52nd EUROPEAN BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS OPATIJA, CROATIA JUNE 21st - JULY 1st, 2014

Daily Bulletin

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Issue No. 7

Saturday, 28th June 2014

BIG DEAL IN OPATIJA



Only another 15,000 boards to go

England go into the last day of the Seniors Championship with a useful lead over **Sweden** and **Norway**. **Ireland**, **Austria** and **Poland** are still well in the hunt.

In the Open Series the teams outside the qualification zone have just three matches to stay in the race for Chennai.

The **Netherlands** are in a strong position in the Women's event, well clear of **Italy** and **England**.

!!!! Most Important Information !!!!

The **Prize Giving** and **Closing Ceremony** for the Seniors Teams will be held today at 19.30 at 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)

The **EBL General Assembly** will be held tomorrow 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

















BBO SCHEDULE 10.00 Iceland v Estonia (O) B

Iceland v Estonia (O)BBO 1*Norway v France (O)BBO 2Sweden v Ireland (O)BBO 3Romania v Sweden (W)BBO 4Croatia v Slovenia (O)BBO 5

13.30

The five matches will be announced later

16.20

The five matches will be announced later *BBO 1 = VuGraph

OPEN

O 15 Group A 10.00

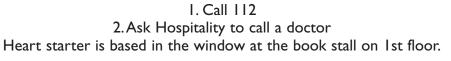
Ι	NORWAY	FRANCE
2	ICELAND	estonia
3	SWEDEN	IRELAND
4	RUSSIA	PORTUGAL
5	GERMANY	GREECE
6	MONACO	AUSTRIA
7	SCOTLAND	FINLAND
8	SLOVAKIA	SPAIN
9	CROATIA	SLOVENIA

	O 15	Group B	10.00
11	LATVIA	S/	WITZERLAND
12	DENMARK	н	UNGARY
13	TURKEY	\sim	/ALES
14	ENGLAND	B	ELGIUM
15	ISRAEL	R	OMANIA
16	POLAND	LI	THUANIA
17	BULGARIA	SE	RBIA
18	NETHERLAN	NDS FA	AROE ISLANDS
19	ITALY	B	osnia h.

	O 16	Group A 13.30		O 16	Group B	13.30
I	FINLAND	SPAIN		TURKEY	D	ENMARK
2	AUSTRIA	CROATIA	12	ENGLAND	LA	ATVIA
3	GREECE	SLOVAKIA	13	ISRAEL	S١	WITZERLAND
4	PORTUGAL	scotland	14	POLAND	н	UNGARY
5	IRELAND	MONACO	15	BULGARIA	M	/ALES
6	estonia	GERMANY	16	NETHERLA	NDS BI	ELGIUM
7	FRANCE	RUSSIA	17	ITALY	R	OMANIA
8	NORWAY	SWEDEN	18	FAROE ISLA	NDS LI	THUANIA
9	SLOVENIA	ICELAND	19	BOSNIA H.	SE	RBIA



IN EMERGENCY





	O 7	Group A 16.20			O I7 Grou	p B	16.20
I	IRELAND	PORTUGAL	Ι	I	ENGLAND	-	TURKEY
2	ESTONIA	GREECE		2	ISRAEL	[DENMARK
3	FRANCE	AUSTRIA		3	POLAND	l	_ATVIA
4	NORWAY	FINLAND	1	4	BULGARIA	5	Switzerland
5	ICELAND	SPAIN		5	NETHERLANDS	ł	HUNGARY
6	SWEDEN	CROATIA		6	ITALY	١	WALES
7	RUSSIA	SLOVAKIA		7	FAROE ISLANDS	E	BELGIUM
8	GERMANY	Scotland		8	SERBIA	F	ROMANIA
9	MONACO	SLOVENIA	P	9	LITHUANIA	E	BOSNIA H.

RANKING

Open A after RRI4

	TEAM	VP
	SWEDEN	191.00
2	MONACO	185.25
3	FRANCE	180.14
4	NORWAY	178.62
5	GERMANY	175.27
6	ESTONIA	158.27
7	RUSSIA	157.19
8	IRELAND	149.06
9	ICELAND	143.52
10	AUSTRIA	134.69
	CROATIA	132.44
12	FINLAND	128.72
13	SPAIN	120.25
14	GREECE	117.75
15	PORTUGAL	106.25
16	SLOVAKIA	99.65
17	SCOTLAND	87.15
18	SLOVENIA	72.78

Open B after RRI4

	TEAM	VP
Т	ISRAEL	181.27
2	DENMARK	177.97
3	ENGLAND	172.55
4	TURKEY	171.05
5	LATVIA	165.84
6	ROMANIA	165.79
7	BULGARIA	159.32
8	NETHERLANDS	154.77
9	POLAND	148.57
10	HUNGARY	144.35
	ITALY	133.94
12	BELGIUM	125.97
13	SERBIA	123.72
14	SWITZERLAND	120.77
15	WALES	115.47
16	FAROE ISLANDS	110.94
17	LITHUANIA	84.49
18	BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA	63.22

General Conditions of Contest

7.1.1 Smoking (including the use of electronic cigarettes)

Smoking in the playing area is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area before completion of play in a session in order to smoke.

Any player smoking in the playing area will cause his team to be fined 2 VP (see Section 22.2.2 for a knockout match) or, in the case of pairs events, will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session, plus a fine of €100. Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

A player in breach of this regulation has already been fined €100 and his team fined VP.

Ignore at your peril



Anna Maria Torlontano

Anna Maria has been a well known face at all the EBL Championships for many years and had hoped to attend the Championships here in Opatija, but she has fallen and broken two ribs. The President and members of the EBL Executive together with all her many friends here in Croatia wish her a swift recovery and look forward to seeing her at the next Championship.

