



# 52<sup>nd</sup> EUROPEAN BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

OPATIJA, CROATIA

JUNE 21<sup>st</sup> - JULY 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

## Daily Bulletin

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Sunday, 29th June 2014

# ENGLAND'S GOLDEN GENERATION



Congratulations to the European Seniors Teams Champions, **England's** Paul Hackett, Gunnar Hallberg, John Holland, David Mossop, David Price, Colin Simpson & Simon Cochemé NPC.

England were joined on the podium by **Sweden's** Sven-Åke Bjerregård, Andreas Konyves, Anders Morath, Borje Rudenstahl, Goran Sellden, Björn Wenneberg, Tommy Gullberg NPC & Carina Westlin Coach and **Poland's** Julian Klukowski, Apolinary Kowalski, Krzysztof Lasocki, Viktor Markowicz, Jacek Romanski, Jerzy Ruszany, Wlodek Wala NPC & Marian Wierszycki Coach.

Austria, Norway & Bulgaria complete the sextet that will represent Europe in Chennai.

The **EBL General Assembly** will be held **today** in the Congress Hall on the second floor of the Grand Hotel 4 Opatijska Cvijeta, opposite the Camelia Hotel, v.Cara Emina 6 (near the Opatija Harbour).

### Agenda

09.30 Extraordinary General Assembly

10.00 Ordinary General Assembly



The **Open and Women's Prize-Giving** and **Closing Ceremony** will be held on Tuesday 1st July at 21.00 at the same place as the General Assembly

### EBL President's Press Conference

A European Bridge League Press Conference will be held tomorrow, June 30th at 11.00 in the VuGraph room on the second floor (through Fitness Center) of the Sports Hall. (For more information, see page 21)

### BBO SCHEDULE

**12.30**

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Monaco v Bulgaria (O)  | BBO 1* |
| Poland v France (O)    | BBO 2  |
| Germany v Romania (O)  | BBO 3  |
| Netherl. v Denmark (W) | BBO 4  |
| Denmark v Croatia (O)  | BBO 5  |

**15.20**

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| England v Ireland (O)  | BBO 1* |
| Norway v Bulgaria (O)  | BBO 2  |
| Romania v Monaco (O)   | BBO 3  |
| England v Netherl. (W) | BBO 4  |
| Croatia v Israel (O)   | BBO 5  |

**18.10**

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Germany v Poland (O) | BBO 1* |
| France v England (O) | BBO 2  |
| Monaco v Netherl.(O) | BBO 3  |
| Sweden v Israel (O)  | BBO 4  |
| Croatia v Italy (O)  | BBO 5  |

\*BBO 1 = VuGraph

Jamnica



**KVARNER**  
Diversity is beautiful



**REMISENS**  
HOTELS & VILLAS

**170<sup>th</sup>** YEARS OF TOURISM  
GODINA TURIZMA  
**OPATIJA**



# OPEN

## ○ Final 1 12.30

|   |             |          |
|---|-------------|----------|
| 1 | GERMANY     | ROMANIA  |
| 2 | ITALY       | NORWAY   |
| 3 | MONACO      | BULGARIA |
| 4 | POLAND      | FRANCE   |
| 5 | RUSSIA      | TURKEY   |
| 6 | NETHERLANDS | SWEDEN   |
| 7 | ESTONIA     | ENGLAND  |
| 8 | DENMARK     | CROATIA  |
| 9 | IRELAND     | ISRAEL   |

## ○ Final 2 15.20

|   |             |          |
|---|-------------|----------|
| 1 | NORWAY      | BULGARIA |
| 2 | ROMANIA     | MONACO   |
| 3 | GERMANY     | ITALY    |
| 4 | NETHERLANDS | RUSSIA   |
| 5 | SWEDEN      | POLAND   |
| 6 | TURKEY      | FRANCE   |
| 7 | CROATIA     | ISRAEL   |
| 8 | ENGLAND     | IRELAND  |
| 9 | ESTONIA     | DENMARK  |

## ○ Final 3 18.10

|   |          |             |
|---|----------|-------------|
| 1 | FRANCE   | ENGLAND     |
| 2 | DENMARK  | RUSSIA      |
| 3 | SWEDEN   | ISRAEL      |
| 4 | ROMANIA  | ESTONIA     |
| 5 | CROATIA  | ITALY       |
| 6 | BULGARIA | IRELAND     |
| 7 | GERMANY  | POLAND      |
| 8 | TURKEY   | NORWAY      |
| 9 | MONACO   | NETHERLANDS |

## Carry-over

|          |        |          |       |
|----------|--------|----------|-------|
| MONACO   | 111.04 | TURKEY   | 86.75 |
| ISRAEL   | 104.74 | BULGARIA | 82.74 |
| GERMANY  | 104.01 | IRELAND  | 79.33 |
| NORWAY   | 102.63 | SWEDEN   | 78.86 |
| ENGLAND  | 102.11 | ROMANIA  | 78.54 |
| FRANCE   | 96.40  | RUSSIA   | 76.50 |
| POLAND   | 92.50  | ESTONIA  | 73.71 |
| DENMARK  | 88.92  | ITALY    | 67.74 |
| NETHERL. | 87.96  | CROATIA  | 67.52 |

## Open A after RR

| TEAM             | VP            |
|------------------|---------------|
| <b>1 MONACO</b>  | <b>234.08</b> |
| <b>2 GERMANY</b> | <b>223.40</b> |
| <b>3 NORWAY</b>  | <b>220.25</b> |
| <b>4 SWEDEN</b>  | <b>212.69</b> |
| <b>5 FRANCE</b>  | <b>211.21</b> |
| <b>6 RUSSIA</b>  | <b>186.29</b> |
| <b>7 IRELAND</b> | <b>183.94</b> |
| <b>8 ESTONIA</b> | <b>179.02</b> |
| <b>9 CROATIA</b> | <b>174.02</b> |
| 10 ICELAND       | 164.89        |
| 11 SPAIN         | 164.59        |
| 12 AUSTRIA       | 156.35        |
| 13 GREECE        | 142.17        |
| 14 FINLAND       | 141.22        |
| 15 PORTUGAL      | 127.03        |
| 16 SLOVAKIA      | 123.98        |
| 17 SCOTLAND      | 117.45        |
| 18 SLOVENIA      | 95.42         |

## Open B after RR

| TEAM                  | VP            |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| <b>1 ENGLAND</b>      | <b>218.39</b> |
| <b>2 ISRAEL</b>       | <b>214.58</b> |
| <b>3 DENMARK</b>      | <b>204.35</b> |
| <b>4 POLAND</b>       | <b>202.55</b> |
| <b>5 NETHERLANDS</b>  | <b>202.41</b> |
| <b>6 TURKEY</b>       | <b>198.79</b> |
| <b>7 ROMANIA</b>      | <b>192.89</b> |
| <b>8 BULGARIA</b>     | <b>192.19</b> |
| <b>9 ITALY</b>        | <b>180.37</b> |
| 10 LATVIA             | 175.44        |
| 11 SERBIA             | 171.94        |
| 12 HUNGARY            | 152.24        |
| 13 SWITZERLAND        | 149.35        |
| 14 FAROE ISLANDS      | 145.83        |
| 15 BELGIUM            | 142.82        |
| 16 WALES              | 140.00        |
| 17 LITHUANIA          | 92.88         |
| 18 BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA | 82.98         |

# SENIORS

## F - Final Ranking

| TEAM       | VP     |
|------------|--------|
| 1 ENGLAND  | 132.41 |
| 2 SWEDEN   | 119.80 |
| 3 POLAND   | 114.75 |
| 4 AUSTRIA  | 104.40 |
| 5 NORWAY   | 101.51 |
| 6 BULGARIA | 95.86  |
| 7 IRELAND  | 94.65  |
| 8 BELGIUM  | 87.60  |
| 9 HUNGARY  | 79.34  |
| 10 DENMARK | 70.93  |

## FB - Final Ranking

| TEAM        | VP     |
|-------------|--------|
| 1 GERMANY   | 121.81 |
| 2 ISRAEL    | 117.92 |
| 3 SCOTLAND  | 109.24 |
| 4 FINLAND   | 100.66 |
| 5 CROATIA   | 96.07  |
| 6 ESTONIA   | 86.27  |
| 7 WALES     | 84.67  |
| 8 TURKEY    | 82.54  |
| 9 PORTUGAL  | 82.33  |
| 10 SPAIN    | 81.13  |
| 11 ITALY    | 76.39  |
| 12 ROMANIA  | 65.65  |
| 13 SERBIA   | 59.00  |
| 14 SLOVENIA | 51.56  |

## Closing Speech

Dear Bridge Friends,

We are at the end of the EBL Seniors Teams championship after seven days of hard competition.

A great thanks to the Croatian people to have welcome us so kindly in Opatija.

I want to thank the Mayor, Ivo Dujmić, the President of the Croatian Bridge Federation, Jurica Carić, and the on-site organisers, Branka and Goran Grgurić.

Thank you to the Championship Committee, the Technical Director, the TD's and all the staff both from EBL and CBF.

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, the atmosphere you have created. These contributed to the success of the championship and to the image of Bridge.

As you already know, this Senior European Championship qualifies the 6 first teams for the d'Orsi Trophy that will be held in Chennai, India, from 26<sup>th</sup> September to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015. All my good wishes to the teams that have qualified.

The EBL organised these 52<sup>nd</sup> European Team Championships in Opatija. The venue for the next edition is not yet known. It will probably be in Budapest in 2016.

