but EW were able to apply the brakes in time. South led the eight of spades and North won and switched to the ten of clubs, +660.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Simonsen	Gold	Berg
$1 \diamondsuit^*$	Pass	1 %	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	$2 \diamondsuit^*$	Pass
3♦	Pass	$4\diamondsuit$	Pass
5♣	Pass	6NT	All Pass

South led the eight of spades and North won with the ace and returned the three, so declarer had twelve tricks.

North's spade return can only be right if East has bid 6NT without the $\bigstar K$ - and I doubt South would lead a spade if he were looking at the king.

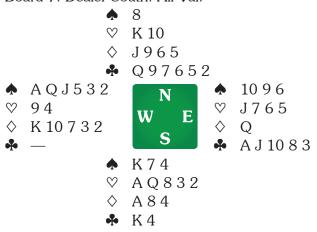
North can see dummy's diamonds and it is hard to imagine the defenders have a trick in that suit. If they have a heart trick coming it is unlikely to run away, but a club trick might.

To be fair, if East had started with

 \bigstar K 10 9 \heartsuit K J 7 6 \diamondsuit Q 10 \bigstar A K Q J then a heart switch would be required.

Whatever you make of that, it cost Norway 13 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Forrester	Lindqvist	Robson
_		_	1NT
2◊*	2NT*	3♣*	3♡
4 ^	All Pass		

2♦ One major 2NT Lebensohl

North led the king of hearts and continued with the ten. North won with the ace and returned the eight and declarer ruffed with the queen and played a diamond for the queen and ace. Back came the queen of hearts and declarer ruffed with the jack, ruffed a diamond, pitched a diamond on the ace of clubs and played the ten of spades, covered by the king and ace. A spade to the nine confirmed the 3-1 split and the contract was two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Simonsen	Gold	Berg
		_	1NT
2◊*	2NT*	3♠	Pass
4 ♠	All Pass		

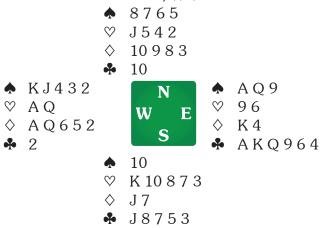
2♦ 5+ ♠ and four plus in a minor 2NT Lebensohl

With East as declarer South had a very awkward hand to lead from. The four of spades saw declarer win in hand, pitch a heart on the ace of clubs and continue with the queen of diamonds. South won and played a second spade, declarer winning with dummy's queen, ruffing a diamond, ruffing a club, cashing the ace of spades and claiming, +620 and 13 IMPs.

 $\spadesuit \heartsuit \diamondsuit \clubsuit$

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		13	14	15		16	17	18	19	R	OSTERS	RES	SULTS

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Forrester	Lindqvist	Robson
_	Pass	2♣*	2NT*
3 ♠	4 \(\dagger^* \)	4 ^	4NT*
Pass	5♦	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	5♡	Dble	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

2♣ Strong, 22+ or tricks (8.5+)

Although the N/S Convention card is silent as to the meaning of 2NT, it looks as if it is an extension of the methods they use over a strong $1\clubsuit$, where they play 1NT promises a major and a minor. When North jumped to $4\diamondsuit$ he clearly implies good support for both majors, so South attempted to muddy the waters still further by bidding 4NT, which prevented West from asking for key cards. However, with a wealth of high cards West was not be denied.

North led the ten of clubs which removed some of declarer's options. He won in dummy, cashed the ace of spades and a second club and took the heart finesse, +2220.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Simonsen	Gold	Berg
	Pass	1♣*	1 %
1 ♠	3♡	4♡*	5♡
5NT	Pass	6 ♣	Pass
6 ♠	All Pass		
6 ♠	All Pass		

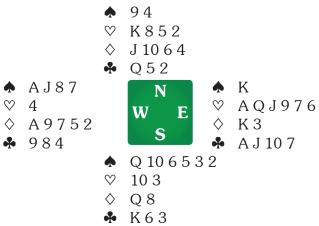
1♣ 5+♣ or 4414 short ◊

11-14 balanced or 18-19 balanced

4♥ Good hand, spade support

When England failed to cope with the intervention it cost them $13\ \text{IMPs}.$

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Forrester	Lindqvist	Robson
_	_	$1 \heartsuit$	1 ♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led the four of hearts and East won with the jack, declarer dropping the ten. To simplify the reporting of this complex deal, which illustrates how difficult it can be to defend low level contracts I will append the expected number of undertricks in brackets as I go along.

East switched to the king of spades (4) and continued with the ace of hearts (4) West discarding the nine of clubs (3). West ruffed the six of hearts (3) cashed the ace of diamonds (3) and played a second diamond (2). Declarer ruffed and played a club to the queen and ace (2) won the club return with the king (2) and exited with a club (3). West's trumps meant three down, -800.

