

Issue No. 12

Saturday 23rd June 2012

THE ROAD TO BALI



For the first time, Monaco, represented by Fulvio Fantoni, Claudio Nunes, Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Franck Multon, Pierre Zimmermann (Jean Charles Allavena npc, Krzysztof Martens, coach) are European Bridge Team Champions. The Netherlands, Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Bauke Muller, Ricco van Prooijen, Louk Verhees Jr, Simon de Wijs (Eric Laurant npc, Ton Bakkeren coach) took silver, and Italy, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria, Agustin Madala, Antonio Sementa, Alfredo Versace (Maria Teresa Lavazza npc, Massimo Ortensi, coach) the bronze. England, Poland & Germany will join them in the Bermuda Bowl.

Monaco winners of the Gold Medal in the Open Series

They won in Poznan, Veldhoven and now they are Senior European Teams Champions, **France**, Patrick Grenthe, Guy Lasserre, François Leenhardt, Patrice Piganeau, Philippe Poizat, Philippe Vanhoutte (Philippe Cronier npc). **Poland**, Julian Klukowski, Apolinary Kowalski, Krzysztof Lasocki, Victor Markowicz, Jacek Romanski, Jerzy Russyan (Wlodzimierz Wala npc, Wojtek Siwiec coach) finished second and **Scotland** Willie Coyle, Derek Diamond, John Matheson, John Murdoch, Victor Silverstone, Iain Sime (Harry Smith npc, Patricia Matheson coach) third. **Denmark**, **Germany & Belgium** complete Europe's D'Orsi Senior Bowl line up.



The Multi-victorious French Senior Team









Pensions, Investments & Advisory Services

BELLEEKLIVING

🖸 Fáilte Ireland

OPEN TEAMS FINALS

CROSSTABLE BY RANK

Team	MON	NED	ITA	ENG	POL	GER	ISR	SWE	BUL	RUS	FRA	IRL	ISL	GRE	NOR	TUR	SUI	ROM	Pen	Team	Total	Rank
Monaco		16	8	19	25	15	15	24	16	14	24	25	25	12	13	20	16	17		Monaco	304	I
Netherlands	14		18	12	7	18	17	16	11	20	21	22	19	23	25	23	14	10		Neth.	290	2
Italy	22	12		11	10	17	23	13	15	18	16	23	22	11	17	16	15	25		Italy	286	3
England	11	18	19		14	13	17	11	15	17	24	16	21	20	13	12	15	23		England	279	4
Poland	0	23	20	16		8	23	10	14.7	4	25	16	13	21	25	25	23	10	0.3	Poland	276.7	5
Germany	15	12	13	17	22		9	15	20	9	14	19	7	23	23.5	12	22	21	0.5	Germany	273.5	6
Israel	15	13	7	13	7	21		20	17	15	16	I	13	16	23	17	23	21		Israel	258	7
Sweden	6	14	17	19	20	15	10		13	17	13	19	П	25	10	13	18	15		Sweden	255	8
Bulgaria	14	19	15	15	14.3	10	13	17		16	19	21	I	15	7	23	17	18	0.7	Bulgaria	254.3	9
Russia	16	10	12	13	25	21	15	13	14		4	14	15	4	14	20	23	21		Russia	254	10
France	6	9	14	6	5	16	14	17	Π	25		19	20	18	23	9	16	22		France	250	11
Ireland	0	8	7	14	14		25	11	9	16	11		24	15	16	14	25	24		Ireland	244	12
Iceland	2	11	8	9	17	23	17	19	25	15	10	6		17	17	18	14	9		Iceland	237	13
Greece	18	7	19	10	9	7	14	0	15	25	12	15	13		12	24	16	13		Greece	229	14
Norway	17	2	13	17	5	5.5	7	20	23	16	7	14	13	18		15	20	13	0.5	Norway	225.5	15
Turkey	10	7	14	18	5	18	13	17	7	10	21	16	12	6	15		7	25		Turkey	221	16
Switzerland	14	16	15	15	7	8	7	12	13	7	14	4	16	14	10	23		25		Swi.	220	17
Romania	13	20	I	7	20	9	9	15	12	9	8	6	21	17	17	5	5			Romania	194	18

RESULTS

ROUND F9 (26)

Mato	IMPs	VPs	
31 ITALY	ISRAEL	33 - 37	14 - 16
32 SPAIN	IRELAND	22 - 20	15 - 15
33 TURKEY	SWEDEN	35 - 21	18 - 12
34 BULGARIA	NETHERLANDS	9 - 30	10 - 20
35 NORWAY	WALES	46 - 38	7 - 3
36 ENGLAND	POLAND	45 - 29	9 -
37 FINLAND	DENMARK	14 - 73	2 - 25
38 SCOTLAND	BELGIUM	36 - 49	2 - 8
39 GERMANY	FRANCE	59 - 15	25 - 5
39 GERMANY	FRANCE	59 - 15	25 - 5

Hospitality:

This is the schedule of Buses for your return to Dublin Airport from Citywest Hotel.

4	.3	0	
6	.3	0	
8	.3	0	
9	.3	0	
I	L	.0	0
I	2	.0	0
I	3	.3	0
I	4	.3	0

16.00

Please advise if you require a collection from Green Isle or Louis Fitzgerald. Hotels. Please be ready at Main Reception Doors and leave good time for on time departure.

SENIORS

CROSSTABLE BY RANK

Team	FRA	POL	sco	DEN	GER	BEL	ISR	NED	ITA	ENG	SWE	BUL	TUR	NOR	IRL	ESP	EST	WAL	FIN	Bye	Pen	Team	Total	Rank
France		7	17	25	5	14	10	20	21	14	16	18	22	19	21	24	18	23	25	18		France	337	I
Poland	23		10	9	23	18	Ш	21	25	Ш	18	5	Ш	19	6	25	25	25	25	18		Poland	328	2
Scotland	13	20		17	14	12	17	7	7	19	15	21	23	10	20	25	19	23	25	18		Scotland	325	3
Denmark	2	21	13		14	19	22.5	17	20	16	12	П	25	19	17	14	21	14	25	18	0.5	Denmark	320.5	4
Germany	25	7	16	16		14	13	15	9	22	9	23	6	17	13	23	25	25	24	18		Germany	320	5
Belgium	16	12	18	П	16		17	20	21	П	14	4	14	19	16	23	21	25	18	18		Belgium	314	6
Israel	20	19	13	6.5	17	13		11	16	19	9	19	16	16	20	13	25	17	23	18	0.5	Israel	310.5	7
Netherlands	10	9	23	13	15	10	19		15	9	20	20	14	20	22	16	12	23	21	18		Neth.	309	8
Italy	9	5	23	10	21	9	14	15		24	12	15	12	11	19	19.5	12	25	25	18	0.5	Italy	298.5	9
England	16	19	11	14	8	19	11	21	6		16	20	22	21	10	18	20	20	7	18		England	297	10
Sweden	14	12	15	18	21	16	21	10	18	14		18	12	15	18	5	14	15	16	18		Sweden	290	11
Bulgaria	12	23	9	19	7	25	11	10	15	10	12		23	10	23	14	17	14	15	18	2	Bulgaria	287	12
Turkey	8	19	7	4	24	16	14	16	18	8	18	7		21	15	21	14	12	24	18	-	Turkey	284	13
Norway	11	П	20	11	13	Ш	14	10	19	9	15	20	9		20	15	14	17	20	18		Norway	277	14
Ireland	9	24	10	13	17	14	10	8	П	20	12	7	15	10		15	21	17	25	18	—	Ireland	276	15
Spain	6	0	I	16	7	7	17	14	9.5	12	25	16	9	15	15		16	18	- 11	18	0.5	Spain	232.5	16
Estonia	12	0	11	9	2	9	4	18	18	10	16	13	14	16	8	14		23	6	18	I	Estonia	221	17
Wales	7	4	7	16	5	5	13	7	5	10	15	16	18	13	13	12	7		18	18		Wales	209	18
Finland	4	2	5	2	6	12	7	9	4	23	14	15	6	10	I	19	24	12		18	3	Finland	193	19

IMPORTANT!!!!!!!

We recommend you allow good time for your departure because the pop group Westlife are playing their last ever concert in Dublin tonight and therefore there will be considerable traffic.

RESULTS

ROUND 19

Mato	IMPs	VPs	
31 ITALY	ISRAEL	33 - 37	4 - 6
32 SPAIN	IRELAND	22 - 20	15 - 15
33 TURKEY	SWEDEN	35 - 21	18 - 12
34 BULGARIA	NETHERLANDS	9 - 30	10 - 20
35 NORWAY	WALES	46 - 38	7 - 3
36 ENGLAND	POLAND	45 - 29	9 -
37 FINLAND	DENMARK	14 - 73	2 - 25
38 SCOTLAND	BELGIUM	36 - 49	12 - 18
39 GERMANY	FRANCE	59 - 15	25 - 5
39 GERMANY	FRANCE	59 - 15	25 - 5

FAREWELL FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE EBL

Dear Bridge Friends,

We are at the end of the 51st European Bridge Team Championships after 12 days of hard competition in the 3 categories Open, Women and Seniors.