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

Enjoy your evening.  
Yves Aubry  
EBL President

## Sponsors Corner

The European Senior Team Champions would like to thank Roger O'Shea and Pharon Financial Services for their support.

# WOMEN

## W 17 12.30

|    |             |          |
|----|-------------|----------|
| 21 | SERBIA      | SPAIN    |
| 22 | SCOTLAND    | SWEDEN   |
| 23 | RUSSIA      | TURKEY   |
| 24 | ROMANIA     | AUSTRIA  |
| 25 | POLAND      | BULGARIA |
| 26 | NORWAY      | CROATIA  |
| 27 | NETHERLANDS | DENMARK  |
| 28 | LEBANON     | ENGLAND  |
| 29 | ITALY       | ESTONIA  |
| 30 | ISRAEL      | FRANCE   |
| 31 | IRELAND     | GERMANY  |
| 32 | GREECE      | BYE      |

## W 18 15.20

|    |          |             |
|----|----------|-------------|
| 21 | GREECE   | IRELAND     |
| 22 | GERMANY  | ISRAEL      |
| 23 | FRANCE   | ITALY       |
| 24 | ESTONIA  | LEBANON     |
| 25 | ENGLAND  | NETHERLANDS |
| 26 | DENMARK  | NORWAY      |
| 27 | CROATIA  | POLAND      |
| 28 | BULGARIA | ROMANIA     |
| 29 | AUSTRIA  | RUSSIA      |
| 30 | TURKEY   | SCOTLAND    |
| 31 | SWEDEN   | SERBIA      |
| 32 | SPAIN    | BYE         |

## After Round 16

| TEAM          | VP     |
|---------------|--------|
| 1 NETHERLANDS | 221.65 |
| 2 ITALY       | 220.00 |
| 3 ENGLAND     | 218.82 |
| 4 FRANCE      | 204.01 |
| 5 ROMANIA     | 194.72 |
| 6 SWEDEN      | 179.72 |
| 7 TURKEY      | 174.87 |
| 8 DENMARK     | 174.43 |
| 9 POLAND      | 168.51 |
| 10 RUSSIA     | 167.21 |
| 11 IRELAND    | 164.62 |
| 12 GERMANY    | 159.99 |
| 13 ISRAEL     | 158.33 |
| 14 SCOTLAND   | 154.40 |
| 15 SPAIN      | 153.16 |
| 16 CROATIA    | 141.11 |
| 17 NORWAY     | 130.79 |
| 18 BULGARIA   | 130.73 |
| 19 ESTONIA    | 129.74 |
| 20 GREECE     | 129.55 |
| 21 SERBIA     | 125.84 |
| 22 AUSTRIA    | 120.42 |
| 23 LEBANON    | 86.03  |



### IN EMERGENCY

1. Call 112

2. Ask Hospitality to call a doctor

Heart starter is based in the window at the book stall on 1st floor.





## The Croatian Corner

**"Nije u šoldima sve"**

Suvremena je psihologija, prema napisima nekih eminentnih modnih časopisa, uspjela dokazati terapijski učinak šopinga na psihi. Naravno, kad je zdravlje u pitanju, za novce nitko previše ne mari, pa su i cijene prilikom šopinga relativno nebitne.

Naš šoping bord dolazi iz meča ženske reprezentacije protiv Njemačke, a hrvatske boje branile su Renata Muller, Sandra Tomljanović, Sandra Kulović-Probst i Tihana Brkljačić.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West | North         | East | South              |
|------|---------------|------|--------------------|
|      | <i>Muller</i> |      | <i>Tomljanovic</i> |
|      |               |      | Pass               |
| 1♦   | 2♥            | 2♠   | All Pass           |

Licitacija je u otvorenoj sali protekla vrlo mirno. Nakon otvora na Westu Muller je, na pasiranu partnericu, licitirala svoj ojači "weak two" u hercu. East je u svom arsenalu imala na raspolaganju non-forsing licit 2 pika, a, nakon što ga je i izabrala, bord se vrlo brzo propasirao. Mirna atmosfera tijekom licitaciju nastavila se i tijekom igre nakon koje je East mirno upisala svojih devet štihova.

2♠ E, +1, EW +140

Closed Room

| West             | North    | East                  | South |
|------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------|
| <i>Brkljacic</i> |          | <i>Kulovic-Probst</i> |       |
|                  |          |                       | Pass  |
| 1♦               | 2♥       | 2♠                    | Pass  |
| 2NT              | Pass     | 3♦                    | Pass  |
| 3NT              | All Pass |                       |       |

Zatvorena sala donijela je pomalo drukčiji pristup. Početak je bio identičan, ali Kulović-Probst nije imala na raspolaganju non-forsing licit 2 pik, pa je umjesto njega licitirala forsing licit 2 pik. Brkljačić je priznala svoj neajki balans s 2NT, a Kulović-Probst sajnofirala u 3 karo. U ovom trenutku Brkljačić je osjetila potrebu rješavanja svojih problema šopingom. Gledajući svog šupljeg četvrtog kralja karo zaključila je da bi se 3NT moglo igrati za iste novce, pa ga je odlučila kupiti. Tri karo je neoborivo, no 3NT se, kao i kod većine ženskih šopinga, ne igra za iste novce s obzirom da se ne da napraviti bez pomoći obrane. No, nije u šoldima sve, ima nešto i u tajmingu.

East je, ne želeći se zabiti u očekivanih AQ herc, atakirala pik damu. Tref ataka ostavlja izvođača bez šanse, ali tu kreativnu ataku nije nimalo lako naći. Brkljačić je damu pik uzela kraljem i propustila devetku pik do desetke na Southu. Igranje trefa u ovom trenutku još uvijek ruši kontrakt, ali South je skinula herc asa i nastavila hercom za damu i kralja. Kako herc ili karo sad prodaju deveti štih, North je konačno odigrala tref kralja, ali bilo je prekasno. Brkljačić je uzela tref kralja asom, odigrala karo do asa i igranjem pikova sa stola složila sljedeću završnicu:

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>♠ –<br/>♥ J 8<br/>♦ K 9 3<br/>♣ –</p> | <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             N<br/>W     E<br/>S           </div> | <p>♠ 8<br/>♥ –<br/>♦ 10 8<br/>♣ J 9</p>   | <p>♠ –<br/>♥ 10 7<br/>♦ Q J<br/>♣ 7</p> |
|  |  | <p>♠ –<br/>♥ –<br/>♦ 5<br/>♣ Q 10 8 6</p> |   |

Na zadnji pik sa stola North je u strip-skvizu. Ako baci tref, Brkljačić će odigrati karo do kralja i karonom ubaciti North koja se mora zabiti u hercu, a ako baci crvenu kartu prodala je deveti štih jer će narasti ili herc osmica ili karo devetka. Lijepi strip-skviz, odnosno na hrvatskom stiskavac uz skidanje, za blagotvorni terapijski učinak bridž šopinga na žensku psihi.

3NT W, =, EW +400

Hrvatska +7 IMP

Doista, nije u šoldima sve. Kad se protivnice pod pritiskom stiskavca skinu da ti olakšaju šoping, nije bitno imaš li dovoljno novaca za novu haljinu već samo da ti dobro stoji. Ova je bila šivana kao po narudžbi.

Tomislav Ščepanović

## A Girl in the Open

By Christina Lund Madsen

Interview with  
Magdalena  
Ticha,  
Netherlands  
Open



19 year-old Magdalena Ticha left her family and friends in the Czech Republic to follow her heart to the Netherlands. Four years later she is the first female ever to represent the Dutch Open team at the age of 23.

11 years old Magdalena transferred to her two year older sister's school. At the school there was a professor who gave bridge lessons in his spare time as an offer to the students after school. Magdalena and her sister thought 'why not?' and started playing together.

Several years later she met the 11 year older Richard Ritmeijer during a junior event in the Czech Republic.

"He helped with the Czech Juniors, I played in the girls team. He is... 33. No, I think he is 34. I have to check it out. I am so bad with age. It doesn't really matter anyway."

They met during a couple of junior events and became friends. At a junior championship in Romania they played together in the evenings (after Magdalena had played all day) and soon they became partners in more than just bridge. Together they represent the Dutch Open team here in Opatija.

We are sitting outside on the pool terrace of the hotel. Magdalena is (obviously) wearing an orange summer dress, matching glasses and a very pretty smile. Every time I ask her a question that she feels is a little intimate, she makes a little slightly uncomfortably laugh before she replies.

### **What do you like about Richard?**

"It is getting intimate." A small giggle. "I like his sense of humour. It may not be the most common sense of humour. But we are on the same wavelength. He is a very nice person, always cheerful, optimistic, trustworthy, reliable. And we have a lot of fun together."

After a year with a long distance relationship Magdalena and Richard had to decide where to spend their future. Richard is a Dutch lawyer, which would make it more challenging for him to move and take his profession with

him. Magdalena had just finished gymnasium, so it was easier for her. She applied for a Dutch university studying international and European law and was accepted.

### **Was it a difficult decision moving to the Netherlands?**

A little laugh. "It was difficult to leave my family and friends behind. I didn't know anyone in the Netherlands besides Richie. It seemed the logical step, since I wanted to keep the relationship. For me it felt like fate was leading me to do this."

### **How did your family react when you decided to move to the Netherlands?**

"My family was not very happy about it. I also applied and was accepted to a top Czech university, so they would like to see me study there. They made their priority clear to me, but said it was my decision. My family is still not very happy about it and wants me to visit as much as possible, which is not so easy with studies and bridge. I try to come to the Czech Republic two times a year."