WOMEN

		W 15	10.00
	21	SCOTLAND	SERBIA
	22	RUSSIA	SPAIN
	23	ROMANIA	SWEDEN
	24	POLAND	TURKEY
	25	NORWAY	AUSTRIA
	26	NETHERLANDS	BULGARIA
	27	LEBANON	CROATIA
	28	ITALY	DENMARK
	29	ISRAEL	ENGLAND
	30	IRELAND	ESTONIA
	31	GREECE	FRANCE
	32	GERMANY	BYE
_			

W 16 13.30

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

GRATIS CARDS

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

Used cards are also sold at low prices.

After Round 14

	TEAM	VP
	IETHERLANDS	202.33
21	TALY	186.03
3 E	NGLAND	182.09
4 F	RANCE	177.21
5 E	DENMARK	170.13
6 R	OMANIA	163.47
7 S	WEDEN	158.72
8	Reland	148.03
9 T	URKEY	146.63
101	SRAEL	146.04
II P	OLAND	144.75
12 R	USSIA	140.79
13 S	PAIN	135.45
14 S	COTLAND	135.04
15 0	GERMANY	134.95
16 N	IORWAY	124.00
17 0	CROATIA	122.00
18 0	GREECE	123.07
19 B	ULGARIA	119.75
20 E	STONIA	5.6
21 S	ERBIA	104.11
22 A	USTRIA	93.53
23 L	EBANON	70.92

For scoring purposes the result of the Israel v Lebanon match in the Women's series is provisional.

SENIORS

Final After Round 6

TEAM	VP
I ENGLAND	87.30
2 SWEDEN	82.10
3 NORWAY	78.12
4 IRELAND	77.51
5 AUSTRIA	75.67
6 POLAND	75.53
7 BULGARIA	66.43
8 BELGIUM	61.04
9 HUNGARY	54.33
10 DENMARK	43.22

Final B After Round 6

TEAM	VP
I ISRAEL	94.43
2 GERMANY	90.11
3 SCOTLAND	77.76
4 FINLAND	74.58
5 ITALY	71.19
6 CROATIA	70.34
7 TURKEY	66.57
8 SPAIN	64.90
9 ESTONIA	64.75
10 WALES	63.86
II PORTUGAL	62.09
12 ROMANIA	59.46
14 SERBIA	39.61
15 SLOVENIA	34.24

	S F7	10.00
I	POLAND	HUNGARY
2	BULGARIA	ENGLAND
3	BELGIUM	DENMARK
4	NORWAY	AUSTRIA
5	SWEDEN	IRELAND
	S F8	13.30
Ι	DENMARK	HUNGARY
2	NORWAY	BULGARIA
3	POLAND	IRELAND
4	SWEDEN	ENGLAND
5	BELGIUM	AUSTRIA
	S F9	16.20
I	BULGARIA	HUNGARY
2	DENMARK	POLAND
3	ENGLAND	NORWAY
4	IRELAND	BELGIUM
5	AUSTRIA	SWEDEN

	Final B 7	10.00
Ι	ISRAEL	FINLAND
2	GERMANY	CROATIA
3	scotland	ITALY
4	TURKEY	ESTONIA
5	SPAIN	WALES
6	PORTUGAL	SERBIA
7	ROMANIA	SLOVENIA

Request for Review:

A request to have a TD ruling reviewed must be made, stating the ground for the request, either to the Chief TD or the TD delivering the ruling not later than:

- 15 minutes after the end of that playing session or

- 15 minutes after the ruling was actually delivered,

whichever is later.



The Croatian Corner

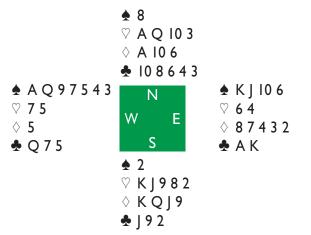
<u>"Odvest ću</u> te na vjenčanje"

Nije lako kad se čovjek izgubi i kad mora tapkati u mraku tražeći pravi put. A kad treba naći pravi put do nečijeg srca, svaka pomoć je i više nego dobrodošla. Nošeni tom mišlju, pričom koja slijedi pokazati ćemo kako naši seniori međusobno pokazuju put do vlastitog srca.

Meč je iz seniorske konkurencije protiv reprezentacije Rumunjske, a glavni akteri ove priče Goran Lamza i Marshall Lewis.

Nakon prva tri borda u kojima se dobro snalazio, Lewis je na četvrtom bordu zaključio da bi u nekom trenutku mogao biti izgubljen pa je zamolio partnera da mu pokaže pravi put.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.





Open Room



Protivnik na prvom mjestu otvara 3 pik, a Lewis shvaća da će najvjerojatnije biti na ataci i da bi se mogao izgubiti. Stoga je pristojno zamolio partnera da mu pokaže pravi put licitirajući kontru, što s ovolikim nedostatkom snage često može imati vrlo neugodne posljedice. No, ne i ovaj put. East je licitirao normalnih 4 pik, a Lamza, probuđen partnerovom kontrom, pokazao put do svog srca licitirajući 5 herc, vjerojatno čvrsto uvjeren kako je kontrakt unutra. S obzirom na nedostatak snage kod partnera kontrakt se pada dvaput, ali kako je 4 pik neoborivo, 5 herc dvaput ne je dobra obrana koja nosi zaradu 3 ili 4 IMPa. No, ne i ovaj put. West je, usprkos činjenici da je već potpuno opisao svoju kartu, ipak odlučio još jednom licitirati i pokušao s 5 pik. Lewis je sa svoja dva asa kontrirao uvjeren da prekoštiha neće biti, a kako mu je partner već pokazao put do svog srca nije imao problema s atakom. Atakirao je herc asa i nastavio s hercom nakon čega je kontrakt nenapravljiv. Na pasivnu tref ataku, koja bi nekome tko je izgubljen u mraku vjerojatno bila prvi izbor, kontrakt se lakoćom napravi jer izvođač stigne baciti gubitni herc sa stola na tref damu. U zatvorenoj sali Pintarić i Antonić su igrali mirnih 4 pik i upisali +650 nakon što protivnici nisu našli put do srca koji bi spriječio prekoštih.