A great thank you to the Irish people who have welcomed us so kindly in Dublin. Thanks for the warm welcome and the

extraordinary work of all the volunteers.

I want to thank the South Dublin County and its Mayor Caitriona Jones for having helped us in holding this championship in Dublin.

If this championship was so successful, it is of course thanks to the Irish Bridge Union and to its President, Mary Kelly-Rogers.

Thank you Mary for the great job

you performed in this championship.

Of course, the Organising Championship Committee headed by its Chairman, Joe Moran and the Championship Committee with Josef Harsanyi and Jan Kamras worked hard for you all with the help of Paul Porteous, Sandie Millership, Valerie Mathers, Maurizio di Sacco and Catherine Vitry.

Thanks to you all for this great championship.

Thank you to all the Staff members from the EBL and from the IBU. This has been a wonderful experience for us to work with you here in Dublin. But the success of a championship is determined by the players.

And I would like to thank you all for your behaviour, your fair-play, and the atmosphere you have created. These contributed to the success of the championship and to the image of Bridge.

> As you already know, this European championship qualifies the 6 first teams of each category for the Bermuda Bowl, the Venice Cup and the d'Orsi Bowl that will be held in Bali, Indonesia, from 16th to 29th September 2013.

All my good wishes to the teams that have qualified.

The EBL organised these 51st European Team Championships in Dublin. The venue for the next edition is not yet known. But Bulgaria, Germany, Spain and Israel have shown their interest in

organising a European Team Championships and I hope that before the end of 2012, we will finalise the contract.

Thanks to all, players, officers, journalists, operators, volunteers and guests. I know you will have great memories of Dublin.

Enjoy your evening.

Yves Aubry EBL President



Slán go Foill (Goodbye For Now)

by Enda Murphy

With the Championships now drawing to a close, one is left with many vivid impressions, all of them good. It will of course be for our visitors to say whether they've been made to feel welcome here and whether they've enjoyed their visit. Meantime here are some reflections from behind the scenes.

As one of the 'canary army' resplendent in yellow t-shirts, my duties were to contribute to the Daily Bulletin and to the Vugraph commentaries. Having devoured just about every bulletin at major championships for the last thirty years or so, it was with some trepidation that I introduced myself to Mark Horton, the Editor. Mark was accommodating and helpful, directing me to bring a local flavour to the production. He stands possessed of a sense of humour which parallels my own, so we got along famously. Mark -I'm sorry I knew so little about Bloomsday! It was also a pleasure to meet Brian Senior again, and yes Brian, you were right about the Pogues! The atmosphere in the Press Room and the Bulletin room was always convivial and professional. I remarked at one point that every time I came in, there was a different half-empty bottle of red wine on the table. They quickly set me straight – it was in fact half full. My literary efforts were tolerated by the Editor, who wielded his scalpel sparingly on my copy. Thanks to all - it was a real thrill.

Commentating on Vugraph was similarly rewarding. BJ O'Brien gave me my schedule and briefed me to 'liven things up but keep it clean'. The striking thing about Vugraph is Barry Rigal's uncanny ability to provide incisive analysis on the current hand, keep tabs on the bidding and play in the other room, and assess the constantly updating returns from all the other matches. The guy is a wonder – I had thought only women could multitask, so score one for us chaps. Barry was backed up by the legend that is PO Sundelin, and by others, but it's very much his show and one hopes it will run and run.

Adhering to my instructions, I related a few yarns, drew a parallel between Monaco and Manchester City, paid tribute to Midsummer day in Sweden, and predicted an impending

slump in the value of the Dollar. Barry must have blinked at some of the segues, but he rolled with the punches. Thanks Barry.

Over in the playing centre, it was my impression that things went smoothly under the unflappable stewardship of Paul Porteous. PP is not one for the limelight, but take it from me – organising these Championships so ably at short notice was a gargantuan task.



I need to tell you how it was that I came to 'book' Giorgio Duboin. In the Open Room just before a match, Antonio Sementa was heard to emit a piercing shriek. I went to his aid, and he rolled up his trouser leg to show me a nastylooking graze. Duboin was the only other player in sight so I naturally assumed he had committed the foul. I brandished a yellow card. 'Ammonito!' said I to a shocked Giorgio. Sementa tried to claim he had just walked into a side table, but the referee's decision was final.

It felt good to be Irish these past few days. The bubble Celtic Tiger economy seemed to encourage a certain gaucheness, a materialistic vulgarity, that was unrepresentative of our national character. I like to think that the subsequent crash has allowed us to rediscover the truer essence of our nature. Irish people are at heart, warm and generous, and we do hope that that is what you encountered in your time with us.

The Irish Open team made the final rounds, but were always up against it with the carry-over. The Seniors were respectable, though were perhaps entitled to aspire to better. The Ladies' placing can only be classed as disappointing. One does not wish to be uncharitable or to court controversy, but my own instincts are to recognise failure for what it is, and to deem it unacceptable. The old adage applies – if you always do what you always did, you'll always get what you always got. We need to examine the entrails. There has to be a better way.

There is also, to draw the Olympic parallel, the question of legacy. Teams bridge in Ireland is not especially widely embraced. Hopefully these Championships will provide impetus.

My personal highlight was the happy discovery that The Perfect Woman exists. Wild horses wouldn't persuade me to identify her, but I was happy to bask in TPW's radiance each day. The fact that she's from a different country is a minor inconvenience. I'm hooked. TPW had better look out, the lucky thing.

> Over and out. Congrats to the winners and to the qualifiers, and safe home. It was a real pleasure to make your acquaintance. You can't blame us for the weather, but at least now you know why the grass is so green!

The Turing Test

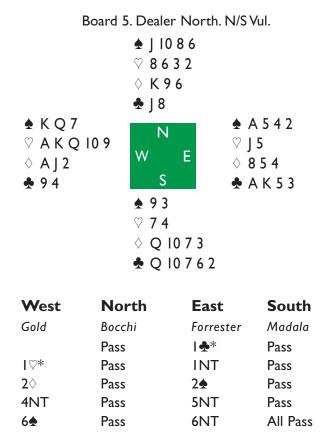
by Mark Horton

Alan Turing was born in London on 23 June 1912. Educated at Sherborne School in Dorset and at King's College, Cambridge, he graduated in 1934 with a degree in Mathematics. Twenty years later, after a short but brilliant career, he was dead.

At the turn of the millennium, 45 years after his death, Time Magazine listed him among the twentieth century's 100 greatest minds, alongside the Wright brothers, Albert Einstein, DNA busters Crick and Watson, and the discoverer of penicillin, Alexander Fleming. Turing's achievements during his short lifetime were legion. Best known as the genius who broke Germany's most secret codes during the war of 1939-45, Turing was also father of the modern computer. Today, all who click to open are familiar with the impact of his ideas. To him we owe the brilliant innovation of storing applications, and the other programs necessary for computers to do our bidding, inside the computer's memory, ready to be opened when we wish. At a time when the term 'computer' meant nothing more than a human clerk who sat at a desk doing calculations with paper and pencil, Turing envisaged a 'universal computing machine', whose function could effortlessly be transformed from word processor to desk calculator to chess opponent - or anything else that we have the skill to pin down in the form of a program. Like many great ideas, this one now seems as obvious as the wheel and the arch, but with this single invention, the stored program universal computer, Turing changed the world.

In addition to his remarkable theoretical and practical contributions to the development of the computer, as well as to the new science of computer programming, Turing was also the first pioneer of the areas of computing now known as Artificial Intelligence and Artificial Life. He also made profound contributions to mathematics and mathematical logic, philosophy, theoretical biology, and the study of the mind.

The Turing Test is a test of a machine's ability to exhibit intelligent behaviour. In Turing's original illustrative example, a human judge engages in a natural language conversation with a human and a machine designed to generate performance indistinguishable from that of a human being. All participants are separated from one another. If the judge cannot reliably tell the machine from the human, the machine is said to have passed the test. The test does not check the ability to give the correct answer; it checks how closely the answer resembles typical human answers. The conversation is limited to a text-only channel such as a computer keyboard and screen so that the result is not dependent on the machine's ability to render words into audio. On this deal from Round 23/18/16 it was a question of whether or not any human could match the awesome power of Deep Finesse:



I+♣, II-I3 balanced 2+♣, I7-I9 balanced, 2+♣, (10)II+ unbalanced 4+♣, 444I 10-I5

South led the three of diamonds and when declarer played low from dummy North put in the nine of diamonds.When that held, he switched to the jack of clubs he cannot lead a diamond without isolating the menace. Declarer won with the ace and cashed four rounds of hearts, discarding a diamond and a club as South pitched his minor suit sevens. Now declarer came to hand with a club and went back to dummy with a spade to cash the last heart. This was the critical moment.

North had to throw a diamond in order to keep the spades under control. If declarer takes the view that spades are not breaking and throws one away South can happily release a club, but then two rounds of spades ending in declarer's hand complete a classic non- simultaneous double squeeze.

However, that is by no means the only layout on which declarer will prevail, but catering for those other possibilities meant discarding a diamond - and now there were only eleven tricks.