### **What do you miss the most?**

"I think my family. Yeah. I am quite certain. Sometimes I miss mountains. My family lived quite close to the mountains. It is really nice to go hiking in the mountains and just be close to nature. Richard and I go hiking."

Is it dangerous?

"In Slovakia the mountains can be...exciting so to say. Sometimes you have to climb with chains. But we mostly do hiking, mostly walk, sometimes you climb a bit, but with no special equipment. Climbing is with chains. We have never done any real climbing."

All of a sudden she says: "Can I correct one thing? Richard is 33. He will turn 34 in autumn. Please don't write it, I am so bad with age."

I cannot help myself. I hope Richard thinks it is as funny as I do.

### **What is the biggest challenge about living in the Netherlands?**

"The language was for long a big obstacle. It makes it more difficult to get in contact with people. The mentality is also a bit different and the sense of humour. I think the Dutch can be very open and direct in some matters that may not always feel so comfortable." She makes her little nervous giggle.

### **Can you give an example?**

"It is getting too personal." She answers a bit unwillingly. "For example, when I am with Richard's family they only speak Dutch together. There are times I need to leave and be a bit alone because I feel overwhelmed. They can sometimes make a comment about it as a joke, but if you are in an uncomfortable situation... In the Czech Republic you don't make such comments, you just leave people

alone. I think it is a cultural difference. They just like to make jokes also about difficult things.”

Magdalena can seem fragile as a butterfly, however, she possesses a calmness enabling her to stand the pressure of being a woman playing in top level Open events. In Bali she and Richard won the bronze in the transnational teams with Jan Jansma and Gert-Jan Paulissen, in what Magdalena describes as one of her best bridge experiences.

In the spring she and Richard made their debut at the American Nationals, playing on a sponsored team with Berend van den Bos and Joris van Lankveld, who at that time were their competitors for the Dutch Open team. The team did very well and went on to the third round of the Vanderbilt, where they faced mighty Monaco. They ended up losing the match, however, Monaco had a bit of a struggle beating them.

“Usually I get extra motivated when I play against such players. I don’t really get nervous because there are no expectations of me.”

#### **What about here?**

“So far I was not so nervous, only a bit of healthy excitement. We are very happy to play for the team. There is some pressure but I don’t think we will be really nervous.”

#### **Do you feel that men under-rate you?**

“Currently I don’t feel it so much. Some years ago it felt like the opponents were overbidding, they played against a girl, and tried to impose some pressure. In this kind of championship they are not so sure what to expect of me because the Dutch are a very good team, so if a girl is on the squad they are not so sure what will happen. Usually my experience is the better the opponents, the nicer they behave. If I am being attacked it is usually by the worst opponents.”

#### **What is your biggest strength as a player?**

“I think I have quite a good basis in bridge. In the long run I get positive results, decent declarer, defense. I don’t think I have one big strength, more I am rather solid. That can help in the long run. In our partnership it is more Richard who makes some actions, redoubles at the right moment, surprises the opponents.”

#### **Would you like to play Women’s bridge?**

“Ah... well, now that I experienced the open field I really like to play it. But for me it is more about the partnership. I really like playing with Richard. If at some point I get a really good female partner I think I would be happy to play. But I really enjoy playing in the Open. It is very challenging. I can learn a lot, so this is top priority for me at the moment.”

#### **Would you like to become a bridge professional?**

She makes her characteristic nervous giggle.

“I got this question a few times and I am thinking what exactly is it? Do you do only bridge and nothing else?”

I really like bridge and would like to play for a living, but at this moment I can’t imagine bridge would be the only thing I would be doing. I could imagine part-time working with bridge. If I would be lucky enough to play full-time bridge, I would perhaps do some voluntary work. As a woman it is a little difficult to become a full-time pro. I would like to play and improve.”

#### **How would your sister describe you?**

She thinks a little. “Active. I am a Gemini, so sometimes I can be a bit two-sided. I can be very introverted and sociable. Silent and talkative. In general I am active and like to learn new things. I can never focus only on one thing. It is the same with bridge, I love it, but I cannot imagine it would be the only thing in my life.”

The video: 

## Championship Diary

Here are the answers to the two crossword clues we posed yesterday:

Here is a rather neat crossword clue: Entury (4,4,2,3)

*The trick with a crossword is to interpret the clue. Here you have a word with a letter missing – make it century and the answer might be clearer:*

**long time no see.**

Or this one: O hark the herald angels sing the boy’s descent which lifted up the world (5,9,7,5,6,2,5,3,6,2,3,6)

If you count up the letters in the clue and the answer you will find they are identical, which suggest it must be an anagram. the answer is:

**while shepherds watched their flocks by night all seated on the ground**

As is very much the norm in major championships the EBL reached an accord with our hosts that a Croatian team would usually be featured in every round. They must be delighted that Croatia qualified for the Open final.

Following the advertisement in yesterday’s Bulletin we can reveal that players from 19 countries have already registered for the Cavendish. They include Zia Mahmood, Jacek Pszczola, Boye Brogeland, Massimo Lanzarotti, Frederic Wrang, Juan-Carlos Ventin, Andrew Robson, Tony Forrester, David Gold, Krzysztof Martens, Andrei Gromov and Alexander Dubinin.

The Ladies Pairs will also be a strong event with among others Marion Michielsen, Meike Wortel & Jovi Smederevac.

## Seniors Final Round 2

By Jos Jacobs



### Ireland v. Hungary



In Thursday morning's first match of the Seniors' Round Robin, Ireland had moved up to second place by beating England 16.7-4.3 VP whereas Hungary, the World Seniors title holders, succumbed to their Austrian neighbours by 15.4-4.6 VP So Ireland would hope to consolidate the morning's good work but Hungary would need a big win to get back into some sort of contention.

The Hungarians got off to a flying start, as this was the first board:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| ♠ 9 8 2<br>♥ 10<br>♦ J 9 8 7 6 3 2<br>♣ A 2 | <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N<br/>W E<br/>S                 </div> | ♠ Q J<br>♥ A 5 4<br>♦ Q 10<br>♣ K J 8 6 4 3 |
| ♠ A 10 7 6<br>♥ J 9 8 6 3 2<br>♦ 5<br>♣ 7 5 |   | ♠ K 5 4 3<br>♥ K Q 7<br>♦ A K 4<br>♣ Q 10 9 |

In the Open Room, the lack of a solid club stopper probably led South astray:

Open Room

| West   | North    | East      | South     |
|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Kovács | O'Brien  | Dumbovich | MacDonagh |
| 2♥     | Pass     | 1♣        | INT       |
| Pass   | 2NT      | 3♥        | Dble      |
| 4♥     | 4♦       | Pass      | Pass      |
| Dble   | 5♦       | Pass      | Pass      |
|        | All Pass |           |           |

As 2NT showed diamonds, South might as well have ventured 3NT over 3♥. When he did not, the Irish had to languish in a contract they could not possibly make. How was North to know that partner had such good diamond support?

Dumbovich led the ♠Q and continued the jack when the queen held. Dummy played low again but Kovács overtook and gave his partner a spade ruff for down two; Hungary +300.

Closed Room

| West     | North     | East     | South  |
|----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Barry    | Szappanos | Anderson | Magyar |
|          | 3♦        | Pass     | 3NT    |
| All Pass |           |          |        |

In the Closed Room, Szappanos solved the problem of the hand before it arose. His aggressive opening bid made it almost too easy for South to announce the proper final contract. On a heart lead, Magyar made 11 tricks; Hungary +460 and 13 IMPs to start with.

On the next board, another Irish disaster:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| ♠ 5 4<br>♥ 7<br>♦ K 10 9 8 6<br>♣ K J 8 6 2 | <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N<br/>W E<br/>S                 </div> | ♠ Q 3 2<br>♥ J 10 9 3<br>♦ A 4 3<br>♣ Q 9 4  | ♠ A K J 7<br>♥ A K Q 6 5 2<br>♦ 7 2<br>♣ A |
|   |   | ♠ 10 9 8 6<br>♥ 8 4<br>♦ Q J 5<br>♣ 10 7 5 3 |  |

Open Room

| West   | North   | East      | South     |
|--------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Kovács | O'Brien | Dumbovich | MacDonagh |
| 2♦     | Pass    | 2♣        | Pass      |
| 3♦     | Pass    | 2♥        | Pass      |
| 4♣     | Pass    | 3♥        | Pass      |
|        |         | 4♥        | All Pass  |

After the initial 2♦ negative response to the general GF 2♣, Dumbovich knew that 3♦ did not show a very good suit. Hence, he settled for 4♥, which might even have been a challenge, had South led a trump. On the actual spade lead there simply were 11 tricks; Hungary +450.

Closed Room

| West  | North     | East     | South  |
|-------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Barry | Szappanos | Anderson | Magyar |
| 2♠    | Pass      | 2♦       | Pass   |
| 3♠    | Pass      | 3♥       | Pass   |
| 6♥    | All Pass  | 4♥       | Pass   |

For the Irish, 2♦ was GF (23+) and 2♠ negative (2♥ would have been positive). When East implied a good suit, West thought his two kings were much more than he might have shown with his 2♠. He was right but the contract was not a fancied one, even after the same spade lead; Hungary +50 and another 11 IMPs to them.

After a partscore swing each way the score stood at 30-6 when Hungary made good use of a 3♦ bid for the second time in the match:



Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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



Open Room

| West   | North    | East      | South     |
|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Kovács | O'Brien  | Dumbovich | MacDonagh |
|        |          | Pass      | 1♥        |
| 1♠     | 2♥       | 2♠        | Pass      |
| Pass   | 3♥       | Pass      | Pass      |
| 3♠     | All Pass |           |           |

When North raised to 2♥ only, East just had room to produce a courtesy spade raise. West competed once more over 3♥ and might even have made game if E/W had stretched to bid it. At the table, Kovács played safe for his nine tricks; Hungary +140.

