



Israel assumes sole command

Overnight on Friday Russia had shared the lead with Israel. Russia scored a maximum in Round 4, giving them the outright lead mid-day. But they stumbled in Round 5 losing 8-22 to the Netherlands.

Meanwhile Israel had scored 21 against the host nation and 19 against Spain. This was enough to overtake Russia, and stay ahead of Sweden and Norway who both had excellent days.

In Round 4 Sweden beat Spain 23-7, and then the Czech Republic 19-11. Norway, the holders, beat Germany 21-9 and then Poland, on VuGraph, 23-7.

France had a poor day suffering two defeats and have fallen to 11th place.

Of the chasing teams Denmark with 46 VPs and Iceland with 43 VPs made up the most ground.

CONDOLENCE

We express our deep sympathy to Julien Geitner of the French Junior team, whose mother has died. Julien has returned home to be with his family.

Julien has been one of Junior bridge's most active participants, starting with the Junior Camp in 1989 when he was just 13 years old. He was a member of the French team which won the first Schools Championship in Arnhem in 1994.

National Juniors' Officials Congress

The meeting of the National Junior Officials will be held at 10.00 am on Monday 20 July at the Hotel Regina. If your country's NJO is not present at the Championships please do your best to ensure that someone attends the meeting on their behalf. It could be the non-playing captain or some authorized person.

The meeting will be followed by

lunch, to which all NJOs are invited. Also invited are any National Contract Bridge Organization Presidents who are present at the championships. They must inform Anna Gudge if they wish to attend. You will find her in the EBL office that is located at the far end of the corridor, adjacent to the Press Room facility.

Today

Program, Results, Standings	2
Second Thoughts	3
<i>by Barry Rigal</i>	
Match of the Day	4-7
<i>Greece v. Iceland</i>	
Extra Large	7
<i>by Maurits van der Vlugt</i>	
Homepage	8
<i>von Fritz Babsch</i>	
Russia 'Steppes' on Hungary	9-10

MEALTIME

Please note what is free with a ticket at lunch and dinner at the Naschmarkt, and what must be paid for:

LUNCH TICKET, entitles you to:

- 1 starter & 1 main course
- 1 glass of drink (find near till)
- 1 bottle of water per table (on the table)

If you have anything extra you must pay for it. A glass of soft drink is 10 schillings.

DINNER TICKET, entitles you to:

- 1 main course & 1 sweet
- 1 glass of drink (find near till)
- 1 bottle of water per table (on the table)

Anything extra must be paid for.

Dress Code

The Organizers ask everyone coming to the Rathaus - not only the players! - to observe a reasonable standard of dress.

Please wear shoes!

Achtung!

Sie finden den Artikel in deutscher Sprache auf Seite 8.

Juniors

Results

Round 4

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
Italy	Yugoslavia	52-65	12-18
Iceland	Greece	88-16	25- 2
Hungary	Russia	19-80	3-25
Poland	Denmark	14-90	1-25
Turkey	Czech Republic	83-48	22- 8
Austria	Israel	38-66	9-21
Spain	Sweden	19-58	7-23
Norway	Germany	67-39	21- 9
Croatia	The Netherlands	35-43	14-16
Great Britain	France	72-35	23- 7
Finland	Belarus	45-79	8-22

Round 5

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
Yugoslavia	Austria	45-29	18-12
Sweden	Czech Republic	47-29	19-11
Poland	Norway	23-62	7-23
The Netherlands	Russia	49-17	22- 8
Iceland	Great Britain	49-34	18-12
Belarus	Italy	9-55	6-24
Greece	Finland	26-77	5-25
France	Hungary	26-38	13-17
Denmark	Croatia	72-43	21- 9
Germany	Turkey	16-57	7-23
Israel	Spain	67-46	19-11

Program

Sunday 19, 15:00

Round 6

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1.	Czech Republic	Yugoslavia
2.	Austria	Poland
3.	Russia	Sweden
4.	Norway	Iceland
5.	Italy	The Netherlands
6.	Great Britain	Greece
7.	Hungary	Belarus
8.	Finland	Denmark
9.	Turkey	France
10.	Croatia	Israel
11.	Spain	Germany

Sunday 19, 20:30

Round 7

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1.	Yugoslavia	Iceland
2.	Russia	Italy
3.	Greece	Poland
4.	Czech Republic	Hungary
5.	Denmark	Austria
6.	Sweden	Turkey
7.	Israel	Norway
8.	The Netherlands	Spain
9.	Germany	Great Britain
10.	Belarus	Croatia
11.	France	Finland