West	North	East	South
Padon	Fantoni	Birman	Nunes
	Pass	♣*	Pass
◊*	Pass	≜ *	Pass
2◊*	Pass	2♡	Pass
3♡	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4 \diamond	Pass	40	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♡	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

I♣ 12-22 better minor

I Transfer

I Denies 3 hearts

It looks as if $2\Diamond$ was a retransfer. Thereafter if hearts were agreed some cue bidding and a key card ask saw West decide to play in no trumps.

North led the two of hearts and declarer won with dummy's jack and played the four of diamonds. South played the three (at double dummy the seven or ten is required so that South can retain the lead and play a second diamond to break up the tension in that suit while both defenders retain a guard) and declarer put in the jack, losing to North's king — rather than putting on dummy's two and coming back to the situation that Tony Forrester faced.

Now if North had switched to any of the other suits declarer would have been in with the same chance of making, but Fantoni returned the six of diamonds, covered by the ten and ace. Declarer cashed the top clubs and then played hearts, but no one was under pressure and he had to fail.

Scotland's Liz McGowan made 6NT. South led a low club and Liz ducked. She won the next club, but then failed her test by running the hearts. Luckily South also failed hers by discarding two clubs. Russia's Jouri Khokhlov also made 6NT on the lead of the jack of spades. Alas, he also had to rely on a defensive error.

So, only the world's number one ranked player, Fulvio Fantoni, passed the Turing Test for humans!

Championship Diary

In some Championships the Daily Bulletin gives prizes for the best bid, played and defended hands. We have none to hand out this year, but we do have a special award, which goes to Jean-Claude Beineix, who is immediately appointed Proof Reader Emeritus to the Daily Bulletin. *Merci mon ami*.

The English Senior team would like to thank Pharon Independent Financial Advisers of Canterbury for their support.

A very big thank you to the President of the Irish Bridge Union, Mary Kelly-Rogers. Having enjoyed her charming presence for a couple of weeks our glasses will forever be half full.

Herman informs us that 27,792 boards have been played in these championships. We assume that there are at least two other people in the world who find that information indispensible.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed articles to the Daily Bulletin - Barry Rigal, Brian Senior, Jos jacobs, Micke Melander, Patrick Jourdain, Ram Soffer, Enda Murphy & John Comyn they were all outstanding. No praise is too high for our layout editor, Monika Kummel, who was called upon at the eleventh hour and I must also thank Fotis Skoularikis for his behind the scenes efforts. Last, but by no means least is the remarkable Ron Tacchi. If he has an Achilles heel, I have yet to discover it.

We leave Dublin, sadly reflecting that Guinness will never taste the same, and get ready for Lille. Did someone say 'redders'! Mark Horton



Hospitality 2:

On behalf of the Hospitality team I wish to thank Mark Horton and his team for facilitating the easy flow of information from us to you. If you have not been to the Bulletin Room please know they are happy bunch, who work hard and it is a fun place to be. Mary

More Confessions of a Vugraph Operator

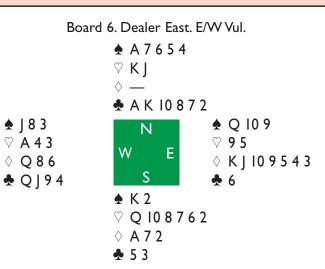
Laura Woodruff

Today's confessions are so numerous that I should probably avail myself of one of those wooden cubicles found in Catholic churches, in which the faithful unload their burden of guilt in the mistaken belief that the screen preserves their anonymity. The resumption of normal Irish weather has, however, encouraged me to stay indoors and instead bare my soul to the readers of the bulletin.

First I must confess that only today did I discover that it is possible, nay often advisable, to "chat" privately (the text colour of the BBO alias is, it seems, a clue). My BBO activities had hitherto been restricted to playing online, where all chat messages can be seen by everyone at the table. Luckily no one sent me a private message requiring discretion (at least I don't think they did, though I'm famously incapable of taking a hint), so my public replies caused no real embarrassment.

My second confession relates to Thursday's Round F3 encounter between Poland and Italy. I had expected that a match between these two great bridge nations would be as good as a private lesson for a middling sort of player like me. Now this was a set of boards boasting no fewer than four legitimate slam hands and a couple of slam tempters besides. It cheered me up no end that three of the four were missed at both tables. *Mirabile dictu*, on Board 7 neither room reached even the small slam (bid at 14 of the 18 tables), let alone the grand bid by a lone Irishman in the Seniors' event. There is hope for us rabbits yet.

Since the commentary was in Italian, my knowledge of which is limited, I was prevented from making any impolitic remarks. After Lauria and Versace had missed 6° on Board 2, **gluckenval** (Gianluca Gentili) asked me whether Lauria was *arrabbiato*, a word which does feature in my feeble vocabulary. He was indeed, though less rabid than the Polish North became on Board 6. As a firm believer in the maxim "*Toujours la politesse*", I confess to a certain *schadenfreude* when, having berated his partner for failing to bid 6° , the Polish North promptly and carelessly went off in 4. This is another of those useful lessons, like 'Never give up': make the contract you're in, even if (you think) it's the wrong one.



6[♡] will always fail if played by North after a Multi 2[◊] opening by South (East had passed) because East has an obvious singleton ♣ lead. Even worse for the appropriately named Narkiewicz,*, at the other table 6[♡] made on a diamond lead, played by South because the auction began (3[◊]) – 3[♡]. West is never going to find a club lead, which looks dangerous in the extreme from his holding.

My day ended with a tense match in the women's event. Marion Michielsen and Laura Dekkers, for the Netherlands, played exceptionally well against the experienced partnership of Sally Brock and Nicola Smith. The Dutch scored a stream of small gains early on, offset by a game swing out on Board 10. In the second half, however, they pulled away.

This leads to my third confession. We in Wales have a slightly schizophrenic relationship with our larger neighbour, the *Pob Sais†*. Most of the time we get along fine except where Rugby is concerned; but we can't help feeling a secret satisfaction when someone casts them down, as if we've scored a tiny victory ourselves to compensate for 700 years of subjugation. So although I know and love Sally, Nicola, Heather and Nevena, and am delighted that they won the event, I couldn't resist a guilty silent cheer.

Farewell Gift:

Wrights at Dublin Airport have a Farewell Departure Gift for all Competitors, Officials and Staff at their shops in Terminal I or Terminal 2. All you have to do is fill in the Wrights' Voucher which would have been in your Championship Bag (or that you can pick up at the hospitality desk) and the gift will be yours in the Wrights shop. You can purchase a side of Salmon at a 20% discount if you wish. The Wrights Shop is well worth a visit selling what is best in Irish food.



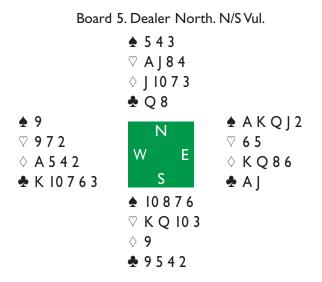
^{* &}quot;Narky" (English slang), means "easily annoyed; overly sensitive; quick to fly off the handle"

[†] Welsh for the English people (Sais = Saxon)

The Winning 5-1 Fit

by Ram Soffer

The following deal is taken from the Israel-Switzerland match, Open Final, Round 2.



Looking only at the East/West cards, what game contract would you prefer to be in?

West	North	East	South
Nikolenkov	Schwartz	Magnusson	Fisher
	Pass		Pass
INT	Pass	2 📥	Pass
2NT	Pass	4 \diamond	Pass
5 ◇	All Pass		

Starting with 2 \clubsuit , the bidding of the Swiss pair was obviously artificial. East needed to jump to 4 \diamond in order to show a strong hand with spades and diamonds. West made the expected raise to 5 \diamond , but they had no luck. The trumps split 4-1, and declarer was forced to ruff a heart early, so that there was not even a possibility of a double finesse against North JT73.

Let's analyse the possible game contracts and their chances of success. 5 requires 3-2 trumps and no voids in the black suits, while the success of 3NT depends on hearts dividing 4-4 (or else an unlikely blockage). Yet there is a third possible contract, which was reached at the other room:

West	North	East	South
Padon	Wildavsky	Birman	Piedra
	Pass		Pass
INT	Pass	3♢	Pass
4 ◇	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

100 Years Young

Barry Rigal

Board II

East Dealer N/S Vul.

 ▲ A Q 8 6 ♡ Q 10 6 ◊ 7 5 4 2 ♣ 6 2
N W E
S
 ▲ 5 2 ♡ A K J 9 4 3 ◊ K J ♣ J 7 3

OFFICIAL BIDDING:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	$ \diamond$	\square
♠	2♡	Pass	30
Pass	4 ♡	All Pass	

 $4\heartsuit$ by South.West to lead $\Diamond 3.$ East will play trump whenever on lead. Plan the play.

Solution on page 21

The Israeli bidding demonstrates an important concept: After a minor suit has been agreed at the four-level, bidding four of a previously bid major suit is not merely a cuebid, but a suggestion to play. In this case East was showing a very strong spade suit.