4♠ X W, -1, N/S +200 Hrvatska +13 IMP

Sljedeća tri borda su prošla bez gubljenja u mraku, a na osmom bordu Lewis je osjetio da bi se partner ipak mogao izgubiti, te da bi mu trebalo pokazati put do svog srca.

Board 8. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
	Dble	Rdbl	Pass
2 ◇	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♡	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Northova salata ne djeluje kao karta koja zaslužuje prijavljivanje, ali pokazivanje pravog puta do nečijeg srca ne bira načine. Lewis je kontrirao otvor I pik sugerirajući da ima nešto u hercu, a East veselo rekontrirao ni ne sluteći da bi se mogao naći u problemima. Lamza je pasirao, a West sa svojom ofenzivno orijentiranom kartom procijenio da ne želi kontrirati protivnike na drugom nivou i licitirao 2 karo.



East se neočekivano našao u problemima. Držeći u ruci kartu koja je na partnerov otvor vrlo blizu slema, East jednostavno nije mogao naći dovoljno jak licit s kojim bi se osjećao sigurno. S obzirom da protivnici nisu licitirali niti jednu boju, kjubid protivničke boje nije bio na raspolaganju, a ostali liciti lako mogu zakomplicirati situaciju, pa se East odlučio za praktičan pristup i licitirao 4NT kao četveroaševski Blackwood. West je priznao svoja dva asa, a East sa dobrim držanjima u trefu i hercu te bez spoznaje da partner ima i peti karo licitirao 6NT. 6 karo je neoborivo, a 6NT ruši samo herc ataka, no, kako je Lewis već pokazao put do svog srca kontrom, Lamza, gledajući u svoju herc damu, nije imao nikakav problem atakirati mali herc i srušiti kontrakt. U drugoj sali Pintarić i Antonić nisu imali takvih problema, igrali su mirnih 6 karo i upisali +920.

6NT E, -1, N/S +50 Hrvatska +14 IMP

Ne priča se bez veze u bridžističkim krugovima da je bridž partneršip vrlo sličan braku. Lewis i Lamza su nam, s ova dva primjera, pokazali kako funkcionira jedan harmoničan bridž brak u kojem partneri pomažu jedan drugome naći pravi put. Da ne bude zabune, njihov je brak isključivo bridžistički usprkos velikoj ulozi srca u ovim primjerima.

Tomislav Šćepanović

CROATIAN TRAVEL TIP

HEALTH TOURISM

Did you know that in 1883 in Opatija there were 1,412 visitors and six years later, 4th March 1889, when Franz Josef arrived, Opatija was proclaimed a health resort? From that day until today health tourism has a prominent place on the Riviera Opatija.

THALASSOTHERAPIA

The highlight of the Opatija Riviera's health offer is the Thalassotherapia Opatija Special Hospital for Heart, Lung and Rheumatic Diseases, which combines excellence in medicine with a superb service synonymous with tourism in this area. In addition to the necessary medical infrastructure, the Thalassotherapia Opatija also has a modern wellness centre that is one of the best in the region. Guests can find accommodation in comfortable rooms, regardless of whether they are recovering after surgery or just want to spend a few days enjoying relaxing massages, saunas and the pool.

OPATIJA - IMPERIAL TOWN (19/7/2014)

The Lumière brothers, who used to film in Opatija; Isadora Duncan, who danced inspired by the fluttering of palm leaves in the breeze; the Empress Sissi, who officially never visited Opatija, but used to hide here in a villa in the company of a lover – all of them, and many other famous people from the history of this town come back to life in mid-July during the Imperial Town festival, which combines music and theatre at various locations, transforming Opatija into one big stage for a fantastic spectacle with thousands of visitors.

CAMELLIA

Back in the 19th century, this gentle flower of exquisite beauty became the best-known decoration of Opatija's parks as a symbol of blooming tourism in a town designed for the elite. Camellias can today be seen in many parks and gardens along the Opatija Riviera, the most beautiful collection being

the one in the Angiolina Park.



Open Round 9

By Jos Jacobs & David Bird



Romania v. Poland

Halfway through the first week, both Romania and Poland were strongly in contention to make it into the top nine of their group. Romania were lying second and Poland were in fifth place when their Group B match got underway on Wednesday morning.

David Bird reports that there was interesting play at both tables on this early board:



Open R	loom
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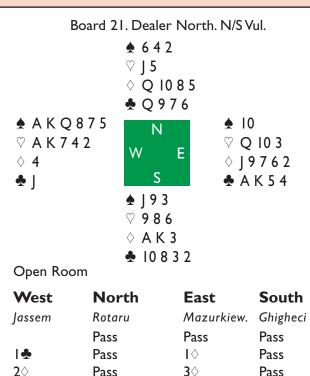
West	North	East	South
Jassem	Rotaru	Mazurkiew.	Ghigheci
		Pass	$ \diamond$
3 ≜ All Pass	Dble	Pass	3NT

West led the \bigstar 7, won in the dummy. The \Diamond Q was covered by the king and ace. Which card would you play next from the South hand?