To +1100 West must pitch a diamond at trick three. Then East must switch to the king of diamonds after which West wins the second diamond and switches to a club for the ten and king. West wins the trump exit with the jack, and the defenders then play three rounds of clubs, ensuring two more trump tricks for West.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Simonsen	Gold	Berg
		1 %	1
1NT	Pass	2♠*	Pass
3♦	Pass	3 %	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the nine of spades and declarer won with dummy's king and played the ace of hearts followed by the queen. He took ten tricks, +630 but that was 5 more IMPs for Norway.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

10 KJ104 43 AK10983 K 6 5 2 J843 N 95 AQ876 W KQ108765 9 QJ6 AQ97 3 2 A J 2 7542

Open Room

o pon moom			
West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Forrester	Lindqvist	Robson
_		_	Pass
1♦	2♣	Dble*	2◊*
Pass	3♣	3♡	Dble
3♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

20 Good raise in clubs

North led the king of clubs and declarer ruffed, played a heart to the queen and diamond. South took the ace and returned a club, declarer ruffing and discarding dummy's last club on a diamond.

Best now is to cross to dummy with a heart and play a heart. If South pitches a diamond declarer ruffs, with a spade and must score two more trump tricks, escaping for one down.

When declarer played a diamond North ruffed with the ten of spades and declarer overruffed with dummy's jack, cashed the ace of hearts and played a heart to North's jack. At this point South still held the \$AQ97\$ and they were good for three tricks, two down, -500.

\sim 1	1	D
	osed	Room

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Simonsen	Gold	Berg
	_	_	Pass
Pass	1 ♣	1 %	Dble*
2♣*	Pass*	$2\Diamond$	3♣
3♦	4♣	Pass	5 %
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

2. Diamonds

I'm not sure what information North conveyed with his pass over $2\clubsuit$, but $5\clubsuit$ was a trick too far.

Declarer won the diamond lead with dummy's ace, cashed the top clubs and played a spade to the ace. A heart to the jack saw East win with the queen and cash the queen of clubs. A low heart at this point will lead to two down, but the situation was unclear to East, who exited with a spade. Declarer put in dummy's nine, ruffed West's king and exited with the king of hearts. He could ruff the heart return in dummy and pitch his losing diamond on the queen of spades, one down, -200 and 11 IMPs to England, who won 53-32 an important victory over a dangerous rival.





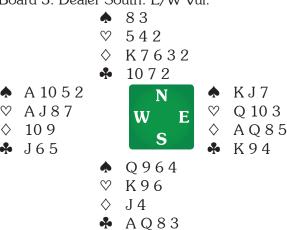
ISRAEL vs MONACO - NETHERLANDS vs IRELAND

by Jos Jacobs

Open Teams, Round 21

Here is another example of a double match-report. This time, it's about round 21 and the report's "victims" are mentioned in the title above.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



Israel v. Monaco

Open Room

West	North	East	South Levin 1♣
Helgemo	Roll	Helness	
Pass 3NT	1♦ All Pass	1NT	Pass

On board three, the Monegasques were not interested in the fact that their opposition had bid and responded, quickly settling for +660 when South led a spade.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Barel	Multon	Zack	Martens
			1NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	$2 \diamondsuit$	Dble	All Pass

Best defence can hold this contract to four tricks and the Israelis started off well when East led a heart. West won cheaply and returned a club to East's nine and dummy's queen. Next came a spade to East's jack. Two more rounds of hearts and then a spade by West to East's king. East played another spade but declarer ruffed and played A and another, putting East on



play with his •K. Had West been able to get the lead at this point with his •J, he could have returned his last spade for a trump promotion but as it was, East had to lead a trump himself. Down three only, Israel +500 and 5 IMPs to Monaco.

Netherlands v. Ireland

In the other match, the Dutch weak NT caused even more serious problems – but for themselves rather than the opponents:

Open Roo	m		
West	North	East	South
Carroll	S Drijver	Garvey	Brink
			1NT
Pass	2♣*	Dble	Pass
Pass	$2\diamondsuit$	Dble	Redbl
Pass	2 %	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	2 ^
Dble	All Pass		

Declarer managed to collect just three tricks in his miserable 4-2 fit. Ireland +1100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Hanlon	Muller	McGann
			1♣
Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1 ^
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2 ♣	2\$	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the replay, the Dutch adopted a wait-and-see policy but once they had seen enough, they settled for a quiet +660. Ireland thus gained 11 IMPs.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 86♡ J53♦ 965♣ A6543

Open Room

- 1	_		
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Roll	Helness	Levin
$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1 %	Pass
1 ^	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
60	Pass	6NT	All Pass

 $2\diamondsuit$ was game-forcing, $3\diamondsuit$ showed at least five in the suit and 4NT was quantitative. This explains why they could reach a slam off two aces. Israel +100 when South led his ace and shifted to spades.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Barel	Multon	Zack	Martens
$1\Diamond$	Pass	1 %	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2♣*	Pass
$2\Diamond$	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	4 \diamondsuit	Pass
5 %	Pass	5♦	All Pass

A well-controlled auction by the Israelis to a better contract. Israel +600 and 12 IMPs to them.