Standings

After Round 5

1.	Israel	103
2.	Sweden	98
3.	Norway	97
4.	Russia	96
5.	The Netherlands	92
6.	Iceland	90
7.	Belarus	89
8.	Turkey	86
9.	Denmark	85
10.	Italy	84
11.	France	72
12.	Finland	71
13.	Great Britain	71
14.	Austria	69
15.	Yugoslavia	64
16.	Czech Republic	59
17.	Germany	58
18.	Hungary	56
19.	Poland	52
20.	Greece	50
21.	Croatia	50
22.	Spain	44

CORRECTION

The miscreant who supplied us with information that the first five teams would qualify for the World Junior Championship has been disposed off. That possibility only arises if the championships are staged in Europe and the host nation finishes in the first four here.

So, make sure you don't come fifth!

Today's Vugraph



15:00

Round 6

Turkey - France

20:30

Round 7

Russia - Italy

Second Thoughts

by Barry Rigal

The Netherlands - Hungary match in Round 3 produced two further delicacies, one missed by the commentators (No change there!) and one mis-analysed. Par for the course I suppose.

Dealer North. Game All

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

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

The play in Two Spades doubled was given a rather cursory summary. On a club lead declarer should rise with the ace to ruff a heart and then play a diamond. This way eight tricks are assured when the diamonds split.

After the opening lead was ducked West should return the suit after winning with the ♣K. When East gets in with the ace of diamonds he cashes his club winner to let West pitch his third diamond. Now West can overruff the third diamond and force declarer with another heart to beat the hand. Declarer only scores five trump tricks, a club and a diamond.

The other hand featured a fine defence by Van Prooijen.

Dealer East. N/S Game

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

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

The Turkish Captain Enves Koksoy reported it. Winkler-Trenka reached 4♠ after East had opened the bidding. On a club lead to the ace, Van Prooijen shifted unerringly to a heart into the jaws of dummy's ace, queen,

the only play to beat the hand.

Imagine a club continuation. Declarer covers and ruffs in dummy, plays ♦A and ruffs a diamond. He cashes the ♠AK and plays a heart to the queen, leaving this ending:

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

♠ -	♠ 9 7 6
♥ K 7	♥ 10 8
♦ -	♦ -
♣ K 7 6 4	♣ Q 8

Declarer now ruffs a diamond, plays a heart to the ace and leads a diamond. North can ruff for the defence's second trick, but they will only get one more club trick. Contract made!

(Ed: And an overtrick if East clears the trump as North has no club to play.)

The Dream Appeal

The Appeals Committee Chairman Steen Møller was returning to his hotel late last night when he failed to observe an oncoming tram. The collision was immediately fatal and he soon found himself playing in the heavenly duplicate.

Even in the highest game the odd hesitation occurs! The tournament director was summoned and gave his ruling. Steen indicated his wish to appeal and at the end of the session he found himself seated in front of the Celestial Appeals Committee.

The Chairman made his opening statement:

'Allow me to introduce my fellow committee members. On my left our expert on technical matters such as bidding, play and defence, Terence Reese. On my right the expert on the Laws, Edgar Kaplan. I of course am God. Now, what do you want to say?'

'Well I think you're sitting in my seat!'

And then he woke up!

Match Of The Day

Juniors, Round 4: Greece - Iceland

The two countries which give computers restricted by space the worst problem with names, met on Vugraph in Round 4. Here is our short hand notation for the eight players:

Dimitris Konstantopoulos.....**Top**
 Sigurbjorn Haraldsson.....**Bjorn**
 Dimitris Argyrou.....**Argy**
 Stefan Johannsson.....**Stefan**
 Aron Thorfinsson.....**Aron**
 Errikos Synodinos.....**Erik**
 Snorri Karlsson.....**Snorri**
 Nikos Tzinieris.....**Nikos**

Greece had a couple of minor gains on the first two boards, but then Iceland began a remarkable run:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Game.

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

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

VuGraph

West	North	East	South
Top	Bjorn	Argy	Stefan
Pass	2NT	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♦
All Pass			4♥

2NT was Jacoby, Game with heart support
 3♦ showed shortage

Closed

West	North	East	South
Aron	Erik	Snorri	Nikos
Pass	3♠	Dble	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

3♠ was a splinter

4NT was Roman Keycard Blackwood

5♥ showed 2 of 5 aces and no queen of trumps

Against South's Six Hearts, West led a spade. Declarer won, drew trumps, and led a club to the ace to finish his chances. The swing was 11 IMPs to Iceland.