Diamonds are 2-2, yes, but from Ghigheci's point of view the odds favoured a 3-1 break after West's 34 overcall. He made the inventive play of the \Diamond 9 from his hand, intending to set up the $\Diamond 8$ as a dummy entry when the diamonds were 3-1. My co-commentator on BBO, Peter Lund, and Barry Rigal on the live Vugraph, both managed to predict this play! West won and switched to a club, drawing the ten, jack and ace. Declarer then crossed to the $\Diamond 8$ and ran the $\heartsuit Q$ to establish his ninth trick. He took a while to make the play, contemplating leading ace and another heart; had spades been 7-1 this would have guaranteed the contract...but it would not have been a success today.

At the other table Zmudzynski chose a different line. After winning with dummy's $\bigstar K$, he ran the $\heartsuit Q$. When this succeeded, he could go for the full six tricks in diamonds and picked up I IMP.

In the opening boards, Romania built a 3-1 lead but then the bidding agreements of the E/W pairs were put to a severe test on Board 21:



In Polish Club, the I \diamond response shows either 0-6 HCP or a fair hand with both minors. $2\Diamond$ shows an undetermined game force and $3\diamond$ confirms the minors. As a consequence, the hearts got lost. On BBO, some Polish players suggested that West should have rebid 3° rather than 2° , showing a GF two-suiter with hearts. Also, the natural approach of $I - INT - 3 \circ - 4$ would probably have led to the slam being bid. Anyway, there were thirteen tricks on a heart lead: Poland +510.

4

Pass

Closed Room

3♠

4♠

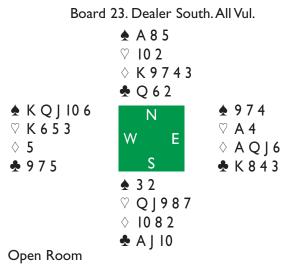
Pass

All Pass

West	North	East	South
Coldea	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
	Pass	Pass	Pass
2 🛧	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♡	Pass	4 🙅	Pass
4NT	Pass	5 🙅	Pass
5 \diamondsuit	Pass	6 🙅	Pass
6♡	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, we saw an interesting gadget. Two Clubs showed an undetermined strong hand and the 24 response showed fair values and shortness in spades. As a consequence, spades were never mentioned here and the heart slam was reached in comfort after a cuebid and 1430 RKC, when 64 confirmed the presence of the queen of trumps. Romania +1010 on a heart lead and 11 IMPs to them.

Two boards later, Romania scored heavily once again:



West	North	East	South
Jassem	Rotaru	Mazurkiew.	Ghigheci
			Pass
2 🙅	Pass	2♠	All Pass

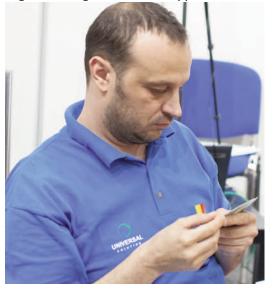
Two Clubs showed both majors and less than an opening bid. East might have bid $2\Diamond$ first, hoping to find partner with five spades but, when he settled for $2\clubsuit$, West could not possibly move.

On a low trump lead by South to dummy's six, declarer crossruffed the red suits for a safe nine tricks; Poland +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Coldea	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
			Pass
Pass	I�	Pass	\bigcirc
♠	Pass	2♡	Pass
3♢	Pass	3NT	Pass
4 ♡	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Balicki's $| \diamond \rangle$ showed at least five cards in the suit and his pass over $| \diamond \rangle$ implied either fewer than three hearts or a hand not good enough to make a support double.



Ionut Coldea, Romania

Had North led a club, the defence might well have prevailed (the clairvoyant lead of the $\clubsuit Q$ hitting the jackpot immediately) and even the lead of the $\bigstar A$ and another should leave declarer one trick short. On a heart lead, declarer had a road to ten tricks available if he could make the right guesses. Coldea won the $\heartsuit K$ in hand and immediately led a diamond to the queen. If South could win the king, it was pretty certain that North, who opened the bidding, would hold the missing black aces, in which case the defenders could not come to four tricks, not even if they would lead $\bigstar A$ and another. Two losers would go in due course on the $\Diamond AJ$.

When the $\Diamond Q$ held the trick, Coldea simply crossruffed the red suits to end up with his required number of ten tricks. Romania had a fine +620 and 10 more IMPs to their credit to lead by 26-1.

On the next board, the direct pre-empt proved its value:

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.
 ▲ J 10 7 6 4 ♡ A 10 9 ◊ J 10 9 8 7 ◆ -

West	North	East	South
Jassem	Rotaru	Mazurkiew.	Ghigheci
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	6♣	Pass	6�
All Pass			

What should North do over the double? Bidding just $5\Diamond$ might be quite wrong if partner held strong majors but anything else would commit his side to a slam. In view of the opening bid, $6\Diamond$ is odds-against. Spades might well be 4-1, even if the king was well placed for declarer. The slam was one down; Poland +50.

To still my curiosity, I looked through the results at all 36 tables in the Open Series. At about half the tables the contract was 5 \pm , doubled or not. All but one went one off. Three times N/S were in 6 \diamond one off and five times N/S scored +400 in 5 \diamond . In the Women's and Seniors' series the picture was not very different, though 6 \diamond occurred less frequently. Five Spades was indeed a popular alternative, all over the place, to go down in. Honourable mention (or maybe not quite?) for Hungary who managed to score 5 IMPs on the deal though their Turkish opponents at the other table did very well to reach 5 \diamond and make it. This fine Turkish +400 could not fully wipe out the -590 they conceded in 4 \pm doubled...