In the Closed Room, the Magyars had a more modernistic view:

Closed Room

| West     | North     | East     | South  |
|----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Barry    | Szappanos | Anderson | Magyar |
|          |           | Pass     | 1♥     |
| 1♠       | 3♦        | Pass     | 3♥     |
| All Pass |           |          |        |

3♦ was a Bergen-type raise which effectively shut out East. West might have tried a double but, when he passed, no doubt not considering his spade holding a very good suit, the Hungarians had bought the contract in both rooms.

Beating 3♥ would need some very inspired defence as East would have to get the lead and push a spade through before dummy's clubs were established. In the records, it says that West led the ♦A and continued the jack. Had East overtaken this he would indeed have been on lead, but how could he possibly see this? An alternative would have been for West to play a low club after cashing two top diamonds. East will then win his ace and play a spade while West still has his own club trick to come to cash the ♠K for one down.

At the table, play was quickly over when West led a spade at trick 3; Hungary another +140 and 7 IMPs.

A few boards later, the 3♦ Bergen raise again did the trick for Hungary:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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



Open Room

| West   | North   | East      | South     |
|--------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Kovács | O'Brien | Dumbovich | MacDonagh |
|        | Pass    | Pass      | 1♥        |
| Pass   | 2♥      | All Pass  |           |

After the simple raise, South might surely have given his hand another try, as his 5-4-3-1 with three aces and a good suit supported by partner may well produce a game. Opposite the ideal dummy with four trumps and a useful side ace, 11 tricks rolled in; Ireland +200.

Closed Room

| West     | North     | East     | South  |
|----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Barry    | Szappanos | Anderson | Magyar |
|          | Pass      | Pass     | 1♥     |
| Pass     | 3♦        | Pass     | 4♥     |
| All Pass |           |          |        |

Another case for the Bergen style 3♦ raise. Knowing about dummy's four trumps, Magyar could immediately take a reasonable shot at game; Hungary +450 and another 6 IMPs to lead 43-9 by now.



Geza Szappanos, Hungary

The Bergen raise did the job for Hungary for the third time in this match on the penultimate board:

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

|  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| ♠ K 9 7<br>♥ Q 4<br>♦ 9 7 6 2<br>♣ J 8 3 2 | <table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table> | N | W | E | S | ♠ 3<br>♥ A J 9 6 2<br>♦ A Q 10 8<br>♣ A 10 4<br>♠ A Q 10 8 6 4<br>♥ 7 5<br>♦ J<br>♣ K Q 7 5<br>♠ J 5 2<br>♥ K 10 8 3<br>♦ K 5 4 3<br>♣ 9 6 |  |
| N  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
| W  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
| E  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
| S  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |

Open Room

| West   | North   | East      | South     |
|--------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Kovács | O'Brien | Dumbovich | MacDonagh |
| Pass   | 1♥      | 1♠        | 2♥        |
| 2♠     | 4♥      | 4♠        | Pass      |
| Pass   | Dble    | All Pass  |           |

South's simple heart raise enabled West to bid 2♠ – all his partner needed to find the excellent sacrifice. N/S can make 5♥ by not losing a trump trick (relatively easy on this layout) but when the Irish decided to take a sensible enough sure plus, it turned out that +100 was all they could get.

Closed Room

| West     | North     | East     | South  |
|----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Barry    | Szappanos | Anderson | Magyar |
| Pass     | 1♥        | 1♠       | 3♦     |
| Pass     | 3♠        | Pass     | 4♥     |
| All Pass |           |          |        |

After the Bergen raise, West did (could?) not show his useful trump support – for which one can hardly blame him – and East did not take action over North's 3♠ either. As a consequence, Hungary were left in a peaceful 4♥ which



Rex Anderson, Ireland

they made with a comfortable overtrick for +650 and another 11 IMPs. They led 56-13 with just one board to go.

On that last board, the Irish finally succeeded in hitting back, doubling their IMP total on this layout:

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

|  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| ♠ 9 2<br>♥ A K 7 3<br>♦ K 6 4<br>♣ A Q 9 6 | <table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table> | N | W | E | S | ♠ Q 3<br>♥ 10 6 5 4<br>♦ J 8 7 2<br>♣ 10 5 4<br>♠ K J 6<br>♥ Q J 8 2<br>♦ Q 10 9 3<br>♣ J 2<br>♠ A 10 8 7 5 4<br>♥ 9<br>♦ A 5<br>♣ K 8 7 3 |  |
| N  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
| W  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
| E  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |
| S  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |

At both tables, the bidding had gone:

| West   | North     | East      | South     |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Kovács | O'Brien   | Dumbovich | MacDonagh |
| Barry  | Szappanos | Anderson  | Magyar    |
| INT    | Pass      | 2♣        | 2♠        |
| 3♥     | Pass      | 4♥        | All Pass  |

Both Norths led the ♠Q to the king and ace, and both Souths returned the ♠10 to dummy's jack.

The two declarers then chose slightly different lines. Anderson, for Ireland, advanced the ♣J which went to the king and ace, followed this by the ♥Q and the ♥A and then, when South showed out, played a diamond from hand to dummy's ten. When this brought down the ace, he was home and dry. He could ruff the spade return high, draw the outstanding trumps finessing North's jack, cross to his ♦K and repeat the diamond finesse for his tenth trick; Ireland a fine +620.

For Hungary, Kovács cashed two top trumps at tricks three and four before leading the ♣J to the king and ace. When he next led a diamond to the queen and ace, trouble was looming for him. An immediate diamond return would not be good enough for the defence as declarer can win his king and concede a diamond to North's jack, leaving North, who is out of spades, on play. So South returned a spade, which declarer had to ruff high. He can now draw the outstanding trumps with a marked finesse of the jack and then play ♦K and a diamond himself to endplay North. When instead, he drew trumps and put his money on a finesse of the ♦J through South, he had to accept one down for -100 and a 13-IMP gain to Ireland.

The final score thus became 56-26 to Hungary or 16.73-3.27 VP. Ireland had dropped to third but Hungary had climbed to fourth with seven matches still to play.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

[BBO Ireland v. Hungary S](#)

# OPEN Round 12

By David Bird



## Monaco v Norway



Over 3000 BBO kibitzers watched the Open Table of this match, where Fantoni/Nunes faced Charlsen/Hoftaniska. The line-up was no less mouth-watering in the Closed Room, with Helgemo/Helness facing Brogeland/Lindqvist. The auction took a surprising turn on this early deal:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

| West     | North    | East       | South |
|----------|----------|------------|-------|
| Charlsen | Fantoni  | Hoftaniska | Nunes |
|          |          | 1♣         | Pass  |
| 1♥       | 1♠       | Pass       | 2♠    |
| Dble     | All Pass |            |       |

West rebid 4♥ after a similar start in the Closed Room (South bidding 2♥ instead of 2♠). Charlsen preferred a double and this ended the auction. Could the Norwegians find the +500 that they needed?



Thomas Charlsen, Norway

Charlsen won the heart lead with the ten and switched to the ♠J, run to dummy's queen. After a diamond to East's jack, ace and another trump removed dummy's holding in that suit. West discarded the ♣J and ♣10, meanwhile, aiming to assist partner in clubs.

When declarer led his known singleton club towards an entry-less dummy, it was tempting indeed for East to grab his ace. This converted 500 into only 200! Declarer could not establish the diamonds under his own steam, but East was now forced to assist him. The defenders claimed two diamond tricks, setting up declarer's hand, and that was only one down; 6 IMPs for Monaco.

If East ducks the first round of clubs, declarer wins with dummy's ♣9 and can only run the ♣K to the ace, ditching a diamond. Two top diamonds then put the contract two down.

Lindkvist read the cards wonderfully on this heart game:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

| West     | North     | East    | South     |
|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Helgemo  | Lindkvist | Helness | Brogeland |
| 1♣       | Dble      | Pass    | 2♣        |
| Pass     | 2♠        | Dble    | 2NT       |
| Pass     | 3♥        | Pass    | 4♥        |
| All Pass |           |         |           |

Helness led the ♣3 and Helgemo took two winners in the suit. Ace and another spade went to declarer's king and he ruffed the ♠10 with the ♥10. Three rounds of trumps left him in hand and he scored the ♠Q. He now needed to avoid a diamond loser. As if by magic, Lindkvist led the ♦J and ran the card! Plus 620 and 12 IMPs were his.

His logic may have been that if West held the ♦Q as part of a 3-2-2-6 hand containing the black honours already shown, he would have opened INT. Brilliant!

It is generally regarded that it is good tactics to bid immediately when you hold opening bid values over a multi 2♦. A double can be used to show a balanced hand with minimum opening values (or a much stronger hand). This deal adds weight to such an opinion:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

| West    | North     | East     | South     |
|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Helgemo | Lindkvist | Helness  | Brogeland |
| Pass    | 2♦*       | Pass     | 3♥*       |
| Pass    | 3♠        | All Pass |           |

Lindkvist's 2♦ was a 'weak multi' of 2-6 points. Helness passed in the East seat. (I was told, while commentating at the other table, that E/W require at least three cards in each major before they can double.) Brogeland bid a pass-or-correct 3♥ and the eventual 3♠ contract went five down undoubled for -250

| West     | North    | East       | South |
|----------|----------|------------|-------|
| Charlsen | Fantoni  | Hoftaniska | Nunes |
| INT *    | Pass     | 1♦         | 1♥    |
| 3NT      | 2♥       | Pass       | Pass  |
|          | All Pass |            |       |

West's INT was a transfer to clubs and +690 was made for a swing of 10 IMPs.