Netherlands v. Ireland

Basically the same problem in the other match:

Open Room

Open Hoon	•		
West	North	East	South
Carroll	S Drijver	Garvey	Brink
$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2♣*	Pass
3♦	Pass	4 \diamondsuit	Pass
5♣	Pass	6NT	All Pass

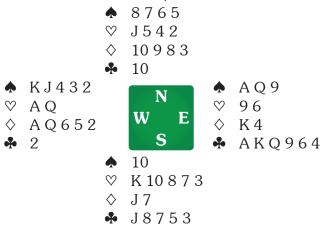
Here as well, South led his A and, upon seeing partner's 10, had an easy spade shift for 10.

Rumours are that in at least one other match, 6NT was let through when South led a spade and North did not find the club shift...

Anyway, 12 IMPs to the Netherlands as well as Tarzan duly landed in $5\diamondsuit$ in the other room.

The next board is presented here mainly as a play problem in $7 \spadesuit$.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



In the Israel v. Monaco match, Barel for Israel played the contract as West and got a heart lead into his tenace. He now had 13 top tricks. Helness as East got a trump lead. He went on to draw trumps and then played for the clubs no worse than 4-2 with the $\Diamond K$ as the entry to the established clubs. When this plan failed, he had to take the heart finesse for his contract.

No swing.

Netherlands v. Ireland

Open Rooi	m		
West	North	East	South
Carroll	S Drijver	Garvey	Brink
	Pass	1 .	2 %
Dble	4♡	5 .	Dble
6NT	All Pass		

Fierce Dutch intervention led the Irish astray so they missed the perfectly good grand slam and thus were due to lose a double-figure swing for their score of +1470.

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Closed Hoolii				
West	North	East	South	
De Wijs	Hanlon	Muller	McGann	
	Pass	1♣	1 %	
2 %	4♡	Pass	Pass	
6♦	Pass	6 ♠	Pass	
7 ^	All Pass			

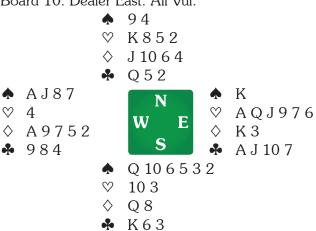
The Dutch Tarzanists were not to be frightened by the fierce Irish intervention and duly arrived at the top spot. Hugh McGann, South for Ireland, then saved his team by leading a low heart. This lead had the effect of removing declarer's final option prematurely.

Of course, Bauke Muller adopted the same line as they did in our other match, but once he decided to go up with the $\heartsuit A$ at trick 1 (a sensible enough move, one would think...), there was no way to recover once the clubs turned out to be 5-1.

So a big swing it was indeed: 17 IMPs to Ireland.

Back to Israel v. Monaco again. On the next board, the Monegasques missed a game – quite a rarity for this pair, I think:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Roll	Helness	Levin
		1 %	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	All Pass

An abundance of tricks for a score of +150 to Monaco.

At the other table, Martens gave the Israelis a chance they did not take full advantage of:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Barel	Multon	Zack	Martens
		1 %	1 ^
1NT	Pass	2 ^	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♡	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Rather than catch Martens speeding, the Israelis settled for a quiet 3NT for a score of +660.

Not that it mattered very much, given the result in the Open Room. Israel 11 IMPs instead of 12.

In the other match, some fireworks were indeed lit:

Netherlands v. Ireland:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Carroll	S Drijver	Garvey	Brink
		1 ♣	1
2♣	Pass	2 %	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♡	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Nothing special here, Ireland +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Hanlon	Muller	McGann
		1♣	1 🛧
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

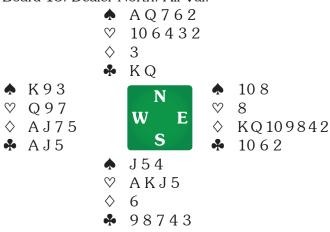
McGann tried to unsettle the Strong Club here but the Dutch showed how to tackle this. Down three on a heart lead to the jack, $\heartsuit A$ and $\diamondsuit K$ and another for a ruff with the $\bigstar K$. The $\bigstar A$ and West's three trump tricks then meant down three, +800 and 5 IMPs back to the Netherlands.





Israel v. Monaco again:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



\bigcirc	nen	R۵	oom
\circ	Dell	1 7	JUIII

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Roll	Helness	Levin
	1 ^	3♦	4
4NT*	Pass	5♦	Dble
All Pass			

This phantom sacrifice was taken at both tables in our other match (Netherlands v. Ireland) and for the Monegasque E/W, it was normal enough to do the same. Israel +500.

Closed Room

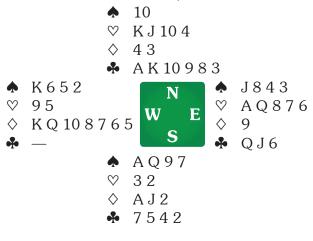
West	North	East	South
Barel	Multon	Zack	Martens
	1 ♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	4 🏟	All Pass	

When Zack timed his non-overcall to perfection; any chance of a sacrifice had vanished, so Israel collected a quiet +100 and 12 IMPs for their efforts.