In the replay, Coldea's slow approach backfired:

Closed Room

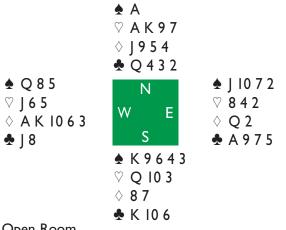
West	North	East	South
Coldea	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
♣		Dble	4♠
5 🙅	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Balicki's light overcall put Zmudzinski in an easy position to do the right thing over 5, one down, Poland another +100 and 4 IMPs back to them.

Well, it could have been worse for the Poles. At a few tables, E/W were allowed to play 4 and make it...

The last major swing of the match also went to Poland when they were the ones to really catch their opponents speeding, as they say in the USA:





Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jassem	Rotaru	Mazurkiew.	Ghigheci
$ \diamond$	\bigcirc	Dble	20
Dble	Pass	2♠	All Pass

East's double showed four spades and West's double thus was support, confirming three cards in the suit. When South refrained from doubling, the fine to pay by the Poles was a mere 100.

In the other room, EW were using a weak NT (12-14):

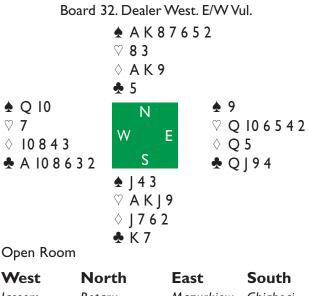
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Coldea	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzinski
INT	Dble	All Pass	

Balicki's double showed either points or a good hand so Zmudzinski was happy to pass. The ace of hearts lead and heart continuation gave the defenders the first four tricks and, when Balicki led a club to trick five, declarer ducked but won dummy's ace on South's return of the suit. He then might have played on spades for a safe down two but, when he played diamonds from the top, hoping to escape for down just one, he had to go down three when the jack did not appear. That was +500 to Poland and 9 more IMPs back

to them.

David Bird reported that the last board offered a great slam that was not always reached in other matches:



Jassem	Rotaru	Mazurkiew.	Ghigheci
Pass	♠	Pass	2♣ *
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4 ♡
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 🛧
Dble	6♠	All Pass	

There are many chances for a twelfth trick. You can lead towards the \clubsuit K and, if that chance fails, you try to drop the OQ in two rounds. No luck there and you can eventually finesse the \heartsuit].

The $\mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{Q}$ was led to the king and ace. Rotaru won the diamond return, drew trumps and added an extra halfounce of chance by cashing the $\heartsuit A$ before returning to hand with a second top diamond. Down came the $\Diamond Q$ and that was that.

West	North	East	South
Coldea	Balicki	Marina	Zmudzynski
Pass	♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	4秦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

The response showed a three-card spade fit and it did not take much longer for the bidding rocket to reach the desired destination.

I was mightily impressed with the Romania team, who won by 26-15 IMPs, converting to 13.04-6.96 VP.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

BBO Romania v Poland O9

For the interview with Bogdan Marina who speaks about the bidding in Board 21:



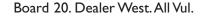
Nomen Teams Round 9

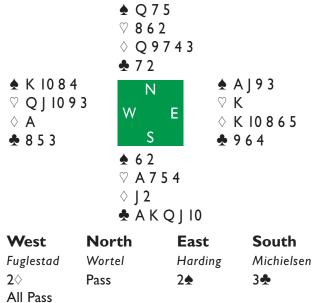
By Ram Soffer



The team from the Netherlands led the Women's Championship at half-time when the teams had a free day on Thursday. Here is a report on their Round 9 match against Norway.

The match didn't start very well for the favourites, partially due to the following board:



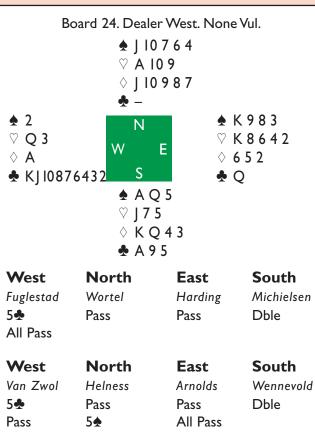


The Norwegian pair were using a $2\diamond$ opening to show both majors, at least 4-4 with 3-10 HCP. Harding (East) knew they had a good spade fit, but her partner could have a much weaker hand, so she was reluctant to bid beyond the two-level. The result was that Marion Michielsen was stuck in an inelegant $3\clubsuit$ contract. Her trumps were solid, but dummy didn't offer any real help and she took only her six top tricks; Norway +300.

West	North	East	South
Van Zwol	Helness	Arnolds	Wennevold
${\bf \nabla}$	Pass	♠	INT
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Interestingly, the Dutch pair in this table also had a $2\heartsuit$ opening bid available to describe a weak hand with both majors, but Wietske van Zwol considered her hand good enough to open at the one-level. Thus the partnership reached a hopeless $4\clubsuit$ contract. Wennevold started by cashing four tricks, and declarer concluded from the INT overcall that she held the \bigstar Q as well, so she finessed trumps the wrong way and this was +200 more to Norway.

Later the Dutch girls showed their class and turned the match in their favour.