Fulvio Fantoni, Monaco

The last deal of the match was a potential grand slam. Brogeland and Lindkvist had stopped in 6NT+1 at the other table. Could Fantoni and Nunes step up to the plate and do the necessary?

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

| West     | North   | East       | South |
|----------|---------|------------|-------|
| Charlsen | Fantoni | Hoftaniska | Nunes |
| Pass     | 1♣      | Pass       | INT   |
| Pass     | 2♦      | Pass       | 2♥    |
| Pass     | 3♣      | Pass       | 4♣    |
| Pass     | 4♦      | Pass       | 4♥    |
| Pass     | 5♣      | Pass       | 5♠    |
| Pass     | 7♣      | All Pass   |       |

Yes, they could! One Club was forcing but not necessarily a powerful hand. INT showed a balanced hand of 10+ points and 2♦ then suggested 18+ points (an upgrade with the good clubs). 2♥ was a relay and 3♣ showed the extra length in clubs. Clubs were agreed and two red-suit cue-bids followed. Fantoni's 5♣ then showed an odd number of key-cards (the Turbo convention, 4NT would have shown an even number.) Nunes' grand-slam try of 5♠ requested third-round control of the suit and 7♣ was duly reached.

In the Open championship 36 N/S pairs bid this board, ending in 7NT (2 times), 7♣ (13), 6NT (9), 6♣ (10) and 3NT (2).

A splendidly played and very entertaining match drew to a close with Norway the winners by 40-34. That's 11.76-8.24 in VPs.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

[BBO Monaco v Norway](#)

# Les Ennemis Héréditaires

By John Carruthers



## France v England

Women's Teams - Round 12



France and England have been friends and enemies not merely for decades or centuries, but for millennia. It seems every European war has them fighting each other or united against a common foe. Indeed, they might well have become one nation on a number of occasions. However, their bridge rivalry is not so storied, but it is equally fierce. Their matches are always a pleasure to watch, especially in the Women's Teams, with so many recent former World Champions on both rosters. No one would be surprised to see either team hoist the Venice Cup next year in India.

Both North players showed their innate aggressiveness and tried to put their stamp on the match immediately the match began. Both E/W pairs responded beautifully to the challenge.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West          | North            | East         | South        |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Draper</i> | <i>Zochowska</i> | <i>Brown</i> | <i>Reess</i> |
|               | 2♦*              | Dble*        | 2♥*          |
| 3NT           | All Pass         |              |              |

- 2♦ Multi: weak 2 in either major, no strong option
- Dble Balanced 13-15 or any 18+ HCP
- 2♥ Pass or correct

Closed Room

| West           | North        | East           | South        |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| <i>Willard</i> | <i>Brock</i> | <i>Cronier</i> | <i>Smith</i> |
|                | 2♦*          | Dble*          | Rdbl*        |
| Pass           | 2♠           | Pass           | Pass         |
| 3♥             | Pass         | 3♠             | Pass         |
| 3NT            | All Pass     |                |              |

- 2♦ Multi: weak 2 in either major, no strong option
- Dble Balanced 13-15 or any 18+ HCP
- Rdbl Bid your suit

Catherine Draper did not wait to find out which suit North held, whereas Sylvie Willard did so. There was nothing much to the play here and both declarers made 10 tricks for a push, hoping for a swing in their favour when they found out that there were four losers in the alternative contract of four hearts.

After a routine Four Hearts for another push ...

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

| West          | North            | East         | South        |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Draper</i> | <i>Zochowska</i> | <i>Brown</i> | <i>Reess</i> |
| Pass          | 2♦*              | Pass         | 2♣*          |
| Pass          | 2♠*              | Pass         | 2♥*          |
| Pass          | 3♣*              | Pass         | 3♦*          |
| Pass          | 5♣               | Pass         | 6♣           |
| All Pass      |                  |              |              |

- 2♣ Either GF any shape or 22+ HCP balanced
- 2♦ 0-1 control
- 2♥ Hearts or 25+ HCP balanced
- 2♠ Forced
- 2NT 25+ HCP balanced
- 3♣ Stayman
- 3♦ No major

This deal was all about the bidding as well. With all those controls and such good club support, Reess could not be held back, although she did consider pass for some time, knowing she was off the ace of spades and might be off the king of trumps as well. Against that, partner might have held seven or eight clubs. Then again, having denied as many two controls, perhaps North would have bid Four Clubs with king-sixth or -seventh?

Six Clubs is a little worse than 50% since an adverse ruff would beat you, though the chances of that are slim. Draper led the four of spades to Fiona Brown's ace and Brown switched to her heart. Vanessa Reess won that with her ace, cashed the ace of diamonds, then reconsidered. Since East/West lead their fourth highest, West could not have had six spades (she'd have led the six) and East did not

lead another to give West a ruff, so West did not have a singleton. Thus, Reess played her high spades, ruffing the third in dummy, and took the club finesse for an excellent plus 920. Reess' reasoning was sound, provided East/West's spot cards could be trusted, always a dubious proposition against a slam.

Closed Room

| West    | North | East     | South |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| Willard | Brock | Cronier  | Smith |
| Pass    | 2♦*   | Pass     | 2NT*  |
| Pass    | 3♣*   | Pass     | 3♥*   |
| Pass    | 3NT   | All Pass |       |

2♣ Either a weak two in diamonds; or GF any shape; or 23+ HCP balanced  
 2♦ To play opposite a weak two  
 2NT 25+ HCP balanced  
 3♣ Puppet Stayman  
 3♥ no four or five card major

Sally Brock and Nicola Smith had to be content with virtue being its own reward. They made 11 tricks only to lose 10 IMPs. First blood to the French.

The next two boards were flat, the first in a game needing passive defence to beat it, and both pairs of defenders found it, and the next a routine club partial down one.

I thought some of the actions on the next board ... well, a bit timid.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

N  
W E  
S

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

Open Room

| West   | North     | East  | South |
|--------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Draper | Zochowska | Brown | Reess |
|        |           | Pass  | 3♦    |

All Pass

South's Three Diamonds is quite conservative at favourable vulnerability. Yes, we can see that East has already passed and that South did not want to go past 3NT, but still ...

West's pass is also questionable, the more so since Six Spades is makeable from her side of the table. Nevertheless, Draper led a high club and switched to her trump. Reess won and played a club; West won that and

shifted to her eight of hearts – king, like a shot! Plus 110, thank you very much.

Closed Room

| West    | North | East    | South |
|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| Willard | Brock | Cronier | Smith |
|         |       | Pass    | 5♦    |

All Pass

Perhaps Four Diamonds is the book bid with eight of them, but I like Nicola Smith's choice. She liked it too, especially when she escaped a double and the opponents were revealed to have game (and maybe, on the bidding, slam) makeable on a routine guess in spades. Smith was three off, misguessing hearts on sterner defence than at the other table, 6IMPs to France, now leading 16-0.

A routine Three Diamond contract with an overtrick allowed the French to up their lead to 17-0 when ...

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

N  
W E  
S

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

Open Room

| West     | North     | East  | South |
|----------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Draper   | Zochowska | Brown | Reess |
| 1♣       | Pass      | Pass  | 1♠    |
| Dble     | 3♣*       | Pass  | 3♠    |
| All Pass |           |       |       |

3♣ Four-card limit raise or better



Vanessa Reess, France

South has a marginal decision and might have taken more positive action over Three Clubs, but she was not vulnerable and had a seven-loser hand. Draper led a high diamond and shifted to a low heart. Again Reess got it right, rising with the king and playing another. Brown won that with her ten and played a diamond to West, who continued the suit. When the queen of diamonds survived, declarer played a trump to hand. The fall of the ten allowed her to crossruff for ten tricks and plus 170.

Joanna Zochowska led the six of hearts against 3NT, second-best from poor suits. Draper ducked in dummy, Rees put in the eight and declarer won with her queen. Draper played four rounds of spades, winning the fourth in dummy as South discarded two clubs and a diamond, all nominally discouraging but essentially meaningless in this situation. Draper led a club to her queen and ran the ten of diamonds to Reess' jack. Rees got out with the ace and jack of clubs to declarer's king, North discarding the three of hearts. Here was the end position:

Closed Room

| West    | North | East     | South |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| Willard | Brock | Cronier  | Smith |
| 1♣      | Pass  | Pass     | 1♠    |
| Dble    | 2NT*  | Pass     | 3♥    |
| Pass    | 4♠    | All Pass |       |

2NT Four-card limit raise or better

Smith thought her hand too good for Three Spades and Brock took her to game in spades. Willard defended well, taking her top diamonds and shifting to the eight of clubs. Not yet having had the benefit of seeing the ten of spades drop on the first round of the suit, Smith was concerned about ruffing two hearts in the dummy. On the bidding, she thought West about a 10:1 (or better) favourite to hold the king of clubs and spades could have been 4-0 very easily. So she took the club finesse. When that passed off without a hitch and the heart ace proved to be onside, she had an easy 10 tricks for plus 420 and a 6-IMP gain to get off the schneider. That made it 17-6 to France.

Boards 25 through 28 were all fairly routine, with only overtrick or extra undertrick IMPs at stake. Fortunately for the French, those dribs and drabs all went their way. There were five of them, to extend the French lead to 22-6.