West's hand didn't look particularly good, so he preferred to stop at the four-level instead of signing off in $5\Diamond$.

On the actual layout, it was a huge success. The defense led three rounds of hearts. Had Alon Birman's spades been A K Q J I0, he could afford the safety play of discarding a diamond at trick 3. As it was, he had to ruff and hope that spades were 4-3. His trump suit behaved and the contract made with an overtrick.

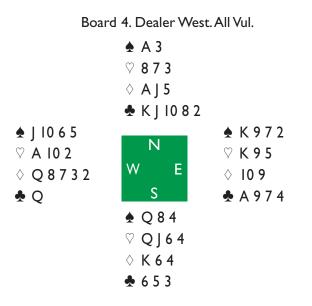
From a mathematical point of view, the Swiss bidding had been more precise, since the probability of a 3-2 diamond break is significantly higher than that of a 4-3 spade break. As against that, the contract will survive a 5-2 trump break if the hand with long trumps has 3 or fewer hearts Still, it's success at the table that counts, and 11 IMPs went to Israel on the way to a 23-7 victory which boosted their medal hunt.

French Fireworks

by Maureen Dennison

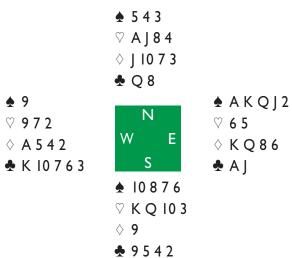
A crucial match in the Seniors series occurred when first place Denmark played third place France.

The first three boards were quiet – just 2 IMPs to France an extra under-trick but then the mayhem began.

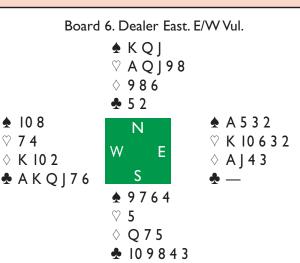


France played a quiet INT making two. In the open room, North opened $I \clubsuit$, North bid $I \heartsuit$, raised to two. When this came round to Patrice Piganeau, West, he came in with a double and his partner played $2\clubsuit$ making nine tricks: 6IMPs. Another 7IMPs were earned on the next board France playing a fine $4\clubsuit + I$, whilst the Danes subsided in $3\diamondsuit$. Note that 3NT is a lucky make while $5\diamondsuit$ only goes down because of the bad trump break.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



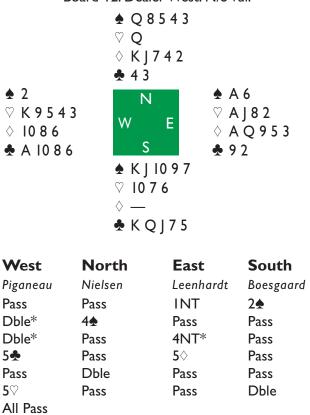
This was followed by a pretty ordinary 3NT making plus one against 4^{\pm} on a 4-2 fit, down 200 for another 13 to France.



As you can see, repeated spade leads make 3NT quite awkward. Declarer might well rely on club splitting and lead a diamond to the $\Diamond K....$

Things quietened down for the next three hands – two IMPs to Denmark in over-tricks but then on the next four, France accumulated 45 IMPs! A choice of the major game versus NTs accounted for twelve, Denmark playing a 6-1 heart fit with four top losers against a 4-2 break while 3NT struggled home on friendly lies in the other suits, then a part score against a non-making game for five and finally the piece de resistance for sixteen IMPs!

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

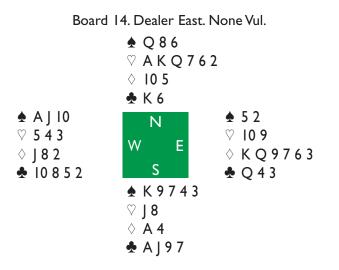


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by Jos Jacobs

This was board 14 in Round 5 of the Open Series Finals.



In the Russia v. Germany match, Gromov-Dubinin had bid 44 and made 11 tricks for a score of +450 to them. In the Closed Room, the Germans had higher aspirations:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khiuppenen	Fritsche	Kholomeev	Rohowsky
		2♣	2♠
Pass	3♢	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4 \diamond
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 ◇
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

24 had shown a weak two in diamonds and East led the $\Diamond K$. Jörg Fritsche won dummy's ace and started playing off his trumps. On the penultimate trump, West was already in trouble. He could not discard any of his clubs so he had to throw either his last diamond or a spade. As he threw a spade and thus held on to his diamond, the rest was relatively easy: $\bigstar K$, club to the jack, $\bigstar A$ for a diamond discard and a spade from dummy to pick up the suit for one loser.

	♦ Q 8 6	
	♡76	
	♦ 10	
	📥 K 6	
♠ A J I0	Ν	♦ 5 2
✓ —	W E	√ —-
♦ J	S	◊ Q 9 7
10 8 5 2		뢒 Q 4 3
	🔶 K 9 7 4	
	♡	
	♦ —	
	📥 A J 9 7	

Had West thrown a diamond on the 5th trump, the last trump would have finished him off as he then would have had to part with a black card. After that, declarer either has an extra club trick to get rid of his second spade loser, or he can establish the spades for just one loser.

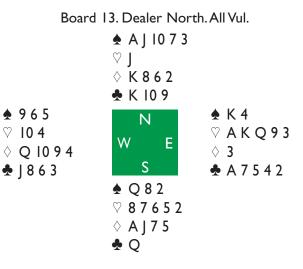
If there is a prize for the best played hand of the tournament, this certainly looks a worthy candidate to me! Congratulations to Jörg Fritsche on his very fine play.

PS. The backroom analysts were discussing whether there was any defence to the slam. A spade lead appears to disrupt the timing for the squeeze. Not so; declarer puts up the king! Now West must win or the contract is easy, and after that the play devolves into a simple black-suit squeeze on West.

French Fireworks (continued)

Whilst in the Closed Room they were left to play in $4\triangleq$ on a similar start, Piganeau was not prepared to lie down. His first double was take-out and his second optional (you make the last mistake partner!) while East's 4NT was two-suited. Piganeau said he was lucky to get another chance as he should have bid 5 \heartsuit before diamonds were doubled, but he seemed to be having a charmed life when he was allowed to make an overtrick! In the other room $4\triangleq$ made ten tricks.

This followed:



North opened $1 \triangleq$, East overcalled $2 \triangleq$ showing hearts and clubs and South bid $3 \triangleq$. This was passed back to East who doubled and West knew to choose $4 \clubsuit$, down one undoubled. In the replay, E/W finished in $4 \heartsuit$ doubled for minus 800.

Denmark salvaged 2 victory points and some pride on the final deal when they bid and made $4\clubsuit$ on the East-West cards and $3\Diamond$ on the North-South! The final total was 25-2 to France, reversing the two teams' positions in the table.

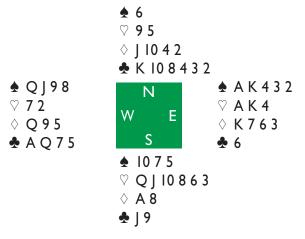
The Delayed Rabbi's Rule

by Mark Horton

I doubt there is a player on the planet who has not heard of the Rabbi's Rule - the king of clubs is always singleton offside.

Susanne Kriftner is back in the Austrian women's team after an interval of six years while she was starting a family. She demonstrated that she has lost nothing of her skill on this deal from Austria's match against Greece in Round 18 of the Women's series when she executed a rare coup, involving the delayed Rabbi's Rule:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kriftner	Economou	Smederevac	Kanellopoulou
♠*	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2◊*	Pass	2♡*	Dble
2♠*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5◊*	Pass	6♠	All Pass

- 1 ▲ 4+ spades, limited
- 2♣ Relay
- 2♦ Exactly 4♠
- 27 Relay
- 2♠* balanced minimum
- $5\diamond$ One key card

North led the nine of hearts and declarer won with dummy's ace, cashed the ace of spades and played a spade to the queen. When North showed out she played a heart to the king followed by the three of diamonds. South put up the ace (it does not help to duck) and played a third round of hearts. Declarer ruffed, drew the last trump, cashed the queen of diamonds and played a diamond to the king. Then came the remaing trumps, the last of which forced North to bare the king of clubs. Declarer was now able to execute a delayed example of the Rabbi's Rule (which states that when the king of clubs is not singleton it will be eventually) by playing a club to the ace to bring home her contract and win 11 IMPs.



Board 19 of Open Final Round 20 was passed out at several tables but not in England v Bulgaria.

West	 ♥ 6 5 ♦ Q ♣ A 5 North 	5	Sout
 ▲ J 2 ♡ K J 8 2 ◊ K 8 7 5 ▲ Q 10 4 	W	N E S 10 9 8 7	 ▲ 6 5 3 ♡ A 10 7 4 ◇ A 4 ▲ J 9 8 3
Во	oard 19. Deal	Q 4 9 3 3 2	

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Gold	Stefanov	Forrester
_	_	_	
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

In the other room, Mihov/Karakolev got to $3 \bigstar$ on the N/S cards and, on a trump lead, had an easy route to nine tricks for +140.