Board 4. Dealer West. Game All.

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

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

Vugraph

West	North	East	South
Top	Bjorn	Argy	Stefan
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♦
Dble	3♦	All Pass	

Closed

West	North	East	South
Aron	Erik	Snorri	Nikos
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♦
Dble	2♦	2♠	3♦
4♦	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Both Easts opened One Club third in hand. (Note how four card majors would solve the problem of finding the spade fit at once.) When South overcalled 1♦ West had a choice between bidding his spades and doubling to show both majors. With five spades and four hearts, and a passed hand, we think it is right to bid 1♠, planning to bid hearts later, even at the three level. If we had four spades and five hearts then we would prefer the double. However, both Wests preferred double.

Then came the key difference, Bjorn's raise to 3♦ ended matters, whereas the raise to 2♦ allowed East-West to find their spade fit. Three Diamonds went two off.

Against Snorri's 4♠ South led a top diamond and then switched to the heart queen. Declarer guessed correctly to put on the ace. He then ran the jack of trumps. A second heart cleared up that position and later, after drawing trumps, declarer guessed the clubs to make 11 tricks. 10 IMPs to Iceland.

Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day

trumps from dummy. This works well with any 2-2 trump break, as you can afford to take a second club ruff with the ace, return with the ace of spades to draw trumps with the jack, and then run the spades. It also works when the ten of hearts is singleton. In practice North won the king of trumps and had nothing dangerous to play. So declarer made 11 tricks and Iceland gained a further 8 IMPs to lead.

Board 7 was 1♠-1 at both tables. The next board was also flat but of interest in the play:

Board 8. Dealer West. Love all.

♠ K 8 4 ♥ K J 5 ♦ 9 8 7 4 ♣ J 8 5	♠ Q J 6 3 ♥ 10 9 ♦ J 6 2 ♣ A Q 9 7 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">N</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">W</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">E</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">S</div> </div>	♠ A 9 ♥ A Q 7 4 3 2 ♦ A Q 3 ♣ 10 2	♠ 10 7 5 2 ♥ 8 6 ♦ K 10 5 ♣ K 6 4 3
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VuGraph

West	North	East	South
<i>Top</i>	<i>Bjorn</i>	<i>Argy</i>	<i>Stefan</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Closed

West	North	East	South
<i>Aron</i>	<i>Erik</i>	<i>Snorri</i>	<i>Nikos</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Dble	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Both tables reached Four Hearts by East. On VuGraph South led a club. If North either switches to a diamond at once, or cashes a couple of clubs and then plays through a diamond, the contract stands no chance. However, after winning the queen of clubs at trick one, North played a low club to South and a third club was ruffed by declarer. Now there is a winning line for declarer, who started perfectly by eliminating the spades. If he had then drawn trumps ending in dummy and ran the nine of diamonds, South would have been endplayed. However, declarer erred by cashing the ace of diamonds first, and he had to lose two diamonds.

In the Closed Room there was a spade lead taken by the king. Declarer cleverly played a club from the dummy, and when North put up the ace, he dropped

the ten, no doubt with the aim of deception. North played another spade, to declarer's ace, but on the next club declarer had reason to regret dropping the ten. North won the second club with the nine and even a trump lead beats it, as declarer needs two entries to ruff his black cards, and cannot get back to dummy to run the diamond.

But just suppose East had kept his apparently worthless ten of clubs. Then on the second club North has to win with the queen and unless he plays a diamond, declarer is home, he uses one trump entry to ruff the spade, and the other to lead a third club. As North cannot beat the jack, East can discard a diamond and endplay South.

Greece had a chance to recover some of the deficit on this fascinating slam from the second half of the match:

Board 14. Dealer East. Love all.

♠ J 7 2 ♥ J 4 3 ♦ Q 6 5 4 ♣ A 8 4	♠ K 9 6 5 ♥ K ♦ A K 10 7 2 ♣ K J 6 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">N</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">W</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">E</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">S</div> </div>	♠ 10 8 ♥ Q 9 8 5 2 ♦ J 8 ♣ 9 7 3 2	♠ A Q 4 3 ♥ A 10 7 6 ♦ 9 3 ♣ Q 10 5
--	--	---	--

VuGraph

West	North	East	South
<i>Top</i>	<i>Bjorn</i>	<i>Argy</i>	<i>Stefan</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Closed

West	North	East	South
<i>Aron</i>	<i>Erik</i>	<i>Snorri</i>	<i>Nikos</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Iceland stopped in a safe Four Spades but made 12 tricks. At the Closed Table Erik was in Six on a heart lead. How do you think he should play the slam?