On the penultimate board, there was no game on for N/S but West's overcall may have created the impression that he was trying to talk N/S out of something. This was especially true in our Netherlands v. Ireland match:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



Open Roon	n		
West	North	East	South
Carroll	S Drijver	Garvey	Brink
			1♣
3♦	Dble	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Not wanting to be talked out of anything, Brink opted for 3NT. West led the ⋄K which held and shifted to a low spade to the ten, jack and Brink's queen. Next came a club, declarer ducking in dummy when West did not follow suit. East won and returned the ♠8 to the nine and West's king. When West continued spades rather than switching to a heart, declarer was suddenly home with five clubs, three spades and a diamond. Netherlands +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
De Wijs	Hanlon	Muller	McGann
			1♣
4♦	5 %	All Pass	

De Wijs' daring overcall made it impossible for NS to reach 3NT so Hanlon opted for the alternative game contract of 5. This contract had to go the obvious down two for another +200 to the Netherlands and a swing of 13 IMPs to them.

The final scores:

Israel v. Monaco: 43-20 or 15.56 – 4.44 V.P. Netherlands v. Ireland: 38-43 or 8.52 – 11.48 V.P.





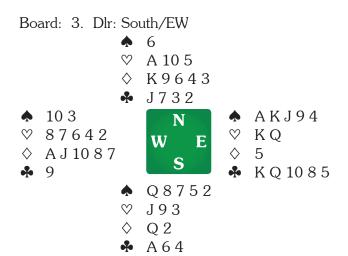
ITALY vs HUNGARY

by Jos Jacobs

Open Teams, Round 23

On Wednesday, the boards apparently had their weekly rest day. After the excitement we already had, I think that quite a number of players greeted the day's opening set with a certain amount of relief, not yet knowing that the second set of the day would again be relatively quiet.

The other side of the coin is, however, that there are fewer good stories to tell. In the Italy v. Hungary match, I spotted just two interesting deals. Here they are.



In the Open Room, Dumbovich doubled Lauria's light opening bid in 3rd position, green v. red. When South passed and West responded 1%, the Italians were out of trouble as E/W calmly bid on to 4.4. Versace was polite enough not to double and the contract quietly went just one off. Italy +100.

In the replay, Szilágyi for Hungary also opened 10 in 3rd position but here, Gandoglia immediately showed his black two-suiter by overcalling $3\diamondsuit$.

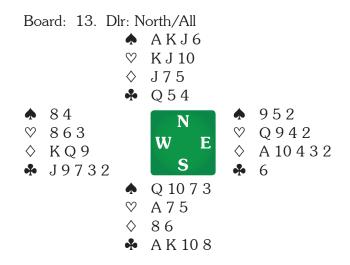
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Szilágyi	Gandoglia	Hegedüs
			Pass
Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$	3♦*	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

When South doubled the final contract, North ran, correctly assuming $3 \spadesuit$ to be made. However, $4 \diamondsuit$

was not a good spot to be in either. Down four, Italy another +800 and 14 IMPs to them.

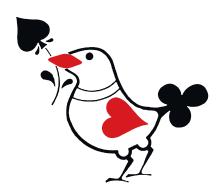
Near the end of the match, Hungary got their revenge when Lauria played maybe a little carelessly:



N/S were in the normal $4 \spadesuit$ with no adverse bidding and East led the \$6 to the eight, nine and declarer's queen. When Lauria next played the $\Diamond J$ to prepare for a ruff in dummy, West won the queen, returned a club, got in again with the $\Diamond K$ and returned another club for an unexpected down one. Hungary +100. Had trumps been 4-1, even two rounds of trumps first might have been one too many already. Also, he could not possibly go down immediately as long as the clubs were not 5-1. So maybe, after all, Lauria was just rather unlucky. As against that if trumps are 3-2 you have ten tricks, and you only need either clubs or hearts to behave if the trumps don't break. That is surely a 90%+ line.

At the other table, South became the declarer in $4 \spadesuit$ and West led the $\Diamond K$. When this held, he continued the suit, ending all declarer's problems. Hungary +650 and 13 IMPs to them.

The final result: 29-18 or 13.04 – 6.96 V.P. to Italy.





Catherine d'Ovidio, Joanna Zochowska, Sylvie Willard, Bénédicte Cronier, Vanessa Reess, Nathalie Frey, Laurent Thuillez (NPC)

No doubt, the French women team is the favorite of the event of the European Bridge Championship in Budapest in June. The bronze medalists of the previous EC won the WC in a memorable battle in India just a little more than half a year ago. Bénédicte Cronier, Vanessa Reess, Sylvie Willard and Joanna Zochowska were both times on the team. It seems that they could even boost the strength of their roster! The "new" members are Catherine d'Ovidio and Nathalie Frey, former World Champions of the French team added to the winners of the Venice Cup last year.