Finally, the English women saw a ray of sunshine:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room & Closed Room

| West    | North     | East    | South    |
|---------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Draper  | Zochowska | Brown   | Reess    |
| Willard | Brock     | Cronier | Smith    |
|         | Pass      | Pass    | 1♣       |
| INT     | Pass      | 3NT     | All Pass |

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

The moment of truth had arrived. If North had the king of diamonds, a simple finesse would see declarer home. However, if that card lay with South, some throw-in was necessary. Draper stewed for a bit, then took the diamond finesse for plus 600.



Catherine Draper, England

At the other table, with not much desire for a shift, Brock tried the four of hearts in order to keep her options open on the second round of the suit. If it appeared that she wanted a heart continuation she could always follow up the line, and down the line if not. The sequence of plays and discarding was almost exactly as it had been in the other room and Willard arrived at the same four-card end

position as had Draper, the only difference being that North had the three of hearts instead of the four.

At this table, North could have had either or both of the ace and jack of hearts since South had merely peeped One Club in third chair. South might have started with, for example, ♠7 ♥J83 ♦KJ72 ♣AJ854. If that were the case, in the four card end-position, declarer could avoid the heart guess by playing the ace and another diamond, making a heart trick in the end regardless of the position of the heart honours. So that's what she did, losing the diamond queen to Brock's king and the last two tricks to Smith's ace-jack of hearts. Well done to Brock for leading the four of hearts instead of the more-revealing six. Now that was subtle! Sympathies to Willard.

The swing brought 12 IMPs England's way and they' had closed up to within 4 IMPs; 18-22.

Board 30 featured a marginal game bid by the French and



Sylvie Willard, France

not by the English. Both sides made eight tricks, so England gained 5 IMPs to sneak into the lead for the first time in the match; 23-22.

On Board 31, Reess held ♠J104 ♥10953 ♦432 ♣KQ6. With only her side vulnerable and being silent throughout, the bidding went three passes to Brown, on Reess' right, who opened a (14)15-17 INT. Draper inquired via Stayman, showing some values but not promising a major, and Brown leapt to Three Spades, showing a maximum with five spades. Draper closed proceedings with 3NT. What would you lead?

Reess unerringly led the queen of clubs, catching partner with four to the ace and the opponents' clubs 3-3. Zochowska was delighted to take her ace of hearts after the run of the clubs for plus 50.

At the other table, Brock was on lead with ♠765 ♥A842 ♦J6 ♣A843 after seeing 1♠ – INT – 3NT. She made the normal lead of a heart, disdaining the adage of 'fourth-highest from your longest and strongest'. Declarer had the first 11 tricks with five spades, one heart and five diamonds.

The English lead had been short-lived indeed; those 11 IMPs regained the lead for France, 33-23.

The last board was a bidding test.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

|  |  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| ♠ J 9 8 7<br>♥ Q 10 7 5<br>♦ Q 7 3 2<br>♣ J  | ♠ Q 4<br>♥ A 3<br>♦ K 8 4<br>♣ A K 9 8 7 6 | ♠ 10 5 2<br>♥ J 8 4<br>♦ J 10 6 5<br>♣ 10 4 2 |   |   |   |   |
| <table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">N</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">E</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">W</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">S</td> </tr> </table> |  |   | N | E | W | S |
| N  | E  |   |   |   |   |   |
| W  | S  |   |   |   |   |   |
| ♠ A K 6 3<br>♥ K 9 6 2<br>♦ A 9<br>♣ Q 5 3   |  |   |   |   |   |   |

Open Room

| West          | North            | East         | South        |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Draper</i> | <i>Zochowska</i> | <i>Brown</i> | <i>Reess</i> |
| Pass          | 1♣               | Pass         | 1♥           |
| Pass          | 3♣               | Pass         | 4♣           |
| Pass          | 4♦               | Pass         | 4NT*         |
| Pass          | 5♣*              | Pass         | 7♣           |

All Pass  
 4NT RKCB  
 5♣ 0 or 3 key cards

Closed Room

| West           | North        | East           | South        |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| <i>Willard</i> | <i>Brock</i> | <i>Cronier</i> | <i>Smith</i> |
| Pass           | 1♣*          | Pass           | 1♦*          |
| Pass           | 1NT*         | Pass           | 2♦*          |
| Pass           | 3♣           | Pass           | 4♣           |
| Pass           | 4♦           | Pass           | 4NT*         |
| Pass           | 5♣*          | Pass           | 7♣           |

All Pass  
 1♣ 2+ clubs: (i.) 12-14/18-19 balanced HCP  
 (ii.) natural, less than a game force  
 (iii.) precisely 4441 with 11-15 HCP  
 1♦ Hearts  
 1NT FIR (usually 18-19 balanced HCP)  
 2♦ GF relay  
 4NT RKCB  
 5♣ 0 or 3 key cards

Both pairs passed the test with flying colours. True 7NT has 13 top tricks, but it was safety first – a diamond ruff in the dummy could have been necessary for the thirteenth trick.

The match was very well played and the three double-digit swings could easily have all gone the other way for an England win by 10 IMPs instead of the actual French win by 10, 33-23. The match result dropped England to third place and France to sixth, both still inside the cut line for Chennai.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

[BBO France v England W](#)



# Open Round 12

By Jos Jacobs



## Denmark v. Latvia



When play resumed on Friday morning, the big match in Group B of the Open Series no doubt was the confrontation between the teams ranked 2nd and 4th at the time, Denmark and Latvia. Both teams missed the cut in the Dublin 2012 Championships, so they must be feeling happy to be back among the contenders for a place in the top nine. This would earn them the right to play on for the European title next week.

On the first two boards, both teams just managed to open their account, with Denmark leading 2-1 when the first big board arrived:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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



Open Room

| West     | North   | East    | South   |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Jansons  | D Bilde | Rubenis | M Bilde |
| Pass     | 2♦      | Dble    | 2♣      |
| Pass     | Pass    | 2♠      | Rdbl    |
| All Pass |         |         | Dble    |

This South hand certainly was a big one, as you would not hold a 26-count very often, even less so at rubber bridge. Morten Bilde did quite well to double his vulnerable opponents in 2♠ and lead a top trump. This would cost a trump trick but it also made sure that the defence would get all their four tricks in diamonds. The ♠K was allowed to hold the trick but Morten stuck to his original plan and continued a trump to declarer's jack. Declarer exited with his heart, so Morten won the king and cleared the trumps. In next with the ♦10, he had just one heart exit left but after the next diamond, he was forced to open up the clubs, declarer scoring his king. Had he played a club when in again with the ♦K, the contract would have gone down three but a lapse in concentration meant he went on to cash his last diamond first before forcing declarer with another club. So Rubenis escaped for down two only, a loss of 500.

With the ♣K well placed, N/S can make a slam but would they bid it?

Closed Room

| West      | North   | East      | South   |
|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Graversen | Bethers | Caspersen | Lorencs |
| Pass      | 1♦      | 1♠        | 1♣      |
| 2♥        | 3♣      | Pass      | Dble    |
| All Pass  |         |           | 6♣      |

One Club was strong, 1♦ negative and 2♥ alerted as a fitbid. When North freely introduced his suit at his next turn to bid, South simply blasted into the slam. He must have been disappointed that dummy did not produce the ♣K but as East had made a vulnerable overcall, he was favourite to hold this card and so it proved; Latvia a not unlucky +920 and 9 IMPs to them instead of three.

The Danes went into the lead when they bid a thin game after an adverse Strong Club opening bid:

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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



Morten Bilde, Denmark

Open Room

| West    | North   | East     | South   |
|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| Jansons | D Bilde | Rubenis  | M Bilde |
| 1♣      | Pass    | 1♦       | 1♠      |
| Dbl     | 2NT     | Pass     | 3♥      |
| Pass    | 4♠      | All Pass |         |

After the 1♦ negative response Morten made a simple overcall and Dennis' 2NT showed spades. His raise to game was automatic as his ♥K had grown in stature when Morten's second suit turned out to be hearts.

With the missing high cards all in West, as could be expected from his opening bid, making the contract was not really a problem; Denmark a fine +420.

In the Closed Room, the Latvians had to cope with a natural 1♣:

Closed Room

| West      | North   | East      | South   |
|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Graversen | Bethers | Caspersen | Lorencs |
| 1♣        | Pass    | Pass      | Dble    |
| Pass      | 2NT     | All Pass  |         |

Spades were never mentioned, as Lorencs elected to double when 1♣ came round to him.

North won the opening club lead with his queen, crossed in spades and led a heart to his king, claiming the contract when the king held. Latvia +120 but 7 IMPs to Denmark who thus had taken the lead: 12-10.

The lead had changed hands again, Latvia being 16-14 up, when West had to find an opening bid on this one:

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

|               |          |             |
|---------------|----------|-------------|
| ♠ K 2         |          | ♠ A 10      |
| ♥ A 8 7 5     |          | ♥ Q 10 3    |
| ♦ Q J 10 7 2  |          | ♦ A K 8 6   |
| ♣ 10 8        |          | ♣ Q J 9 3   |
| ♠ Q J 9 7 5 3 | <b>N</b> |             |
| ♥ 2           | <b>W</b> |             |
| ♦ 3           | <b>E</b> |             |
| ♣ K 7 6 5 4   | <b>S</b> |             |
|               |          | ♠ 8 6 4     |
|               |          | ♥ K J 9 6 4 |
|               |          | ♦ 9 5 4     |
|               |          | ♣ A 2       |

Open Room

| West    | North   | East    | South    |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Jansons | D Bilde | Rubenis | M Bilde  |
| 3♠      | Pass    | 3NT     | All Pass |

Jansons had no bid available two show his two-suiter immediately but he could theoretically have opened 2♠, a weak two in spades. Rejecting this idea, and rightly so, I feel, he then went all out and found a pre-empt at the three-level. When partner responded 3NT, he might have rescued himself to 4♣, but when he passed, the Latvians had

reached the wrong contract. On a normal heart lead from South, they were down two very quickly; Denmark +100.