There are basically two different lines worth considering, namely ruffing diamonds in the dummy, or

Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day

ruffing hearts in the North hand. Consider ruffing hearts first. You need two entries to the South hand to obtain the ruffs, and a third to get back to draw the last trump. One of the entries will be by crossing with a trump, but where are the other two? Suppose you lead ♠K at trick two, and that is taken by the defence. Then dummy has two more club entries and your problem is solved. But if the club king is allowed to hold, as any good defender sitting West should, then life is much more difficult. First you may run into a club ruff when you play the suit again, and secondly your extra entry now has to come from ruffing the third diamond, which is also a source of danger.

We have no idea whether Erik went through all this logic, but after considerable thought he decided to try the other line, namely ruffing diamonds. Life will be easy if the suit is 3-3, but what if it is 4-2? Then you need two ruffs. You can either hope to over-ruff if East ruffs in, or draw two rounds of trumps and hope the defender with a doubleton diamond has a doubleton trump as well. This is a much more straightforward chance, so, though some disagreed with Erik's start, I thought it was sensible.

He won the heart lead, drew two rounds of trumps with the ace and queen, and then switched to diamonds. He was able to ruff the third diamond, and East clearly had not got the third trump.

The happiness declarer felt at this turn meant he took his eye off the ball. He played a club next. That would have been alright if East held the ace of clubs, or a sleepy West. But not against the wideawake West. Aron popped up with the ace, and removed dummy's last trump, defeating the slam.

Declarer had had a blind spot. After ruffing the third diamond he should have ruffed a low heart and ruffed a fourth diamond. Now it is safe to play a club. You have a sure club entry back to hand to draw the last trump, and the ace of hearts still stands guard against any heart force.

This was the final bitter blow for Greece. Instead of gaining 11 IMPs they had lost the same amount. The match was out of reach. Iceland won by 88-16, or 25-2 in Victory Points.

Austrian Media Coverage

The Austrian daily newspaper 'Der Standard' is free to everyone attending the Championships. They are covering events on a daily basis. You can pick up your copy at the Hospitality Desk.

In the hospitality room you can take a look at copies of the various articles on the tournament that are appearing in the Austrian press.

Extra Large

by Maurits van der Vlugt,
The Netherlands

On Friday afternoon the VuGraph match was between Hungary and The Netherlands. Gábor Winkler for Hungary is surely the biggest player of the championships, in the literal sense of the word. He showed not to be afraid of some self-mockery as he gave the VuGraph crowd a full view of his black T-shirt with the words "Mister XL" on it in very large print. Gábor showed that the XL does not only apply to his figure however:

Dealer North. E/W Game

♠ 4 3 ♥ K 2 ♦ 9 8 5 3 ♣ J 7 6 4 3	♠ Q 9 7 6 ♥ J 6 5 4 ♦ Q 7 6 ♣ 10 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="background-color: black; color: white; text-align: center;"> </td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 5 ♥ A 10 7 3 ♦ J 10 ♣ A K Q 9 8
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ A K 10 8 2 ♥ Q 9 8 ♦ A K 4 2 ♣ 5											

Surprisingly the bidding was identical in both rooms:

West	North	East	South
	2♦	Dble	4♠

All Pass

North showing a weak (sic) hand with both majors and South bidding the obvious game. In the closed room, Schelte Wijma for the Netherlands quickly took care of this contract by leading the king of hearts, resulting in a swift one off.

On VuGraph, West, Péter Trenka, decided to go passive and led a trump. After two rounds of those declarer, Simon de Wijs, took his extra chance by playing three rounds of diamonds. If these break a club is discarded on the thirteenth diamond and South exists in clubs to leave opponents to open up the heart suit. As it was, the diamonds did not break and declarer was left to his own devices to tackle the hearts. But not for long. On the third round of diamonds Gábor Winkler gave an Extra Large signal, discarding the ♥10! This did not disturb the Dutch declarer too much, and although he probably would have guessed the heart position anyway with the help of East's take out double, he gratefully added 10 Extra Large IMPs to his scoresheet. After which The Netherlands went on to win the match 21-9.