At both tables West opened at the five-level, leaving North to make the last guess after her partner's ambiguous double. Meike Wortel displayed better judgement by passing. First of all, she had an ace so that 5^{\clubsuit} was unlikely to make. Furthermore, in 5^{\bigstar} (or 5^{\Diamond}) her trump quality was shaky, and she rated to have to contend with bad breaks. The defence took three aces to defeat 5^{\bigstar} doubled, while

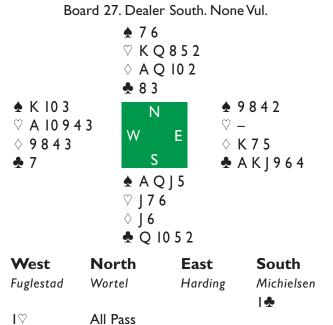


Gunn Helness, Norway



Ann Karin Fuglestad, Norway

at the other table Gunn Helness finessed twice in spades, but the trump king wouldn't drop, so she had to lose three tricks as well in 5.



Had West kept silent after South's opening bid, her opponents might have reached 4% in which case she could have made a juicy penalty double as a reward for her

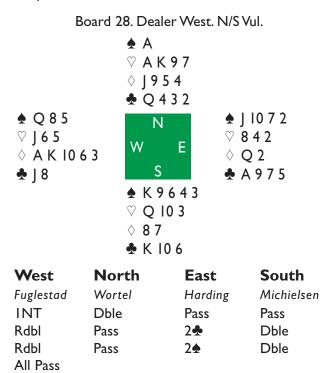
patience. However, the one-level overcalling style of Fuglestad/Harding is (very) light according to their convention card. Understandably, Harding passed her partner's I^{\heartsuit} bid, hoping that N/S would do something, but Michielsen exposed her opponent's 5-0 fit by passing it out.

Of course, Wortel was hoping to convert a reopening double into a penalty, but in the long run it is rarely profitable to encourage the opponents to run away to a much better fit. This is the reason why a reopening double is recommended when holding one or two cards, but not three, in the opponent's suit.

The lie of cards was favourable to the declarer, and Fuglestad collected 6 tricks; Norway –50.

West	North	East	South
Van Zwol	Helness	Arnolds	Wennevold
			Pass
Pass	\square	2♣	Dble
Pass	2 ◇	Pass	3♡
All Pass			

At the other table the opener was North, and Helness/Wennevold reached a fair 3° contract, which was doomed to failure with trumps 5-0 and no finesse working; Norway -100 and 4 more IMPs to the Netherlands.



Fuglestad/Harding are playing a variable INT opening: 15-17 when vulnerable and 9-12 when not. This toy backfired when Wortel doubled and there was nowhere to run. The defence against $2 \oplus$ doubled was simple: Michielsen led a trump. Wortel switched to hearts and Michielsen was back on lead with the $\heartsuit Q$ to draw two more rounds of trump. Eventually she ruffed the third round of diamonds and the defence got two club tricks as well; Netherlands +500.

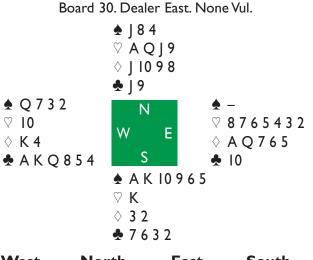


Marion Michielsen, Netherlands



Carla Arnolds, Netherlands

At the other table West didn't open, so it was a quiet INT played by North and +90 to Norway.



West	North	East	South
Fuglestad	Wortel	Harding	Michielsen
		Pass	3♠
Pass	Pass	4 ♡	All Pass

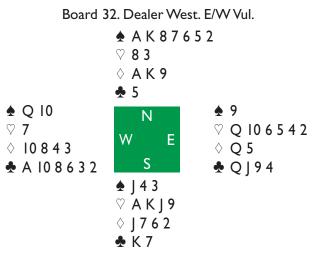
Opening at the four-level is usually a good idea with weak 7-5 hands, but in this case the trump quality left something to be desired. Nevertheless, the brave players who opened 4° were usually rewarded when their partner doubled South's 4^{\diamond} overcall.

Marianne Harding decided to pass and wait, but eventually she found herself in the overcalling position against a preempt and bid 4° anyway. North was amused, but didn't double, and declarer lost just four trump tricks; Norway -50.

West	North	East	South
Van Zwol	Helness	Arnolds	Wennevold
		3♡	All Pass

Carla Arnolds solved the dilemma by opening 3° , and there it rested; Netherlands +140 and 5 IMPs.

After 15 boards the Dutch already held a substantial lead. The final board was a push after both teams did well to bid a slam.



West	North	East	South
Fuglestad	Wortel	Harding	Michielsen
Pass	♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3 🛧	Pass	3♡
Pass	4♣	Pass	4 ♡
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 🙅
Dble	6♠	All Pass	

Those who like to count HCP may not realize the enormous strength of North's hand. The Dutch Pair uses 2NT as invitational or a weak game-force with three-plus card support. Three Clubs was game-forcing and asking. Essentially, Wortel needed only a heart cuebid by her partner in order to ask for keycards and bid the slam.

West	North	East	South
Van Zwol	Helness	Arnolds	Wennevold
Pass	I.♠	Pass	2 ◇
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 ◇
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

At this table North's 2Φ rebid could have been a minimum hand, so after South invited a slam via 3Φ there was no way that Gunn Helness would stop below the six-level, even though her partner failed to cuebid hearts.

Both declarers prepared for a red-suit squeeze, but the fall of the diamond queen made the play trivial.

Eventually good bidding judgement by the Dutch prevailed over their opponents' aggressive methods, and the final score was 48-27 IMPs, with 15.19 VP going to the Netherlands.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

BBO Netherlands v Norway W9

The Hunter from Norway

By Christina Lund Madsen



The magician from Norway dreams about retiring from professional bridge at an early age to spend more time going fishing and hunting in the mountains of his home country. He seemed destined to be a bridge player, however, he never had any dreams about bridge, since they all came true before he got the chance – but he had many dreams about girls.