A francia női csapat kétség kívül a versenyszám esélyese a júniusi budapesti bridzs Eb-n. A legutóbbi Eb bronzérmesei alig több mint fél éve nyerték meg emlékezetes csatában a világbajnokságot Indiában. Mindkét alkalommal játszott a csapatban Bénédicte Cronier, Vanessa Reess, Sylvie Willard és Joanna Zochowska. Most úgy tűnik erősíteni tudtak! Az "új" igazolások a csapat korábbi világbajnokai: Catherine d'Ovidio és Nathalie Frey. (A képen a tavalyi Velence-kupa-győztes csapat)



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NORWAY vs POLAND

by David Bird

Open Teams, Round 24

The players took their seats with Norway in 7th position and Poland 12th. There were some big swings immediately.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

107 83

♦ J1086

QJ963

AK54

Α

K 4 3

K 10 7 4 2

N W E S

J 9 2

KJ10654

A 9 2

5

Q863

Q972

Q 7 5

A 8



West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Hoftaniska	Gawrys	Charlsen
	Pass	$2 \diamondsuit^*$	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3◊*	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

 $2\Diamond$ Multi

2NT Forcing relay

Feature

Maximum with hearts

The $\spadesuit 10$ lead was covered by the $\spadesuit J$ and allowed to win. When a club was led, South rose with the A and returned a spade. Klukowski won with the A, cashed the $\heartsuit A$ and crossed to the $\diamondsuit A$. (Four aces on consecutive tricks - very impressive.) After the king and jack of trumps to South's queen, declarer won the diamond return and ditched dummy's diamond loser on the &K. He crossed to dummy with a diamond ruff, drew the last trump and claimed +450.

This did not seem like a swing hand. However...

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Nowosadzki	Lindqvist	Kalita
	Pass	2♡*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3◊*	Pass
4♡	All Pass		
2♡ Weak			
2NT Forcing	I		

Kalita led ace and another club, Lindqvist winning with the $\P K$ and ditching a diamond. After $\heartsuit A$, a diamond to the king and the $\heartsuit J$ to the queen, the play record (disappointingly) ceases. The contract went one down, so I can only conclude that declarer won the diamond return and attempted to reach his hand with a club ruff rather than a diamond ruff. South would then overruff and exit safely with a diamond, leaving declarer with a spade loser unless he guessed well in that suit. That was 11 IMPs away. Eight declarers went down in 4% and nineteen made it.



This was the very next board:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♣ J 10
 ♡ A K 10 8 7 6 4 3
 ♦ Q
 ♣ 7 3
 ♠ A Q 8 7 3

♠ 9642♡ QJ5♦ 6

A 10 8 6 2

W E ♥ 9 ♦ J83 ♣ Q954

♠ K 5♡ 2♦ A K 10 9 7 5 4 2♣ K J

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Hoftaniska	Gawrys	Charlsen
		Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$
Pass	1 %	1	2NT*
4 ♠	5♡	Pass	6♦
All Pass			



2NT showed a game-forcing diamond hand. As you see, $5\diamondsuit$ makes and $5\heartsuit$ does not. I'm reluctant to fault North for rebidding his best heart suit of the tournament. I suppose a Pass would have been forcing and if South then bid $5\diamondsuit$, North might think that he was putting down a reasonable dummy. Similarly, South might have passed $5\heartsuit$, but this would not have affected the result. Klukowski cashed the \clubsuit A and switched to a spade for one down. In the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Nowosadzki	Lindqvist	Kalita
		Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$
Pass	1♡	1 ♠	3♦
3♠	4♡	All Pass	

That was ten tricks and another 12 IMPs to Poland. Both South players found a successful opening lead on this deal:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

032 ♥ Q432 ♦ A 5 2 K98 KJ98754 A 6 AJ109 K 6 W KJ103 763 QJ10 10 875 Q9764 A 5 4 2

The two Easts reached $4 \spadesuit$ - one opening $1 \spadesuit$, the other opening $3 \spadesuit$. What would you lead from the South hand?

Both Souths chose a diamond lead, declarer calling for the $\Diamond K$. North won with the $\Diamond A$ and the defenders claimed two club tricks, followed by a trump trick when the declarers played for the drop. A flat board.

I'm confident that the computer simulations Taf Anthias and I used in 'Winning Suit Contract Leads' would have shown a heart as the best lead. Yes, yes, that would give the contract away here but you have to consider such matters in the round. Had none of these players read this esteemed book?

When I studied the results from the other tables, I found that 34 tables out of 36 had played 4 from the East hand. 17 South players had led a lucky diamond and (that's a relief) 15 had chosen a desperately unlucky heart lead. Ah well.

You've never seen a part-score contract in any article written by me? There's always a first time.