Homepage

von Fritz Babsch

Super - Yarborough.

In der zweiten Runde gab es einen "Super-Yarborough", also ein Blatt, das nicht einmal einen Neuner enthielt, sondern nur drei Achter. Es ist verständlich, daß der Partner schon beim Ausspiel im Spielzwang war; denn er hatte leider keine Sequenzen.

Wie häufig sind so erschütternd schwache Blätter?

Der "echte" Yarborough, also ein Blatt ohne Figur (Figur ist auch ein Zehner) kommt theoretisch einmal in etwas mehr als 1800 Austeilungen vor. Ein Blatt ohne Neuner gibt es nur einmal in 17 000 Blättern! Die Spieler, die dieses Blatt gestern hielten, werden wohl einige Zeit warten müssen, ehe sie wieder ein solches Blatt halten!

Freake Austeilungen - hoher Umsatz!

Schon die ersten Runden zeigten einen gewissen Zusammenhang zwischen der Art der Austeilungen und dem Umsatz an IMPs.

Die erste Runde verlief am Bridgerama zwar sehr spannend, die Austeilungen waren aber keineswegs wild. Es gab wesentlich mehr Blätter ohne Fünfer- oder längere Farbe, als es der Wahrscheinlichkeit entspricht, und zwar auf Kosten der Fünferfarben, die Sechser- und längeren Farben lagen in der Norm, bei den Singletons gab es ein deutliches Defizit. Trotzdem wurden insgesamt 1201 IMPs umgesetzt, 109 pro Match. Wer meint, das sei viel, möge die dritte Runde betrachten! In dieser wurden nämlich 1317 IMPs umgesetzt, was 120 IMPs pro Match entspricht. Tatsächlich war dieser Satz von Boards wild. Es gab wesentlich mehr Langfarben, als es der Wahrscheinlichkeit entspricht, dafür wesentlich weniger Viererfarben; die Zahl der kurzen Farben war deutlich erhöht. Hingegen war die zweite Runde "zahn". Nicht nur, daß die Zuschauer die Austeilungen als "fad" empfanden; die Zahl der kurzen Farben war zwar fast exakt in der "Norm", es gab aber zu viele Viererfarben, und zwar auf Kosten der Langfarben. Und siehe da! Der Umsatz fiel ziemlich deutlich auf 971 IMPs, nur mehr 88 IMPs pro Match. Wenn hier von "kurzen Farben" gesprochen wird, so sind Singletons und Chicane gemeint; unter "Langfarben" verstehe ich Sechser- oder längere Farben.

In diesem Zusammenhang wieder einmal ein Wort zu Computer-Austeilungen, die immer wieder kritisiert werden. Dazu ist nur eines zu sagen, nämlich daß solche Austeilungen der Theorie entsprechen, wenn das Programm ordentlich ist. Untersuchungen haben gezeigt, daß handgeteilte Austeilungen in keiner Weise der Theorie entsprechen, es sei denn, es wird darauf geachtet, daß ordentlich gemischt wird. Nach einer britischen Untersuchung muß man siebenmal "schneiden", um eine "ordentliche" Austeilung zu erhalten. Im Hausturnier ist das meistens nicht der Fall, die Hände werden zu ausgeglichen. Dem Spieler aus dem Hausturnier erscheinen dann die Hände im Großturnier als Monster.

Da in einem Turnier nur etwa 30 Hände gespielt werden, kommen größere Abweichungen häufig vor. Die Wahrscheinlichkeitsrechnung geht von "großen Zahlen" aus; nach meiner Erfahrung "paßt" die Wahrscheinlichkeit schon sehr gut,

wenn man 500 Austeilungen untersucht. Man kann sofort erkennen, wenn die Austeilungen "geputzt" wurden, was gelegentlich gemacht wird. Manche Veranstalter nehmen die ganz wilden Austeilungen heraus (dann gibt es zu wenig Langfarben, aber auch zu wenig Kürzen!), andere entfernen "Partien, die durchgepaßt werden könnten". In diesem Fall gibt es dann zu wenig Viererfarben. Jegliche Manipulation dieser Art ist in meinen Augen unzulässig und grenzt an Betrug. Bei Computerhänden stimmt im allgemeinen auch die Wahrscheinlichkeit bezüglich ausstehender Karten, das heißt, der 3 - 2 - Stand wird im "long run" in 68 % aller Fälle auftreten. Bei handgemischten Partien ist das meistens nicht der Fall, weil viel zu oft schlecht oder gar nicht gemischt wird.