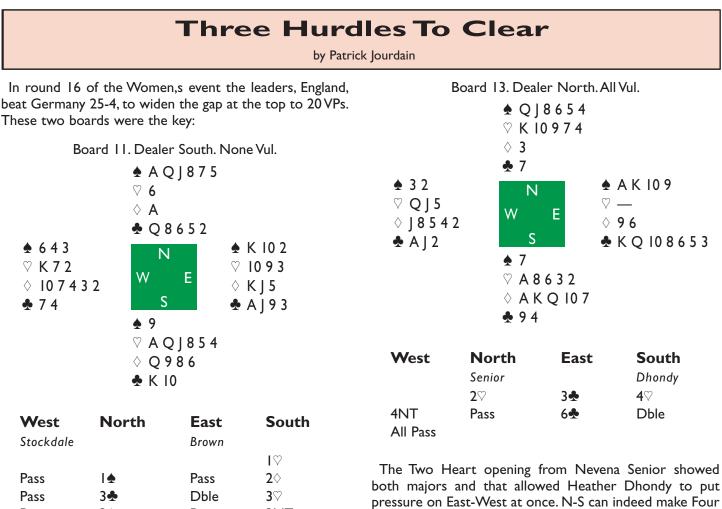
When Tony Forrester opened $I \triangleq$ for England, David Gold was alive to the fact that the partnership style is to open very light. He judged very well that a constructive $2 \triangleq$ raise was sufficient on his 11-count, and that ended the auction. There would be no story had Victor Aronov found the same trump lead as in the other room, but he found the much more effective lead of a low diamond. Julian Stefanov won the ace and returned a diamond and Aronov led a third round for him to ruff, giving a suit-preference signal as is normal, of course. Stefanov duly continued the good work by underleading his ace of hearts to Aronov's king and now the defence was able to ruff out dummy's fourth diamond, eliminating a crucial trick for declarer.

Forrester over-ruffed and could see that there was an unavoidable club loser – the heart ace was surely on his right as Aronov would never have led from king-to-four diamonds if also holding both the ace and king of hearts. There was only one hope, a misdefence. Forrester crossed to the king of spades and led the low heart off the dummy and Stefanov spoiled what had been a top class defence up to now by rising with the ace. Now Forrester had a discard for his club loser and the contract was home for +110 and just 1 IMP to Bulgaria instead of 5 IMPs.

Pass

All Pass

3♠



As both majors are 3-3 either 6-1 fit will provide ten tricks but it was common for tables to end in 3NT.

Pass

3NT

At one table Nevena Senior as North was declarer in 3NT, receiving a club lead to the ten. The spade finesse lost but when East continued clubs declarer had her nine tricks.

At the table illustrated East, Fiona Brown, had doubled North's fourth-suit Three Clubs for the lead and West, Susan Stockdale, duly obliged. East claimed her ace, declarer contributing the ten and switched to the diamond jack, killing the spade suit in dummy. Declarer was forced to play on hearts. When the finesse lost and West switched to spades declarer could only reach eight of her nine tricks and eventually had to lead away from her diamonds to give the defence their fifth trick.

Trick one was a genuine dilemma for declarer. Suppose she unblocks the club king. Now the defence cannot prevent the spades being established but at trick two East will switch to hearts. Declarer can win and establish spades but again can only reach eight tricks before the defence have five. In effect a club to the ace at trick one catches declarer in a Morton's Fork.

That was 10 IMPS to England. Two boards later, the swing was bigger:

Hearts, and apart from the 3-0 trump break would expect to have a shot at 11 tricks, so it would be no surprise if some Easts took out insurance in Six Clubs. Here West's 4NT bid encouraged East, with the heart

void, to think she genuinely had a shot at slam. South's double put pay to that notion. Dhondy cashed two top diamonds and then carefully switched to a trump.

Declarer now had to guess the spade layout. If South had, say, Jx it would be right to take spade ruffs. But when East played two top spades South ruffed to record 500 for England.

This was the auction at the other table:

West	North	East	South
Stockdale		Brown	
	Pass	♣	\square
Dble	4 ♡	5 🙅	All Pass

Here North passed as dealer and East opened a Prepared Club. Susan Stockdale's double of the heart overcall denied four spades. South might have taken out insurance by bidding on, but Five Clubs became the final contract.

South duly began with two top diamonds but then helpfully switched to her singleton spade. Fiona Brown as East drew two rounds of trumps, took another spade finesse and ruffed her last spade in dummy to claim a further 750 for England and 15 IMPs.

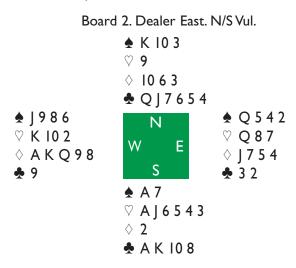
OPEN FR 4 (21)

On Thursday afternoon, the probably most awaited match of these Championships took place: Italy v. Monaco. Bocchi-Madala, playing for Italy, would face Fantoni-Nunes, playing for Monaco, in the Open Room, whereas Lauria-Versace, the other Italian pair in this match, would play Helness-Helgemo. It turned out to be a high-scoring match so, in this report, I can show you only the biggest swings.



Alfredo Versace, Italy

On board 2, Madala's courage was in sharp contrast to Helness' timidity:



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	Bocchi	Fantoni	Madala
		Pass	\bigcirc
2 ◇	Pass	3♢	Dble
Pass	5♣	Pass	6 🙅
All Pass			

When Bocchi jumped to 5^{c} , Madala, looking at the AK himself, could expect a fair distributional hand, so his raise to slam was much more logical than it might seem at first glance. Italy a well-deserved +1390 on a spade lead by East.

Italy v. Monaco

by Jos Jacobs

Closed Ko	om		
West	North	East	South
Versace	Helness	Lauria	Helgemo
		Pass	∇
Dble	Pass	♠	2♡
2♠	Pass	Pass	3 📥
All Pass			

When Helgemo freely introduced a second suit at the three-level, vulnerable, one would think six trumps were ample compensation for the lack of heart fit. When Helness refrained even from making the courtesy raise, the pair had missed game...Monaco +170 and 15 IMPs to Italy.

Maybe, something special happened of which we, the outsiders, were not aware...

With the score at 24-2 to Italy, the Monegasques finally struck back:

.

Board	7. Dealer So	uth. All Vul.
	 ★ — ♡ K 8 4 3 2 ◊ Q J 10 4 ∳ 9 5 	
▲ A K J 10 8 2 ♡ 10 5 ◇ K ♣ K J 6 2	N W E S ▲ 7653 ◇ AQ6 ◇ A9 ▲ AQ74	 ▲ Q 9 4 ♡ J 9 7 ◊ 8 7 6 5 ▲ 10 8 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	Bocchi	Fantoni	Madala
			INT
2 ◇	3 📥	Pass	3 ◇
Pass	3♡	Pass	4 ♡
All Pass			

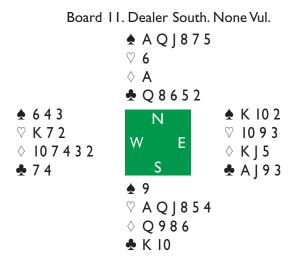
Over the $2\Diamond$ overcall that showed one major, Bocchi transferred to diamonds and then bid his second suit. The final contract was OK though $5\Diamond$ seems slightly better. On the actual layout, Bocchi might well have wished he had indeed been declaring $5\Diamond$. He ruffed the opening spade lead and led a diamond to the nine, losing to the singleton king. Another spade came back, ruffed again, and now, Bocchi first unblocked the $\Diamond A$ only to see it ruffed by West. The

next spade was also ruffed and from here, Bocchi could no longer make the contract. Apparently, Bocchi was trying to guard against a 4-1 trump break as he led yet another diamond which West could ruff with what happened to be his last trump. He would still have made it if West had three or four trumps originally but when this was not the case, two down was inevitable. Monaco +200.

Closed Room				
West	North	East	South	
Versace	Helness	Lauria	Helgemo INT	
Dble	2 ◇	Pass	2♡	
2♠	3♢	3♠	4 ♡	
4 ≜	5◇	All Pass		

In the other room, Monaco reached the best contract for an easy +600 and 12 IMPs to them.

Over now to board 11, where NS had a choice of major suits to play in.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	Bocchi	Fantoni	Madala
			\bigcirc
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♡
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4 ♡	All Pass	



Tor Helness, Monaco

Even on the actual lead of a club to the ace and a trump back, 4^{\heartsuit} could not be made.With the spade finesse wrong, declarer has no way to get rid of enough diamond losers. Monaco +50.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Helness	Lauria	Helgemo
			\bigcirc
Pass	♠	Pass	20
Pass	3 📥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

The Norwegian expats found a way to reach the better game: Helness simply bid it. On a diamond lead, he won the ace and immediately led a club to dummy's ten which held the trick. Next came the $\clubsuit K$ taken by East's ace and a trump came back to prevent a ruff. Dummy's nine won and a diamond was ruffed in hand, followed by $\bigstar A$, $\bigstar Q$. When trumps broke 3-3, declarer was in control and only lost one more club. Monaco +420 and 10 more IMPs to them.