Board 26 Dealer Fast All Vul

Doard 20. Dea	nei L	Last. All vul.
	\spadesuit	10 5
	\Diamond	10 9 8 7 2
	\Diamond	KJ962
	•	9
♠ A97		N ♠ 86
♡ AJ5		W E ♥ 643
♦ 853		\diamond 0.107
♣ J 10 8 7		S AKQ63
	\spadesuit	K Q J 4 3 2
	\Diamond	KQ
	\Diamond	A 4
	•	5 4 2

Open Koom			
West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Hoftaniska	Gawrys	Charlsen
		1 ♣	1 ^
1NT	2♡	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2NT	All Pass

Hoftaniska led the $\spadesuit 10$ and continued the suit, Klukowski winning the second round. An eighth trick did not seem likely but when he ran five rounds of clubs, Charlsen had to find three discards. North had thrown the $\lozenge 2$ (encouraging), the $\lozenge 2$ and the $\lozenge 6$. On the last club Charlsen was down to ♠KQ43 ♥KQ ♦A. Recalling his partner's 2♥ bid, he released the

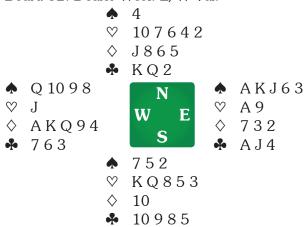


 \heartsuit K and declarer claimed the \heartsuit AJ for the contract.

If South assumes that the $\Diamond 2$ discard indicated the \$\delta K\$, he should keep his heart honours and throw a spade winner. Declarer cannot hold both $\heartsuit A$ and the ♦K because he would then be too strong for his 1NT bid. At the other table East made seven tricks in 1NT for a 1-IMP loss.

You will be relieved to hear that the last board of the match was not a part-score:

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Hoftaniska	Gawrys	Charlsen
$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ^	Pass	2NT*	Pass
4♡*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5 ♣ *	Dble	Pass	Pass
5♡	Pass	6 ♠	All Pass

Gawrys saw the chance of a slam and asked for more information with 2NT. The splinter bid in hearts was very much to his liking. He unleashed RKCB and heard of one key-card. Whether E/W had agreed methods after North's double, I could not say. Anyway, they reached 6 safely and made just 12 tricks when the diamonds failed to split 3-2. Meanwhile, in the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Nowosadzki	Lindqvist	Kalita
$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1 ^	Pass
2	Pass	4	All Pass

Six E/W pairs bid to $7 \spadesuit$, going one down on the 4-1 diamond split. Twenty-one made 6♠ and seven pairs stopped in $4 \spadesuit$. It was a sad end to the match for the powerful Norway team. Poland won by 51 IMPs to 3 (18.97 VPs to 1.03).



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BELGIUM

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BULGARIA

Diyan DANAILOV Vladimir MARASHEV Borislav POPOV Stefan SKORCHEV Jerry STAMATOV Ivan TSONCHEV Vladislav N. ISPORSKI npc

CROATIA

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CYPRUS

Aleka ASTREOU Philippos FRANGOS George GEORGIADES George KOLETTIS Takis POLITIS Frosso TILLYRI Philippos FRANGOS pc

CZECH REPUBLIC

Patrik BOURA Frantisek KRALIK Jan MARTYNEK Petr PULKRAB Jakub SLEMR David VOZABAL David VOZABAL pc

DENMARK

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ESTONIA

Maksim KARPOV Tiit LAANEMAE Vassili LEVENKO Leo LUKS Lauri NABER Sven SESTER Aarne RUMMEL npc

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George ABZIANIDZE Revaz BERIASHVILI Rati BURDIASHVILI Grigol GOGOBERIDZE Gocha GOSHADZE Giorgi UCHAVA

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HUNGARY

Miklos DUMBOVICH Gal HEGEDUS Gyorgy KEMENY Tamas SZALKA Laszlo SZILAGYI Gabor WINKLER Peter TALYIGAS npc Gyorgy SZALAY coach

ICELAND

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LATVIA

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MONACO

Jean Charles ALLAVENA Geir HELGEMO Tor HELNESS Krzysztof MARTENS Franck MULTON Pierre ZIMMERMANN Jean Charles ALLAVENA pc

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Gabriel CARRASCO Gabriel FRACTMAN Federico GODED Gonzalo GODED MERINO Ramon GOMEZ HIERRO Pedro GONCALVES Enrique PINTO POCH npc

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Bachar ABOU CHANAB Stephan MAGNUSSON Dmitrii NIKOLENKOV Fernando PIEDRA Marco SASSELLI Cedric THOMPSON Fernando PIEDRA pc

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Nuri CENGIZ Orhan EKINCI Yusuf KAHYAOGLOU **Enver KOKSOY** Ali UCAR Nafiz ZORLU Mustafa Cem TOKAY npc Dundar CIFTCIOGLU coach

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10 **ROSTERS**



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Victoria GROMOVA Anna GULEVICH Elena KHONICHEVA Tatiana PONOMAREVA Diana RAKHMANI Maria YAKOVLEVA

SAN MARINO

Nadia BRIZI Maria Beatrice GORRA Daniela MALDINI Antonia PECCI Maurizia RITIANI Rossella TANTINI Antonia PECCI pc

SCOTLAND

Michele GLADSTONE Helen KANE Paula LESLIE Elizabeth McGOWAN Sam PUNCH Anne SYMONS Elizabeth McGOWAN pc

SERBIA

Aleksandra DJORDJEVIC Sanja LAZIC Selena PEPIC Milka SABLJIC Biljana TALIJAN Jovana ZORANOVIC