Closed Room

| West      | North   | East      | South    |
|-----------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Graversen | Bethers | Caspersen | Lorencs  |
| 3♠        | Pass    | 4♠        | All Pass |

In the replay, Graversen, too, had no opening bid available to show his distribution. He tried the same shot as his Latvian counterpart, the difference being that his partner gave him a polite raise to game in spades. Had the clubs been 3-1, this contract too might have gone down but on the actual layout, declarer had no trouble in making even 11 tricks; Denmark another +450 and 11 IMPs to go back into the lead, 25-16.

We could welcome a new leader again on the very next board:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

|           |          |             |
|-----------|----------|-------------|
| ♠ 6 4 3 2 |          | ♠ J 10 9 5  |
| ♥ 9 6 4 3 |          | ♥ K 10 5    |
| ♦ K 5 3   |          | ♦ A Q 6     |
| ♣ 10 3    |          | ♣ 7 6 2     |
| ♠ A K Q 8 | <b>N</b> |             |
| ♥ Q 7 2   | <b>W</b> |             |
| ♦ 10 9 8  | <b>E</b> |             |
| ♣ K Q 9   | <b>S</b> |             |
|           |          | ♠ 7         |
|           |          | ♥ A J 8     |
|           |          | ♦ J 7 4 2   |
|           |          | ♣ A J 8 5 4 |

Open Room

| West    | North   | East    | South    |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Jansons | D Bilde | Rubenis | M Bilde  |
| INT     | Pass    | Pass    | 1♣       |
|         | Pass    | 3NT     | All Pass |



Janis Bethers, Latvia



**Martins Lorencs, Latvia**

Once again, the Latvians did not mention spades and this time, each of them holding a ‘nice’ 4-3-3-3, they were quite right. Even a club lead will not do declarer any harm as the all-important  $\diamond K$  is North’s one and only picture card. Latvia +600 on a heart lead to the eight and queen, as North would never again get the lead to push another heart through. Helped by South’s opening bid, declarer simply took two diamond finesses, knowing for sure that the  $\clubsuit A$  was with South.

On eg a club lead declarer should win and run four spades ending in dummy. Even if South pitches diamonds declarer can lead a heart to the queen and take two diamond finesses in the fullness of time. It is important to set up the heart before playing diamonds.

**Closed Room**

| <b>West</b>      | <b>North</b>   | <b>East</b>      | <b>South</b>   |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>Graversen</i> | <i>Bethers</i> | <i>Caspersen</i> | <i>Lorencs</i> |
|                  | Pass           | Pass             | 1 $\diamond$   |
| 1 $\spadesuit$   | Pass           | 2 $\diamond$     | Pass           |
| 2 $\heartsuit$   | Pass           | 3 $\spadesuit$   | Pass           |
| 4 $\spadesuit$   | All Pass       |                  |                |

After the nebulous 1 $\diamond$  Precision opening bid, West, lacking a stopper in the suit, thought he could not overcall INT so he tried 1 $\spadesuit$  on his strong four-card suit, thus committing his side to game in that suit. The Latvians found a spectacular little defence, fully exploiting the actual layout and declarer’s misguess at trick 1. North led a diamond which was taken by dummy’s ace. Dummy next played a club but South rose with the ace and returned the suit. Declarer, in with the  $\clubsuit Q$ , drew two rounds of trumps but when South showed out on the second round, tried to first cash the  $\clubsuit K$  which was ruffed by North. North then exited with his last trump which Graversen won in hand. He went on to run the  $\diamond 9$  which was won by South’s jack when North played low. Diamond to the king and a heart return

to the eight and queen then put declarer no less than down three. Latvia +300 and 14 IMPs back to them instead of the 12 or 13-IMP gain they already were booked for. They had retaken the lead: 30-25.

On the last board, it was proved again that grand slams are rarely easy:

**Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.**

|                       |                   |                         |                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
|                       |                   | $\spadesuit$ Q 4        |                     |
|                       |                   | $\heartsuit$ A 3        |                     |
|                       |                   | $\diamond$ K 8 4        |                     |
|                       |                   | $\clubsuit$ A K 9 8 7 6 |                     |
| $\spadesuit$ J 9 8 7  | N<br>W     E<br>S |                         | $\spadesuit$ 10 5 2 |
| $\heartsuit$ Q 10 7 5 |                   |                         | $\heartsuit$ J 8 4  |
| $\diamond$ Q 7 3 2    |                   |                         | $\diamond$ J 10 6 5 |
| $\clubsuit$ J         |                   |                         | $\clubsuit$ 10 4 2  |
|                       |                   | $\spadesuit$ A K 6 3    |                     |
|                       |                   | $\heartsuit$ K 9 6 2    |                     |
|                       |                   | $\diamond$ A 9          |                     |
|                       |                   | $\clubsuit$ Q 5 3       |                     |

**Open Room**

| <b>West</b>    | <b>North</b>   | <b>East</b>    | <b>South</b>   |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Jansons</i> | <i>D Bilde</i> | <i>Rubenis</i> | <i>M Bilde</i> |
| Pass           | 1 $\clubsuit$  | Pass           | 1 $\heartsuit$ |
| Pass           | 3 $\clubsuit$  | Pass           | 3 $\spadesuit$ |
| Pass           | 3NT            | Pass           | 4 $\clubsuit$  |
| Pass           | 4 $\diamond$   | Pass           | 4NT            |
| Pass           | 5 $\diamond$   | Pass           | 7 $\clubsuit$  |
| All Pass       |                |                |                |

The 3 $\clubsuit$  rebid showed less than three cards in hearts.

Looking at the easy and fully natural auction by the Danes, I could hardly imagine this board would cause havoc all over the place. More than half the tables in the Open Series missed the grand, two of them even ending up in 3NT. Full credit to Sabine Auken/Roy Welland (Germany) and, no surprise, to Tarzan (De Wijs/Muller) for the Netherlands, as they were the only pairs to reach 7NT, the top spot in all respects. When I went through the Open Teams results, I found out there were swings in many matches but pushes in a small slam as well. The only push in a grand was England v. Hungary (Forrester/Robson and Szegedi/Hegedüs).

For Latvia, their complicated relay system led them to 6 $\clubsuit$  only, maybe also because North chose INT (15-17, a clear underbid to me) as his opening bid.

Non-vulnerable, the slam swing was worth 11 IMPs to Denmark who thus won the match 38-30 or 12.29-7.71 VP.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

[BBO Denmark v. Latvia](#)

# RESULTS

## OPEN

### Open A R15

| Match |                  | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 1     | NORWAY FRANCE    | 46   | 37 | 12.55 | 7.45  |
| 2     | ICELAND ESTONIA  | 19   | 22 | 9.09  | 10.91 |
| 3     | SWEDEN IRELAND   | 34   | 36 | 9.39  | 10.61 |
| 4     | RUSSIA PORTUGAL  | 62   | 30 | 17.03 | 2.97  |
| 5     | GERMANY GREECE   | 63   | 6  | 19.77 | 0.23  |
| 6     | MONACO AUSTRIA   | 49   | 33 | 14.18 | 5.82  |
| 7     | SCOTLAND FINLAND | 64   | 19 | 18.66 | 1.34  |
| 8     | SLOVAKIA SPAIN   | 24   | 58 | 2.69  | 17.31 |
| 9     | CROATIA SLOVENIA | 29   | 24 | 11.48 | 8.52  |

### Open B R15

| Match |                        | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|------------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 11    | LATVIA SWITZERLAND     | 24   | 74 | 0.84  | 19.16 |
| 12    | DENMARK HUNGARY        | 51   | 32 | 14.80 | 5.20  |
| 13    | TURKEY WALES           | 22   | 33 | 6.96  | 13.04 |
| 14    | ENGLAND BELGIUM        | 40   | 30 | 12.80 | 7.20  |
| 15    | ISRAEL ROMANIA         | 39   | 45 | 8.24  | 11.76 |
| 16    | POLAND LITHUANIA       | 54   | 17 | 17.72 | 2.28  |
| 17    | BULGARIA SERBIA        | 21   | 52 | 3.12  | 16.88 |
| 18    | NETHERL. FAROE ISLANDS | 30   | 16 | 13.75 | 6.25  |
| 19    | ITALY BOSNIA H.        | 47   | 6  | 18.21 | 1.79  |

### Open A R16

| Match |                   | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|-------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 1     | FINLAND SPAIN     | 25   | 37 | 6.72  | 13.28 |
| 2     | AUSTRIA CROATIA   | 22   | 47 | 4.08  | 15.92 |
| 3     | GREECE SLOVAKIA   | 43   | 40 | 10.91 | 9.09  |
| 4     | PORTUGAL SCOTLAND | 49   | 18 | 16.88 | 3.12  |
| 5     | IRELAND MONACO    | 21   | 40 | 5.20  | 14.80 |
| 6     | ESTONIA GERMANY   | 26   | 57 | 3.12  | 16.88 |
| 7     | FRANCE RUSSIA     | 44   | 22 | 15.38 | 4.62  |
| 8     | NORWAY SWEDEN     | 51   | 38 | 13.52 | 6.48  |
| 9     | SLOVENIA ICELAND  | 45   | 30 | 13.97 | 6.03  |