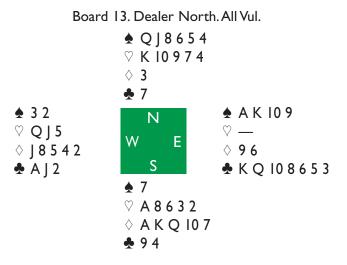
Geir Helgemo, Monaco

The next board was a matter of guessing well, sometimes also called table-presence:

Boa	rd 12. Dealer We	st. N/S Vul.
	♦ A K 10 4	
	🛧 10 9 8	
 ▲ 7 6 3 ♡ 8 4 3 ◊ J 9 6 3 ♣ A K 3 	N W E S	 ▲ A Q 5 4 2 ♡ 6 5 2 ◊ 8 5 ♣ J 6 4
	 ♠ 9 8 ♡ A J 9 7 ◊ Q 7 2 ♣ Q 7 5 2 	_ ,

Both Bocchi and Helness were in 3NT against the lead of the \bigstar 2. Helness played diamonds from the top and went

Italy led 43-26 now and there was more to come for them:



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	Bocchi	Fantoni	Madala
	Pass	2 桊	2♡
3 🙅	4 ♡	Dble	All Pass

Holding a trump trick and an ace, what could Nunes do opposite the Precision style opening bid? Italy +790.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Helness	Lauria	Helgemo
	Pass	🐣	\square
l ♠	4 ♡	5 🙅	5♡
Dble	All Pass		

Helgemo took his fate in his own hands by bidding one more, having so far concealed his side suit. He must have been disappointed to find out that he had to lose a trump



Laurenzo Lauria, Italy

trick as well for one off. Italy another +200 and 14 IMPs to them.

On board 15, the Italian NS overbid to a hopeless vulnerable game which cost them 8 IMPs and then, this board came up:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.			
	 ▲ A 8 2 ♡ K J 10 8 7 ◊ J 2 ♣ K 5 	2	
Q J 5 A 4 A Q 9 8 7 5 A Q	N W E S ▲ K 6 4 3 ♡ Q 9 ◊ 6 3 ▲ J 9 8 3 2	 ▲ 10 9 7 ♡ 6 5 3 ◇ K 10 4 ♣ 10 7 6 4 	

Closed Room

 \diamond

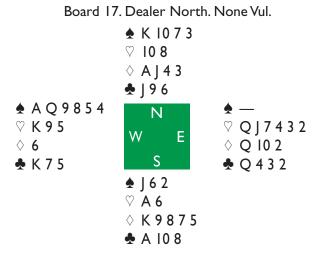
West	North	East	South
Versace	Helness	Lauria	Helgemo
$ \diamond$	\square	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2 ◇	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Helness led an inspired $\heartsuit K$, Helgemo unblocking the queen. From here, the defence was easy. Versace took the quite normal line of an early club finesse for his contract but when this failed, he was down four. Monaco +400.

In the Closed Room, the same contract was reached but Bocchi led the \bigstar 8, no doubt hoping to reach his partner and get a heart back from him.

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Nunes	Bocchi	Fantoni	Madala
$ \diamond$	\square	2 ◇	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

This plan worked well, as Madala did indeed put up the $\bigstar K$ and, when it held the trick, duly shifted to the $\heartsuit Q$. However, the hand can be made from here if you read the cards well. On the run of the diamonds, North has to find four discards so he has to blank his $\bigstar K$ to give the defence any chance at all. If he does not, he will be thrown in with a heart or a spade and be forced to hand over the last two tricks to declarer's $\bigstar AQ$. Nunes played the hand this way, only to find out that Bocchi had only one club left...one down but still 7 IMPs back to Monaco (rather than 14). On the next hand, we saw a phantom sacrifice:



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	Bocchi	Fantoni	Madala
	Pass	Pass	$ \diamond $
	INT	2♡	Pass
4 ♡	All Pass		

Whatever declarer does, there are four inescapable losers if the defenders stay cool. Italy +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Helness	Lauria	Helgemo
	Pass	2♡	Dble
4 ♡	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Unlike Fantoni, Lauria could open the East hand and now, NS were in trouble once Helgemo made a light take-out double. Helness must have bid 4th with some hope of making it but he soon found out it was Versace's birthday...Down four, +800 and 13 IMPs to Italy who won the match 79-46 or 22-8 VPs.

The Buffett Cup 2012

Brian Senior

The fourth Buffett Cup, the Ryder Cup of bridge, will be held in Omaha, Nebraska, the home town of Warren Buffett, from September 1st to 13th 2012.

As on previous occasions the two teams of twelve players will play a mixture of teams, pairs and individual matches to help to decide the winner – a format loosely modeled on that of the Ryder Cup itself.

To date, the visiting team has always come out on top. The running score now stands at two to one in favour of the Americans but, if that trend continues, Europe will level the series at two apiece.

The competition will again be broadcast live on vugraph at Bridge Base Online.

Team Europe, captained for the first time by Ireland's Paul Porteous, on-site organizer of these championships in Dublin, features the top Italians, Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes, who are representing Monaco in these championships in Dublin. Fulvio and Claudio also played in the 2010 Buffett Cup. The other pair with a previous appearance in the Cup is French father and son combination, Michel and Thomas Bessis. Louk Verhees took part in the 2006 edition, where he partnered Jan Jansma. In 2012 he faces his now regular partner, Ricco van Prooijen, meaning that the team includes two of the reigning Dutch Bermuda Bowl champions. Kalin Karaivanov and Roumen Trendafilov may not be here in Dublin but they would get a lot of votes for top pair in Bulgaria, while the Women's pair for 2012 is England's multiple world champions and 2012 European champions, Nicola Smith and Sally Brock. And finally, we have Tom Hanlon, who represented Europe in the first two editions of the Buffett Cup with his regular Irish partner, Hugh McGann, this time in partnership with Paul Hackett, who has been European captain in the three previous Buffett Cups.

Thank you Ireland!

On behalf of the journalists, I would like to thank the EBL and the Irish Organising Committee for the facilities offered in the Press Room during the 51st European Bridge Team Championships in Dublin. We have experienced the true Irish team spirit! Cheers,

Jan Swaan, Press Room manager



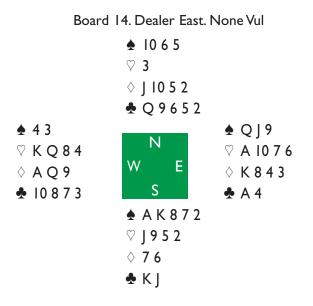
OPEN

Norway v Monaco

FRI (18)

Norway didn't have a good start to this tournament. A few rounds before the end of the preliminary stage they were on the brink of elimination, but a very strong finish helped them to reach the top 18 after all. As a reward, straight away they had to meet the leaders, Monaco, including of course two of their former teammates.

At the Open Room Helgemo-Helness played against Hoftaniska-Charlsen, and it seems that some of them had a point to prove. Already in Board I Helness was doubled in a cold 4% contract, and Monaco registered their first 5 IMPs. The former Norwegians did not redouble, perhaps encouraging their opponents to continue their dubious tactics.

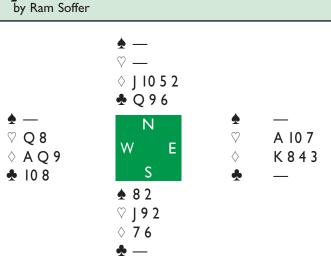


West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Hoftaniska	Helness	Charlsen
		$ \diamond $	
Dbl	2♠	3♡	Pass
4 ♡	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

I would not advise you to double a declarer of Helness's calibre with J9xx of trumps, but Charlsen had other ideas. He led the A and followed up with a small spade (!), taken by declarer's queen.

Actually this didn't cost the defenders a trick, since declarer had to ruff the third spade and he was no longer able to catch the \heartsuit J. Still, it made it a bit easier for declarer.

Helness played the A, ruffed a spade, cashed the ∇K and led a club won by South's king. The following position was reached:



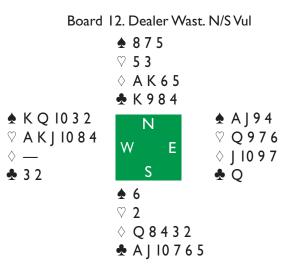
South is in lead, and there is no winning defence. A diamond lead looks best. Declarer wins in dummy and ruffs a club.

If South over-ruffs and leads a trump, declarer just draws trumps and North is squeezed in the minors.

Instead South can discard his last diamond, but to no avail. Declarer leads a small diamond, and he has to be careful and play the A when South ruffs. Now a spade return allows declarer to take the rest by a cross-ruff, while a trump return exposes North once again to the minor-suit squeeze.

At the other table Brogeland-Nybo stopped in $3 \heartsuit.$ 10 IMPs to Monaco.

Hoftaniska-Charlsen were more successful then they refrained from doubling.