SPAIN

Marta BARNES Marina CASTELLS Laura CASTELLS-CONRADO Margarita F. MENENDEZ M. Eugenia HERNANDEZ Angeles MURUAGA Cristina V. CASTELLS npc Marina D.C.CONRADO coach

SWEDEN

Catharina AHLESVED Pia ANDERSSON Kathrine BERTHEAU Ida GRONKVIST Maria GRONKVIST Cecilia RIMSTEDT Bent-G. OLOFSSON npc Carina WADEMARK coach

TURKEY

Vera ADUT Ozlem OYMEN Funda OZBEY Hatice OZGUR Filiz UYGAN Dilek YAVAS Mustafa Cem TOKAY npc





SENIORS TEAMS ROSTERS

AUSTRIA

Johannes BAMBERGER Robert FRANZEL Jan FUCIK **Hubert OBERMAIR** Franz TERRANEO Sylvia TERRANEO Franz TERRANEO pc Sylvia TERRANEO coach

BELGIUM

Faramarz BIGDELI David JOHNSON Alain KAPLAN Jean-Pierre **LAFOURCADE Guy POLET** Jacques STAS

BULGARIA

VLADIMIR BEREANU Georgi GERGOV Hristo HRISTOV Ludmil LAZAROV Lilo POPLILOV Tony RUSEV Tony RUSEV pc Matilda POPLILOV coach

DENMARK

Knud-Aage BOESGAARD Jorgen HANSEN Hans Christian NIELSEN Dorthe SCHALTZ Peter SCHALTZ Steen SCHOU Peter MAGNUSSEN npc Jytte IBSEN coach

ENGLAND

Patrick COLLINS John HOLLAND David KENDRICK Sandra PENFOLD Norman SELWAY Brian SENIOR Paul D HACKETT npc

ESTONIA

Paul LEIS Jaan LINNAMAGI Peeter LOND Tonis PLEKSEPP Aarne RUMMEL Jaak SIMM Aarne RUMMEL pc

FINLAND

Kari ENGELBARTH Joakim FABRITIUS Seppo NIEMI Osmo PARVIAINEN Matti SIHVOLA Lasse UTTER Lasse UTTER pc Leena BUTZOW coach

FRANCE

Nicholas DECHELETTE Pierre-Yves GUILLAUMIN Georges IONTZEFF Jean-Jacques PALAU Pierre SCHMIDT Philippe TOFFIER Eric GAUTRET npc

GERMANY

Claus DAEHR Berthold ENGEL Loek FRESEN Herbert KLUMPP Reiner MARSAL Waltraud VOGT Joerg FRITSCHE npc

HUNGARY

Peter GAL Sandor JAKAB Gabor KOLTAI Mihaly KOVACS Peter MAGYAR Geza SZAPPANOS Gyorgy BARANY npc

IRELAND

Nicholas FITZGIBBON Gay KEAVENEY Patrick McDEVITT Adam MESBUR Micheal O'BRIAIN Padraig O'BRIAIN David A JACKSON npc

ISRAEL

Meir BERKMAN Avi KALISH Leonid PODGUR Adrian SCHWARTZ Noah TYMIANKER Shalom ZELIGMAN Etan ORENSTEIN npc

ITALY

Andrea BURATTI Amedeo COMELLA Giuseppe FAILLA Aldo MINA Ruggero PULGA Stefano SABBATINI Peter PAUNCZ npc

NETHERLANDS

Nico DOREMANS Willem GOSSCHALK Andre MULDER Chris NIEMEIJER Jaap TROUWBORST Willem VAN EIJCK Chris NIEMEIJER pc

NORWAY

Rune B. ANDERSSEN Tor BAKKE Arve FARSTAD Helge MAESEL Roald MAESEL Peter MARSTRANDER Peter MARSTRANDER pc

Julian KLUKOWSKI Apolinary KOWALSKI Krzysztof LASOCKI Victor MARKOWICZ Jacek ROMANSKI Jerzy RUSSYAN Wlodzimierz WALA npc

PORTUGAL

Jorge C. CASTANHEIRA Jorge CRUZEIRO M. d' OREY CAPUCHO. Joao Paulo Rocha PINTO. Jorge M. Dos SANTOS. Rui Silva SANTOS. Acacio FIGUEIREDO npc Maria Joao LARA coach

ROMANIA

Mihail BALUNA Emil DOGARU Victor MARCULETIU Catalin POPESCU Christian POPESCU Nicolae VARTANOVICI Nicolae VARTANOVICI pc

SCOTLAND

Derek DIAMOND Gerald HAASE John MATHESON John MURDOCH Victor SILVERSTONE Iain SIME Anne PERKINS npc Patricia MATHESON coach Krista P.EDWARDS coach

SERBIA

Miroslav BLAGOJEVIC Milan CVOROVIC Mihajlo FILIPOVIC Slobodan FILIPOVIC Ljubomir MIJOVIC Vladimir STOSIC