Geir was II years old and playing football. One day, as he was about to walk home after practice, it started raining heavily. He went to his father's bridge club to seek shelter from the rain. After one of the first boards he watched he told his father "You can get an extra trick on this hand." He had never played a hand of bridge in his life.

After thinking the hand over for a few seconds, his father said to his son "You are right".

"I went to the library and borrowed every bridge book they had and read them all."

We sit at the terrace of his hotel room with the rain pounding heavily into the sea in front of us.

"I worked very hard when I was young. I started playing chess when I was five years old and I did the same. So I was a decent chess player when I quit at age II." He laughs gently.

What did you dream about as a child?

"What did I dream about? Who can remember that? Later on it was girls of course. My father was away playing bridge sometimes and I said I am never going to play bridge. I think my plan was to walk in my father's footsteps to become an electrician. I worked there once a week during school for a full year. I was lucky since one of his employees was a good bridge player, so we talked about bridge. I learned a lot."

Geir was about 13 at the time. When he was 16 he got a phone call from the best team in Norway inviting him to join the team. So he travelled 160 km back and forth once a week and still had to get up in the morning and go to school.

During his first years of bridge Geir still did sports seven times a week. However at the age of 16 to 19 bridge became almost an obsession to Geir.

"I wanted to be the best. At that time I had to work hard to keep up my grades at school and improve my bridge game."

19 years old Geir went on to university to study maths and economics.

"When I went to university ... Well, I wasn't going to be an electrician, so I really had no idea what to do. I loved playing cards and having a good time, as most students." So most of his time at university was spent playing bridge and partying with his friends, and very little on his studies.

"I remember I was supposed to have an exam and my father called me to hear how it went. I said we won the first two matches, getting 25 VPs. He wasn't happy about it but soon realized this was it."

The columnist of Norway's biggest newspaper died in 1990. Geir applied for the job and got it.

"I was 20 years old with a full salary. I knew what to do and never looked back."

After two years Geir skipped his studies and started playing professionally full time. Though Geir's parents were not thrilled with him giving up school, his results soon convinced them he had made the right choice.

"I think they both respected my choice of career. They never had any say in it. I was always deciding on my own what to do. Maybe they were not happy about it the first couple of years."

His father died in 2005, about six months before Geir won his first world championship.

"He was 67. Too much smoking. He needed oxygen the last six years. It wasn't fun. He stopped smoking for 15 years, but it was just too late."

It is the only time during our interview he doesn't have the characteristic smile on his face.

Interview with Geir Helgemo, Monaco "He lived 150 km away. I went to see him sometimes, but not enough when you think about it. He tried to get new lungs, but he was too old in Norway. It was gradually getting worse. He was weak for years, couldn't walk much. I didn't realise how bad it was. If I had known I would have spent more time with him. He never told anyone how bad it was."

His father missed Geir's first world championship, however, he saw his son win the World individual and winning silver out of the blue in 1993. That year Geir lost two world championship finals, both junior and open.

"When I was younger it was said about Edgar Kaplan that he was the best player never to win a world championship. I didn't want to be that player."

Which is your favourite bridge memory?

"Winning the European Championships in 2008 was fun. The first one for Norway and the first time I didn't play with Helness." He laughs and I join him. It is hard not to.

What is the best part about playing with Tor?

"Probably his love for the game, and his high spirits. He really wants to win."

Today Geir is 44. He is used to being in the spotlight and being asked standard questions about himself and his career. Yet he listens to my questions patiently and often accompanies his answers with a smile and a flirty look in his eyes.

When you think back, at which time did you feel most happy?

"Childhood was great, good friends, good parents. Also when I got to university. There have never been bad times, only best times. If I was going to change something I would have exercised more and eaten less earlier as I am trying to do now. It is never too late, but..."

The hardest opponent Geir has ever faced is his own reflection in the mirror. Today he is 40 kilos lighter than when his weight peaked.

When did you start changing your life style?

"It has been ongoing since I was 19 I think. When I was 16, I was very slim and fit. When I was 19 I was not. It was all bridge. From 10-15 hours of exercising every week to nothing. Reading bridge, playing bridge. It can be bad, it can be good. From 16-19 I gained a lot of weight."

Geir describes himself as an outdoor guy.

"I love to go into the wilderness, especially to go fishing and hunting in the mountains."

He also walks a lot, so the exercise is not to blame. His weakness is snacks and the life style during his university years, and later the bridge years with too much tempting dining.

"There have been many times losing weight. Up and down. Luckily I have lost more than I have gained every time."

How do you find the motivation?

"It is easy to find it, when you get more sleepy. Looking in the mirror. I am feeling good now. It is rarely too late. I just woke up one day and decided I have to do something about it. You have to do it all the time, that is the problem." He laughs and takes a zip of his water.

I try to interrogate him about his preference for women. Not very successfully.

Do you remember the first one you fell in love with? "Yes."

Tell me about her.

"No."

What did she look like?

"Blond, pretty. I am sure I was not the only one dreaming about her."

Did you ever consider having children?

"I am pretty certain I don't want to have children and now I think it is too late anyway. My first girlfriend really wanted to, perhaps that was the reason for the break up."

Geir has always been the one ending his former relationships. None of them have been with bridge players.

Do you think it would have been an advantage or disadvantage to have met a bridge player earlier?

"Probably a disadvantage for me. It is fun walking around flirting a bit."

You like flirting? I never would have guessed.

"Oh, well what do you know," he says, winking at me.

What is most important in your life right now?

"I think still losing weight. Getting maximum health. Keep playing bridge for few years. Looking forward to do more fishing, more hunting. And less bridge maybe in the summer and fall. That is when I play most and when I want to play least. Sometimes it is too much, but it is a good job. There are times it is fun to play, but mostly it is just a job."