West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Hoftaniska	Helness	Charlsen
\bigtriangledown	Pass	3♡	Pass
4 \diamond	Pass	4♠	Pass
5◇	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♡	All Pass		

Well bid by Helgemo-Helness. 4 \diamond showed a shortness, and Helgemo repeated the suit at the five-level to show a void. Of course, this was great news for East. 5NT was a keycard ask. One cashing ace was missing, so they stopped in 6 \heartsuit .

It turned out that this beautiful bidding was too good to win the board. First of all, North knew that his $\Diamond A$ was not cashing and he led a club, saving the overtrick.

Furthermore, this was the bidding at the other room:

West	North	East	South
Nybo	Fantoni	Brogeland	Nunes
♠	Pass	3♣	3NT
4♠	4NT	Dbl	5 🙅
5♡	6 🙅	6♠	Dbl
All Pass			

Here Nybo-Brogeland faced heavy interference from North-South, who had a double fit in the minors. Actually 7 \diamond was a profitable sacrifice for N/S (down three doubled for 800, while 7 \clubsuit may go for 1100 against a double-dummy defence). However, Claudio Nunes couldn't fathom that 6 \bigstar was making. It seemed that the Norwegians had just stumbled into that contract under pressure. He doubled, and Fantoni led the obvious \diamond A (after all, Nybo never mentioned his shortness). The result was 6 \bigstar doubled making with an overtrick, and 6 IMPs to Norway.

It was a close match throughout. Board 16 proved decisive. Fantoni-Nunes reached 6 \heartsuit after a long auction full of cuebids, only to discover that two cashing aces were missing. Hoftaniska-Charlsen used that old-fashioned 4NT convention and stopped safely in 5 \Diamond . Eventually Norway emerged the winners by 34-23 IMPs or 17-13 VPs.



Are you a good leader? (continued from right side)

Notice that it is not sufficient to cash a high club and shift to a trump. Yes, now declarer has only tempo to ruff one of his diamonds, because you can play trump again when you get your diamond trick.

But ... declarer prevails anyway: A, trump to the 10, A, diamond to the J, trump to the Q, diamond ruff, club ruff, and duck a heart to North, who has no more diamonds. Declarer's last diamond disappears on dummy's 13th heart.

Only a trump lead at trick one defeats this contract.

Are You A Good Leader?

by Ib Lundby

As John F Kennedy said: "Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."

Please choose your opening lead from this South hand:

	9	5		
\heartsuit	8	4	3	
\diamond	Κ	Q	J	4
		Κ		

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

I guess that your lead is the $\Diamond K$ or the $\clubsuit A$, right? Right, but wrong!

In the Open Room South received more help:

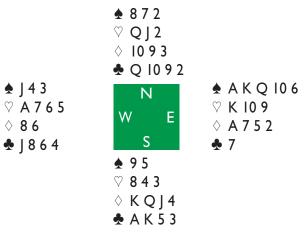
West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	♠	Dble
2♠	Pass	3◇*	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

3 Long suit trial bid

I have to accept that South led the A in the Closed Room, but I am disappointed that South at this table started with the A as well. Doesn't the bidding cry for a trump lead?

This was the hand in the match between Denmark and Scotland:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



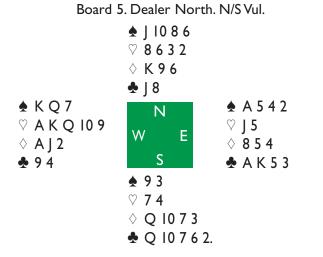
After $3\diamond$ you are almost sure that dummy tables a hand with very few diamonds. How else could he accept the invitation? Lead a trump, please!

OPEN FR 6 (23)

Germany v France by Ram Soffer

Both teams were still fighting for a ticket to the Bermuda Bowl, so every board was important here. The German East-West pair in the open room had the bidding shoes on, reaching two borderline slams, while their French counterparts preferred to play the same hands in a cosy game.

Both slams required delicate squeeze work from the declarer.



West	North	East	South
Rehder	Bompis	Gromoeller	Quantin
	Pass	INT	Pass
2 📥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 📥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♡	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

West thought that his 19-count was good enough to force a slam facing a weak NT.

In another match Geir Helgemo chose an invitational bid after his partner's I dopening, and Monaco stopped in 4NT.

South led a passive \Im 7. Declarer has 11 top tricks. Obviously 3-3 spades will be enough, but an expert declarer will be looking also for squeeze possibilities. Unfortunately, they are impossible to realize against a perfect defence.

First of all declarer would like to duck a trick, rectifying the count. Apparently a double squeeze is possible, but a diamond return would ruin it.

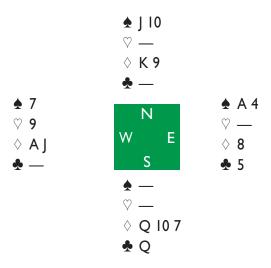
In the Israel-Monaco match Dror Padon (West) tried a diamond to the jack. This gave the declarer the extra chance of catching $\Diamond KQ$ onside. Fulvio Fantoni (North) realized the danger and returned a diamond. The squeeze was gone and declarer had to give up when spade didn't break.

Michael Gromoeller won the first trick in the dummy and led the ♣9, covered by the ♣J and ducked. Underleading the $\Diamond K$ was too risky, so North returned another club.

Declarer cashed another top club, on which West dis-

carded a diamond and North a heart. Next came the **\$**KQ and four hearts from dummy.

This was the position when the last heart was led:



The \heartsuit **9** was led, and North was forced to release his diamond control. The problem was that dummy was also squeezed. Declarer had to guess whether spades had been 3-3 all along, or else a non-simultaneous double squeeze was now operating.

In my opinion, once it was discovered that clubs broke 5-2, declarer could have assumed that 4-2 spades were more likely and played accordingly. On the other hand, it would be embarrassing to go down in a simple hand with 12 top tricks...

Gromoeller discarded a club, and it was all over for him. Minus 50 and 11 IMPs to France.

A spade discard would have executed the double squeeze. South must discard a diamond, and the A finishes him.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.					
	 ▲ 6 ♡ 9 5 ◇ J 10 4 2 ◆ K 10 8 				
Q J 9 8 7 2 Q 9 5 A Q 7 5	N W E S ▲ 1075 ♡ Q J 10 ◇ A 8 ♣ J 9	★ ♡ ◇	A K 4 3 2 A K 4 K 7 6 3 6		

 \diamond

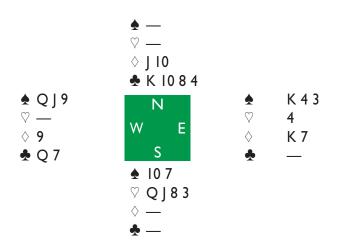
West	North	East	South
Rehder	Bompis	Gromoeller	Quantin
INT	Pass	2 🜲	Pass
2♠	Pass	3 📥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4 \diamond	Pass
4♡	Pass	4♠	Pass
5 ◇	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Once again Germany's artificial methods led them to an ambitious slam, while France quietly stopped in game.

North led the \heartsuit 9, taken by dummy's ace. Rehder had to find \diamond Ax somewhere to have any chance, and even then it's not clear what to do with his 4th diamond in case trumps are 3-1.

Declarer played a club to the ace and ruffed a club, noting the fall of South's jack. Then he guessed correctly to lead a diamond to the queen. A spade was played to the ace, and a small diamond was led from dummy, South winning perforce with his ace.

A heart return was taken with the king, and this was the final position:



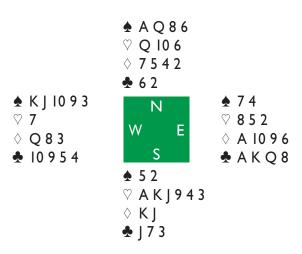
Declarer must win the rest, and he cannot touch diamonds until South's trumps have been drawn. Fortunately a squeeze comes to the rescue. Spade to the queen, club ruffed with the king and spade to the jack. The last trump squeezed North in the minors.

Germany won 11 IMPs back, but France still managed to win the match by 16-14.



100 Years Young Solution 11

The full deal:



You won't be able to ruff a club, so try an unusual minor suit squeeze against East, profiting from his forced trump returns. Ace of hearts, king of diamonds, spade finesse, diamond ruff, spade to the ace, spade ruff, club to East's queen.

On a second heart to dummy's ten, now the last spade catches East!

If he discards his diamond, ruff with the king; if he pitches a club honour, ruff with the jack and play a club. If East "discards" his last trump, overtake and score a club ruff.