SPAIN

Juan ESTERUELAS Aurelio GRACIA Pedro GUERRERO Joao PASSARINHO Antonio S. Y MORENO Gerardo WICHMANN Maria FERRER npc Paloma ANTON coach

SWEDEN

Mats AXDORPH Sven-Ake BJERREGARD Bengt-Erik EFRAIMSSON Per Gunnar ELIASSON Anders MORATH Johnny OSTBERG Tommy GULLBERG npc Carina WADEMARK coach

TURKEY

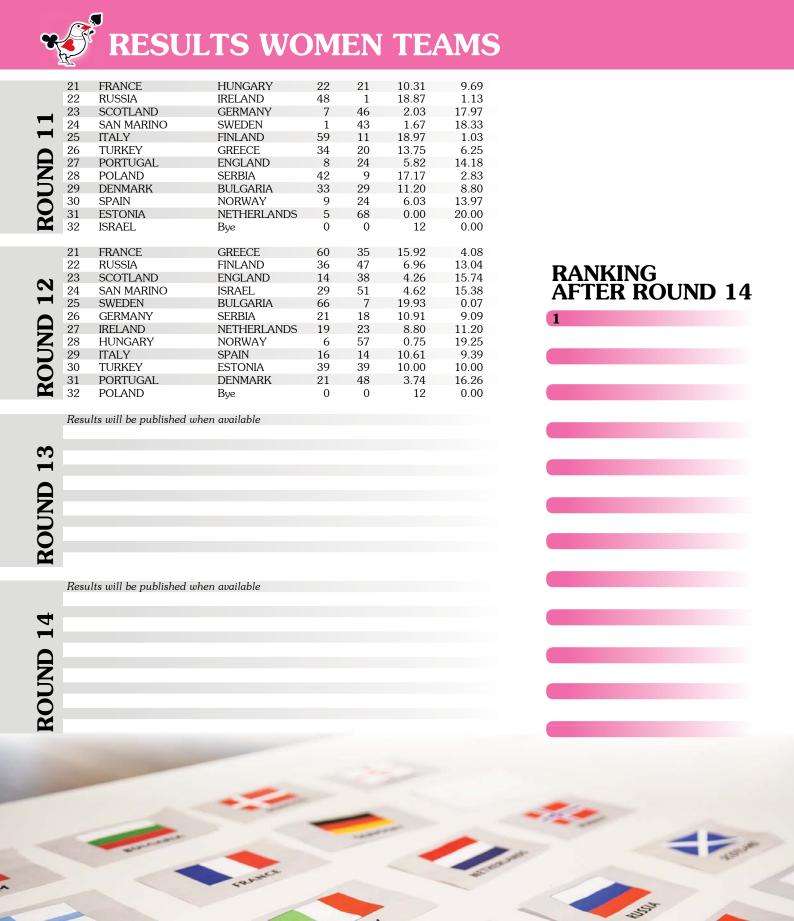
Ibrahim AKSOY Mehmet Ali INCE Mesut KARADENIZ Namik KOKTEN Mehmet SIRIKLIOGLU Veysel YILDIZ Mehmet Emin COPUR npc

WALES

Paul DENNING Diane KURBALIJA Filip KURBALIJA John SALISBURY Patrick SHIELDS Mike TEDD Alan STEPHENSON npc



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ROUND 13

RESULTS SENIORS TEAMS

ROUND 11	41	POLAND	TURKEY	13	14	9.69	10.31
	42	HUNGARY	ESTONIA	25	8	14.39	5.61
	43	ROMANIA	ISRAEL	19	28	7.45	12.55
	44	SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS	10	23	6.48	13.52
	45	SCOTLAND	FINLAND	32	40	7.71	12.29
	46	NORWAY	FRANCE	37	34	10.91	9.09
	47	SPAIN	GERMANY	13	22	7.45	12.55
	48	DENMARK	ITALY	30	24	11.76	8.24
	49	AUSTRIA	WALES	20	16	11.20	8.80
$\overline{}$	50	IRELAND	ENGLAND	33	18	13.97	6.03
\simeq	51	PORTUGAL	BELGIUM	12	25	6.48	13.52
	52	BULGARIA	SERBIA	44	5	17.97	2.03
7	41	SWEDEN	POLAND	13	29	5.82	14.18
	42	SPAIN	HUNGARY	35	29	11.76	8.24
	43	SCOTLAND	ROMANIA	49	30	14.80	5.20
	44	DENMARK	BULGARIA	14	36	4.62	15.38
	45	AUSTRIA	ESTONIA	23	51	3.58	16.42
	46	IRELAND	TURKEY	32	57	4.08	15.92
	47	PORTUGAL	ISRAEL	9	78	0.00	20.00
	48	ENGLAND	FRANCE	12	64	0.66	19.34
	49	BELGIUM	FINLAND	45	33	13.28	6.72
	50	ITALY	NETHERLANDS	19	32	6.48	13.52
ROUND	51	WALES	GERMANY	31	37	8.24	11.76
	52	SERBIA	NORWAY	29	62	2.83	17.17

Results will be published when available

Results will be published when available

RANKING AFTER ROUND 14