### Open B R16

| Match |                      | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|----------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 11    | TURKEY DENMARK       | 26   | 4  | 15.38 | 4.62  |
| 12    | ENGLAND LATVIA       | 52   | 9  | 18.44 | 1.56  |
| 13    | ISRAEL SWITZERLAND   | 37   | 30 | 12.03 | 7.97  |
| 14    | POLAND HUNGARY       | 61   | 1  | 20.00 | 0.00  |
| 15    | BULGARIA WALES       | 36   | 32 | 11.20 | 8.80  |
| 16    | NETHERL. BELGIUM     | 55   | 26 | 16.58 | 3.42  |
| 17    | ITALY ROMANIA        | 31   | 28 | 10.91 | 9.09  |
| 18    | FAROE ISL. LITHUANIA | 62   | 20 | 18.33 | 1.67  |
| 19    | BOSNIA H. SERBIA     | 7    | 43 | 2.41  | 17.59 |

### Open A R17

| Match |                  | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 1     | IRELAND PORTUGAL | 54   | 5  | 19.07 | 0.93  |
| 2     | ESTONIA GREECE   | 24   | 36 | 6.72  | 13.28 |
| 3     | FRANCE AUSTRIA   | 22   | 28 | 8.24  | 11.76 |
| 4     | NORWAY FINLAND   | 43   | 20 | 15.56 | 4.44  |
| 5     | ICELAND SPAIN    | 21   | 35 | 6.25  | 13.75 |
| 6     | SWEDEN CROATIA   | 34   | 50 | 5.82  | 14.18 |
| 7     | RUSSIA SLOVAKIA  | 41   | 50 | 7.45  | 12.55 |
| 8     | GERMANY SCOTLAND | 39   | 34 | 11.48 | 8.52  |
| 9     | MONACO SLOVENIA  | 69   | 11 | 19.85 | 0.15  |

### Open B R17

| Match |                      | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|----------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 11    | ENGLAND TURKEY       | 46   | 28 | 14.60 | 5.40  |
| 12    | ISRAEL DENMARK       | 27   | 16 | 13.04 | 6.96  |
| 13    | POLAND LATVIA        | 28   | 18 | 12.80 | 7.20  |
| 14    | BULGARIA SWITZERLAND | 53   | 9  | 18.55 | 1.45  |
| 15    | NETHERL. HUNGARY     | 40   | 6  | 17.31 | 2.69  |
| 16    | ITALY WALES          | 51   | 17 | 17.31 | 2.69  |
| 17    | FAROE ISL. BELGIUM   | 20   | 19 | 10.31 | 9.69  |
| 18    | SERBIA ROMANIA       | 48   | 34 | 13.75 | 6.25  |
| 19    | LITHUANIA BOSNIA H.  | 30   | 53 | 4.44  | 15.56 |

#### DEALING MACHINES

The Duplimates used here are sold out, but you can pre-order the new Duplimate machines to be used at the World Championships for EUR 1.999,- plus EUR 40,- for shipping within the EU.

Please see the Jannersten book stall on the 1st floor for more information.

# WOMEN

## Women R15

| Match |                   | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|-------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 21    | SCOTLAND SERBIA   | 7    | 37 | 3.27  | 16.73 |
| 22    | RUSSIA SPAIN      | 31   | 31 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| 23    | ROMANIA SWEDEN    | 56   | 17 | 17.97 | 2.03  |
| 24    | POLAND TURKEY     | 24   | 18 | 11.76 | 8.24  |
| 25    | NORWAY AUSTRIA    | 16   | 75 | 0.07  | 19.93 |
| 26    | NETHERL. BULGARIA | 50   | 26 | 15.74 | 4.26  |
| 27    | LEBANON CROATIA   | 35   | 31 | 11.20 | 8.80  |
| 28    | ITALY DENMARK     | 60   | 12 | 18.97 | 1.03  |
| 29    | ISRAEL ENGLAND    | 9    | 74 | 0.00  | 20.00 |
| 30    | IRELAND ESTONIA   | 44   | 21 | 15.56 | 4.44  |
| 31    | GREECE FRANCE     | 34   | 47 | 6.48  | 13.52 |
| 32    | GERMANY BYE       |      |    | 12.00 |       |

## Women R16

| Match |                    | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|--------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 21    | DENMARK ENGLAND    | 23   | 53 | 3.27  | 16.73 |
| 22    | CROATIA ESTONIA    | 31   | 30 | 10.31 | 9.69  |
| 23    | BULGARIA FRANCE    | 14   | 26 | 6.72  | 13.28 |
| 24    | AUSTRIA GERMANY    | 16   | 27 | 6.96  | 13.04 |
| 25    | TURKEY GREECE      | 90   | 8  | 20.00 | 0.00  |
| 26    | SWEDEN IRELAND     | 63   | 15 | 18.97 | 1.03  |
| 27    | SPAIN ISRAEL       | 15   | 23 | 7.71  | 12.29 |
| 28    | SERBIA ITALY       | 15   | 35 | 5.00  | 15.00 |
| 29    | SCOTLAND LEBANON   | 50   | 24 | 16.09 | 3.91  |
| 30    | RUSSIA NETHERLANDS | 57   | 29 | 16.42 | 3.58  |
| 31    | ROMANIA NORWAY     | 39   | 27 | 13.28 | 6.72  |
| 32    | POLAND BYE         |      |    | 12.00 |       |

### EBL Press Conference

(continued from page 1)

EBL President Yves Aubry and CBF President Jurica Caric will be present, accompanied by EBL Treasurer David Harris.

Any question about this Championship and EBL plans can be asked and will be answered.

All journalists present in Opatija and Croatian Press are invited to attend.

Jan Swaan, Press Room manager

# SENIORS

## Seniors Final R7-9

| Match |                  | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 1     | POLAND HUNGARY   | 22   | 38 | 5.82  | 14.18 |
| 2     | BULGARIA ENGLAND | 11   | 73 | 0.00  | 20.00 |
| 3     | BELGIUM DENMARK  | 27   | 25 | 10.61 | 9.39  |
| 4     | NORWAY AUSTRIA   | 20   | 34 | 6.25  | 13.75 |
| 5     | SWEDEN IRELAND   | 42   | 21 | 15.19 | 4.81  |

| Match |                 | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|-----------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 1     | DENMARK HUNGARY | 22   | 14 | 12.29 | 7.71  |
| 2     | NORWAY BULGARIA | 23   | 32 | 7.45  | 12.55 |
| 3     | POLAND IRELAND  | 64   | 11 | 19.43 | 0.57  |
| 4     | SWEDEN ENGLAND  | 21   | 40 | 5.20  | 14.80 |
| 5     | BELGIUM AUSTRIA | 21   | 29 | 7.71  | 12.29 |

| Match |                  | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 1     | BULGARIA HUNGARY | 51   | 20 | 16.88 | 3.12  |
| 2     | DENMARK POLAND   | 28   | 43 | 6.03  | 13.97 |
| 3     | ENGLAND NORWAY   | 25   | 24 | 10.31 | 9.69  |
| 4     | IRELAND BELGIUM  | 21   | 15 | 11.76 | 8.24  |
| 5     | AUSTRIA SWEDEN   | 23   | 57 | 2.69  | 17.31 |

## Seniors Final B R7-8

| Match |                  | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 1     | ISRAEL FINLAND   | 21   | 39 | 5.40  | 14.60 |
| 2     | GERMANY CROATIA  | 36   | 25 | 13.04 | 6.96  |
| 3     | SCOTLAND ITALY   | 77   | 3  | 20.00 | 0.00  |
| 4     | TURKEY ESTONIA   | 40   | 28 | 13.28 | 6.72  |
| 5     | SPAIN WALES      | 27   | 35 | 7.71  | 12.29 |
| 6     | PORTUGAL SERBIA  | 50   | 8  | 18.33 | 1.67  |
| 7     | ROMANIA SLOVENIA | 26   | 52 | 3.91  | 16.09 |

| Match |                  | IMPs |    | VPs   |       |
|-------|------------------|------|----|-------|-------|
| 1     | GERMANY TURKEY   | 62   | 28 | 17.31 | 2.69  |
| 2     | ISRAEL PORTUGAL  | 55   | 15 | 18.09 | 1.91  |
| 3     | SCOTLAND WALES   | 35   | 30 | 11.48 | 8.52  |
| 4     | FINLAND SPAIN    | 32   | 27 | 11.48 | 8.52  |
| 5     | ESTONIA ITALY    | 48   | 29 | 14.80 | 5.20  |
| 6     | CROATIA SLOVENIA | 61   | 15 | 18.77 | 1.23  |
| 7     | ROMANIA SERBIA   | 7    | 44 | 2.28  | 17.72 |

### GRATIS CARDS

NBOs with poor economy can have used EBL playing cards for free at the book stall on the 1st floor.

Used cards are also sold at low prices.

# 2014 RED SEA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE FESTIVAL

EILAT - ISRAEL

NOVEMBER 13-23, 2014



## Tournament Program

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Mixed Pairs           | November 13-14 |
| M.P. Pairs            | November 15    |
| National Simultaneous | November 16    |
| IMP Pairs             | November 17-18 |
| Open Pairs            | November 19-21 |
| Teams                 | November 22    |

## Participants from All Over the World

Including European and World Champions.

## Entrance Fee

€15 per session.

**Total Prize Money in Excess of €20,000**

**Special Accommodation Packages**

**Daily Social Events**



## Further information and registration:

Organizing Committee: David Birman, 50 Pinkas St., Tel Aviv, Israel

Tel.: 972-3-6058355, Fax: 972-3-5465582, Email: birmand@inter.net.il, [www.bridgeredsea.com](http://www.bridgeredsea.com)