OPEN TEAMS BUTLER (FINAL)

	Playara	Butler	Country	Boards
	Players MULTON Franck - ZIMMERMANN Pierre	l.80	Country Monaco	Boards 20
1 2		1.00	Netherlands	180
2	BRINK Sjoert - DRIJVER Bas BALICKI Cezary - ZMUDZINSKI Adam	0.75	Poland	180
3 4		0.75		
	ZAK Piotr - ZAREMBA Jerzy	0.75	Poland	20
5	HELGEMO Geir - HELNESS Tor		Monaco	180
6	EINARSSON Bjarni Holmar - JORGENSEN Adalsteinn	0.58	Iceland	160
7	BOCCHI Norberto - MADALA Agustin	0.58	Italy	160
8	GROMOELLER Michael - REHDER Martin	0.50	Germany	120
9	ARONOV Victor - STEFANOV Julian	0.48	Bulgaria	120
10	SYLVAN Johan - WRANG Frederic	0.44	Sweden	100
	LORENZINI Cedric - ROMBAUT Jerome	0.38	France	120
12	BALDURSSON Jon - JONSSON Thorlakur	0.36	Iceland	140
13	FISHER Lotan - SCHWARTZ Ron	0.30	Israel	140
14	BESSIS Michel - BESSIS Thomas	0.30	France	100
15	MULLER Bauke - WIJS Simon de	0.28	Netherlands	120
16	LAURIA Lorenzo - VERSACE Alfredo	0.28	Italy	120
17	HANLON Tom - McGANN Hugh	0.24	Ireland	160
18	DUBININ Alexander - GROMOV Andrey	0.19	Russia	120
19	PIEKAREK Josef - SMIRNOV Alexander	0.19	Germany	140
20	BURAS Krzysztof - NARKIEWICZ Grzegorz	0.09	Poland	160
21	DOXIADIS Konstantinos - KANNAVOS Panagiotis	0.07	Greece	120
22	FITZGIBBON Nicholas - MESBUR Adam	0.04	Ireland	100
23	EIDI Michel - VROUSTIS Vassilis	0.03	Greece	140
24	DUBOIN Giorgio - SEMENTA Antonio	0.03	Italy	80
25	FORRESTER Tony - GOLD David	0.02	England	160
26	GHIGHECI Ovidiu - ROTARU Iulian	0.00	Romania	120
27	BIRMAN Alon - PADON Dror	-0.04	Israel	120
28	BERG Jan Tore - SVENDSEN Odin	-0.08	Norway	120
29	BAKHSHI David - TOWNSEND Tom	-0.09	England	140
30	FALLENIUS Bjorn - FREDIN Peter	-0.13	Sweden	120
31	KARAKOLEV Georgi - MIHOV Vladimir	-0.15	Bulgaria	180
32	CROUCH Peter - PATTERSON Derek	-0.17	England	60
33	CARROLL John - GARVEY Tommy	-0.18	Ireland	100
34	NYSTROM Fredrik - UPMARK Johan	-0.19	Sweden	140
35	PROOIJEN Ricco van - VERHEES JR Louk	-0.22	Netherlands	60
36	DE MENDEZ Thierry - ZIVKOVIĆ Gojko	-0.27	Switzerland	100
37	KHIUPPENEN Yury - KHOLOMEEV Vadim	-0.27	Russia	140
38	BOMPIS Marc - QUANTIN Jean-Christophe	-0.29	France	140
39	HERBST Ilan - HERBST Ophir	-0.31	Israel	100
40	FRITSCHE Joerg - ROHOWSKY Roland	-0.33	Germany	100
41	KHOKHLÓV Jouri - RUDAKOV Evgeni	-0.34	Russia	100
42	TOKAY Mustafa Cem - ZORLU Nafiz	-0.36	Turkey	120
43	KANDEMIR Ismail - KOLATA Suleyman	-0.37	, Turkey	140
44	BROGELAND Boye - NYBO Frode	-0.39	Norway	140
45	FANTONI Fulvio - NUNES Claudio	-0.46	Monaco	160
46	MAGNUSSON Stephan - NIKOLENKOV Dmitrij	-0.46	Switzerland	140
47	ASSAEL Salvador - KOKSOY Enver	-0.48	Turkey	100
48	MARASHEV Vladimir - TSONCHEV Ivan	-0.58	Bulgaria	60
49	KARAMANLIS Philippos - PROTONOTARIOS Manolis	-0.66	Greece	100
			2.0000	

SENIOR TEAMS BUTLER

	Players	Butler	Country	Boards
Ι	COPUR Mehmet Emin - FALAY Faik	2.44	Turkey	16
2	LEENHARDT Francois - PIGANEAU Patrice	0.96	France	208
3	ELINESCU Michael - WLADOW Entscho	0.90	Germany	224
4	LASOCKI Krzysztof - RUSSYAN Jerzy	0.69	Poland	240
5	KOWALSKI Apolinary - ROMANSKI Jacek	0.58	Poland	239
6	MAAS Anton - NIEMEIJER Christoffer	0.56	Netherlands	16
7	GRENTHE Patrick - VÁNHOUTTE Philippe	0.51	France	192
8	DIAMOND Derek - SILVERSTONE Victor	0.49	Scotland	192
9	BOESGAARD Knud-Aage - NIELSEN Hans Christian	0.47	Denmark	224
10	ROMIK Pinhas - ZELIGMAN Shalom	0.46	Israel	192
	JOHNSON David - STAS Jacques	0.44	Belgium	208
12	KAPLAN Alain - POLET Guy	0.40	Belgium	224
13	HRISTOV Hristo - RUSEV Tony	0.38	Bulgaria	272
14	CAVIEZEL Franco - CEDOLIN Franco	0.34	Italy	160
15	BJERREGARD Sven-Ake - MORATH Anders	0.34	Sweden	240
16	COYLE Willie - MATHESON John	0.32	Scotland	208
17	JANSSENS Onno - VRIEZE Koos	0.30	Netherlands	192
18	HALLBERG Gunnar - HOLLAND John	0.29	England	208
19	MOLLER Steen - SCHALTZ Peter	0.29	Denmark	208
20	MOSCA Carlo - VIVALDI Antonio	0.28	Italy	208
21	EKINCI Orhan - GEBECELI Cetin Sener	0.25	Turkey	16
22	MARSAL Reiner - WENNING Ulrich	0.23	Germany	208
23	BIRMAN Daniela - BIRMAN David	0.22	Israel	192
24	MURDOCH John - SIME Iain	0.21	Scotland	176
25	MAAS Anton - VRIEND Bep	0.19	Netherlands	192
26	COPUR Mehmet Emin - GEBECELI Cetin Sener	0.12	Turkey	208
27	BUER Bjorn - HOLMBAKKEN Johnny	0.08	Norway	192
28	FITZGERALD Edward - McDONAGH Michael	0.08	Ireland	192
29	GERGOV Georgi - MANTCHEV Rumen	0.08	Bulgaria	144
30	EKINCI Orhan - FALAY Faik	0.07	Turkey	176
31	ANDERSON A.T.R BARRY Pat	0.06	Ireland	174
32	ENGEL Joseph - FRYDRICH Julian	0.03	Israel	192
33	FALAY Faik - NUMANOGLU IIhan	0.02	Turkey	48
34	PRICE David - SIMPSON Colin	0.00	England	208
35	BURATTI Andrea - COMELLA Amedeo	-0.03	Italy	208
36	NIEMEIJER Christoffer - VERHEES Sr Loek	-0.05	Netherlands	176
37	KLUKOWSKI Julian - MARKOWICZ Victor	-0.06	Poland	96
38	BIGDELI Faramarz - JANSSENS Hubert	-0.07	Belgium	144
39	BERG Thomas - JORGENSEN Geert	-0.08	Denmark	144
40	BILLGREN Peter - SANZEN Bjorn	-0.08	Sweden	240
41	MAESEL Helge - MAESEL Roald	-0.10	Norway	192
42	LASSERRE Guy - POIZAT Philippe	-0.11	France	176
43		-0.19	Wales	16
44	McDEVITT Patrick - TIMLIN Rory	-0.22	Ireland	206
45	BAKKE Tor - FARSTAD Arve	-0.25	Norway	192
46	GROSSI Giuseppe - MESTRES Montserrat	-0.29	Spain	224
47	SALISBURY John - TEDD Mike	-0.35	Wales	208
48	HACKETT Paul D - WATERLOW Tony	-0.37	England	160
49	LEIS Paul - LINNAMAGI Jaan	-0.43	Estonia	208

FÉDÉRATION MONÉGASQUE DE BRIDGE

MONACO WELCOMES THE CAVENDISH

The Monaco Bridge Fed (FMB) is very proud to confirm the agreement of partnership with World Bridge Productions (WBP), and the next edition of THE CAVENDISH will take place in Monaco, October 15th - 19th 2012.

TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

Teams Tournament : Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th Entry fee : 7500 Euros (probably reduced to 5000 Euros) Auctions : no auctions

Cavendish Invitational Tournament : Wednesday 17th, Thursday 18th, Friday 19th Entry fee : 1500 Euros Auctions : minimum 5000 Euros

FMB Pairs International Tournament : Wednesday 17th, Thursday 18th, Friday 19th Entry fee : 500 Euros Auctions : not obliged, but minimum 500 Euros

PRIZES

The Prize regulation will be more or less the same as in Las Vegas, with at least 90% of the entry fees and auctions paid back to the players and bidders.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

The "Société des Bains de Mer (SBM)", partner of the Monaco Bridge Fed, will propose great conditions in her prestigious hotels (Hôtel de Paris, Hôtel Hermitage), but you may find any other kinds of hotel or residences in Monaco, at different rates. Tell us about your needs and we'll find solutions for you.

AND....

In order to start your great week of bridge, don't forget the 24th Monaco International Teams Tournament, from Friday October 2th to Sunday October 14th.

Information and contacts

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