Nach der Theorie sollte es bei der EM in einem Match 28 Blätter mit 4-4-4-1, 4-4-3-2 oder 4-3-3-3 geben; 35 Blätter sollten eine oder zwei Fünferfarben enthalten, und 17 Blätter mindestens eine Sechserfarbe. Vier Blätter sollten ein Chicane enthalten, 24 Blätter mindestens ein Singleton. Nach drei Runden zeigen die Austeilungen kaum Abweichungen von der Theorie. Bei den etwas "wildem" Händen in der dritten Runde war der Stand sogar eher freundlich, außer bei sechs fehlenden Karten: Hier gab es relativ oft einen 5 - 1 - Stand. Es gab aber sehr häufig einen 3 - 2 - Stand (86 %) und einen 2 - 2 - Stand (47 %).

In der vierten Runde wurden 1151 IMPs umgesetzt, fast 105 pro Match. Die Austeilungen waren eher auf der zahmen Seite, trotzdem gab es fast lauter hohe Resultate. Unter den Verlierern befanden sich nicht nur die Österreicher, sondern auch unsere Nachbarn, nämlich die Italiener, die Ungarn, die Tschechen, die Polen und die Deutschen. Kein guter Tag für Mitteleuropa...

Dem Mutigen gehört die Welt!

Nach einer Hochansage muß immer jener Spieler der Gegenseite aktiv werden, der kurz in der Gegnerfarbe ist.

Ein gutes Beispiel war Hand Nr. 18 aus der vierten Runde. Nach 3 Herz - pass - 4 Herz - pass - pass sollte man mit A D 10 9 7 2 , 2 , 9 8 4 3 , 10 9 auch bei ungünstiger Gefahrenlage 4 Pik ansagen. Denken Sie immer an das Motto von Marty Bergen : "POINTS, SCHMOINTS"!

Dieses Motto gilt nicht nur nach Hochansagen, sondern auch dann, wenn der Gegner auf Einerstufe eröffnet hat. Je kürzer man in der Gegnerfarbe ist, desto schwächer an Hochkarten kann ein Blatt sein.

Einzelwertung.

Die Einzelwertung nach vier Runden zeigt, daß die Russen und Weißrussen das Feld deshalb anführen, weil sie ein sehr gutes und ein gutes Paar haben. An der Spitze findet man die Russen Doubinine/Krasnosselsk, gefolgt von den Weißrussen Khadjiantz/Zenko. Die Russen haben pro Board 1,68 IMPs gewonnen, die Weißrussen 1,62. Bester Österreicher ist Andreas Gloyer auf Platz 29 mit 0,68 IMPs pro Board. Insgesamt umfaßt die Liste 128 Spieler. Die Einzelwertung ist eine Butlerwertung: Jeder Spieler wird mit dem Mittelwert jeder Partie verglichen. Sie verriät noch ein kleines Geheimnis: Bisher haben nur die Österreicher ihre Paare geändert.

Russia 'Steppes' on Hungary

We managed to catch the tail end of this round four encounter, the result of which saw Russia take an undisputed lead in the Championships.

Dealer East. E/W Game

♠ K 6 3 ♥ A 10 ♦ A Q 10 7 6 5 ♣ 5 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> </table>		N		W	S	E	♠ J 4 ♥ K 9 8 7 5 4 3 ♦ 2 ♣ Q 6 4
	N							
W	S	E						
♠ 8 5 ♥ Q J 6 ♦ K J ♣ A K J 8 7 2	♠ A Q 10 9 7 2 ♥ 2 ♦ 9 8 4 3 ♣ 10 9							

In the Open Room East opened with Three Hearts. Do you think South should bid Three Spades now? One view is that you can afford to be cautious when the opponents open at the three level, but should be more aggressive if they start with a four level bid. Whatever, South passed and West's raise to game was followed by three passes.



Gál Hegedüs - Hungary

South should certainly have bid Four Spades at his last turn but at least the possibility of any defensive misunderstanding was avoided when the opening lead selected was the nine of diamonds. North tried to cash two tricks in the suit, so it was easy to switch to spades when he came in with the ace of hearts.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tichy	Matouchko	Hegedüs	Lobov
Pass	Dble	4♥	Pass
All Pass		Pass	4♠

We know that the phrase 'Bulls Blood' is often associated with Hungary and judging by his bold opening bid maybe that is what Gál Hegedüs has flowing through his veins!

Rightly or wrongly we would have bid Four Spades now, but South's actual choice worked well when his partner doubled and he was allowed to buy the hand in that contract.

The net result was eleven IMPs to Russia.

This is the sort of deal that tends to produce lots of stories. Maurits van der Vlugt of the Netherlands reports on the happenings in the match he was watching.

Closed

West	North	East	South
Grahec	Van Prooijen	Jurisc	De Wijs
4♥	Dble	3♥	Pass
All Pass		Pass	4♠

Ricco van Prooijen did well to double 4♥, which led to 4♠ making 12 tricks on a heart lead. Not a bad result as at several tables East-West was allowed to play in hearts. However, Croatia took a different view with the North-South cards.

Open

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Pilipovic	Lagâs	Sasek
4♥	5♦	3♥	Pass
Dble	All Pass	Pass	6♦

Marina Pilopovic took a rather unilateral view with the North cards, but luckily caught South with a suitable hand for diamonds. So suitable that Sasek boldly raised to slam. West doubled and now the spotlight was on East, Marcel Lagâs. The double can hardly be based on heart tricks and must be suggesting something else.

In the absence of any length in his hand it is unlikely that partner is going to ruff anything, so West may well have cashing tricks in a side suit.

Which suit to lead?

Dummy, having passed over 3♥, is likely to come down with a diamond fit and a running side suit. Looking at the quality of the black suits, the side suit is more likely to be spades, which would mean a club must be led. On the other hand however, with spades instead of clubs, West might have bid 3♠ over 3♥. (A very minor inference, as there are many hands where West could not risk partner raising to Four Spades when his side belongs in hearts. Certainly a difficult problem, which Lagâs unsolved by leading an uninspired heart. Thirteen tricks meant 1740

"Russia 'steppes' on Hungary" continued on the next page

"Russia 'steppes' on Hungary" continued from the previous page

points and 14 imps to Croatia, where a club lead would have netted the Dutch 13 imps. Luckily the match was still won, so the Dutch got at least some revenge for the 2-1 defeat suffered recently in Paris.



Marina Pilipovic - Croatia

Returning to our featured match, the next deal saw more aggressive bidding at both tables.

Dealer South. E/W Game

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

	♠ Q 8 4	
	♥ 7 6 4 2	
	♦ 7 2	
	♣ 8 4 3 2	

	♠	N		E
	W			
		S		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Doubinine	Winkler	Krasnosselski	Trenka
INT	2NT	Dble	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Three Diamonds clearly invited West to bid a major and Four Diamonds clearly invited East to bid a major. The result of all this fancy footwork was that the Russians were simply too high. Why North should have imaged his side had more than the three likely defensive tricks he could see is a mystery to us, but his partner had just enough to save him.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tichy	Matouchko	Hegedüs	Lobov
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♥	4♣	Dble	All Pass

North was no doubt certain that his Four Club bid promised diamonds as well, but perhaps 3NT is a safer way of doing that, assuming that you feel the need to bid.

Once again a 'hair trigger' double paid off and Hungary collected 7 IMPs.

Dealer West. Game All

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

♠ J 9 5		
♥ K 10 4		
♦ Q 9 7 3		
♣ K J 5		

	♠	N		E
	W			
		S		

♠ Q 7	
♥ 3 2	
♦ A J 8 6 2	
♣ A Q 9 6	

In the Open Room East-West remained silent and South became declarer in 3NT. West did well to lead a spade, but selected the five that was covered by the king and ace. East returned a spade and West dropped the jack under the queen. Crossing to dummy with the king of diamonds, declarer played a club to the queen and king. The spades were blocked but there was still no way for declarer to emerge with more than eight tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tichy	Matouchko	Hegedüs	Lobov
Pass	1♥	2♠	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

In the good old days South would have doubled Two Spades for penalties and collected a juicy penalty, but in this era he had to move his side towards the same doomed game.

East led a spade for the seven, jack and king and declarer took the same line in clubs as his opposite number. Winning with the king, West carelessly returned the five of spades and East ducked in tempo! A surprised declarer came to hand with the king of diamonds and hopefully played a club. His hopes were dashed when East showed out electing to discard the eight of spades! Not to worry, West still played back her remaining spade and that was another flat board.