How do you feel about that?

"It is a bit sad actually. I would enjoy bridge more playing less seriously every now and then, as we did before."

Was it a difficult decision to play for another country?

"Not at the time it wasn't. Earlier I had an opportunity to go to the States to play, but I turned it down. At the time I think it was the right move."

Do you think you will at some point quit playing bridge?

"Not altogether, but professionally maybe. It depends on how long I need the income. When I am not dependent on that anymore, maybe I will slow down. Do more what I want to do than what I have to do. Maybe one day I will come back to play for Norway."

Seniors Final Round I

By Brian Senior

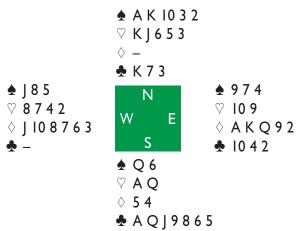




Poland and Norway were the top two teams in the qualifying Swiss, Poland heading the rankings, so when they were drawn to meet in the first round of the Senior final this was the natural choice to watch.

Board I was a peaceful game but the second deal was anything but peaceful.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
R. Maesel	Kowalski	H. Maesel	Romanski
		Pass	♣
Pass	♠	2 ◇	3 🛧
Pass	5 ◇	Pass	6 🙅
Pass	7♣	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
West Lasocki	North Anderssen	East Russyan	South Marstrander
		Russyan	Marstrander
Lasocki	Anderssen	Russyan Pass	Marstrander
Lasocki	Anderssen	Russyan Pass 5◊	Marstrander I♣ 6♣

Jacek Romanski's $I \clubsuit$ opening was Polish – a weak no trump, I5+ natural, or any I8+.When Roald Maesel passed as West, Apolinary Kowalski could make a natural and positive response of I \bigstar and now Helge Maesel overcalled in her chunky five-card diamond suit. Three Clubs showed the natural version of the I \bigstar opening and Roald's tactical pass, trying not to tip off his opponents to the E/W diamond fit, left room for Kowalski to use Exclusion Key Card, the 6 \bigstar response showing two key cards, not including the diamond ace, plus the club queen. When Kowalski raised to seven, it looks very odd to me for West not to take the favourable vulnerability sacrifice. There was nothing to the play of 7 \bigstar and Romanski soon chalked up +2140.

Things were rather different in the other room. Peter Marstrander's $I \oplus$ opening was either natural or a (semi-)balanced 11-14. Krzysztof Lasocki made the very aggressive pre-empt of $3\Diamond$ and forced Rune Anderssen to start to describe his hand at the three level. When lerzy Russyan took away another chunk of bidding room from his opponents, Marstrander judged to bid 64 and Anderssen had plenty to raise to seven. Now the fun really started. Russyan trusted his opponents to know what they were doing so saved in 7, which would have cost only -1100, and Marstrander made a forcing pass. Anderssen was happy to bid on rather than accept what would surely be an inadequate penalty, so introduced his second suit, and Marstrander gave preference to spades. Lasocki doubled that, Lightner, and it was not difficult for Russyan to work out that his partner was looking for a club ruff. The club lead duly meant a quick one off for -200 and a huge 20 IMPs to Poland.

E	Board 6. Dealer	East. E/W Vu	ıl.
 ▲ 10 9 ♡ A Q J 7 ◊ A Q J 4 ♣ 9 7 	 ▲ A K C ♡ K 9 8 ◊ 8 7 3 ④ J 6 N W S 4 7 6 5 ♡ 10 ◊ K 10 ♣ A Q 4 	5 E	3 2
West R. Maesel	North Kowalski	East H. Maesel	South Romanski
Lasocki	Anderssen	Russyan	Marstrander
I.C.		Pass	Pass
I♡ 		Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Both Norths made the four-card overcall and were raised directly to game, receiving a heart lead to West's ace.

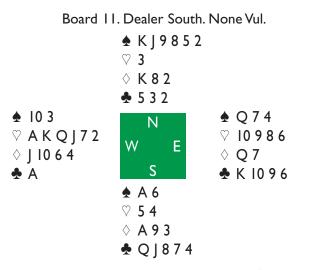
Roald returned the queen of hearts. Kowalski won the king, discarding a diamond from dummy, drew trumps in two rounds and took the simple line of leading the jack of clubs to the king and ace. There were just two diamonds to lose from here; +420.

I am sure that it did not even occur to the Poles that this would be other than a flat board, however...

At the other table, Lasocki returned a trump at trick two. Anderssen won the king, pitching a diamond from dummy, drew trumps and ruffed a heart then led a low club to the jack and king. A diamond back meant down one for -50 and 10 IMPs to Poland, who led by 30-1.

Anderssen's club play could have been the winning one. If West holds the king he is given the option of losing his club trick or of giving declarer three club winners and therefore two diamond discards from hand. This was a genuine two-way finesse for a king and, while I would probably have taken the simple approach of hoping to find either the club king or diamond ace with East, declarer had less information than at the other table because of West's trump switch, leaving open the possibility that East held one of the heart honours. Now his failure to raise to 2% would make it less likely that he also held one of the important minor-suit cards.

Norway pulled back 7 IMPs when Anderssen/Marstrander bid to 3NT with 19 facing 6 while their counterparts stopped in partscore, scoring +430 against +150 and closing to 8-30 at the half-way point in the match.



West	North	East	South
R. Maesel	Kowalski	H. Maesel	Romanski 秦
Dble 4♡	I♡ All Pass	Dble	Pass
West	North	East	South
West Lasocki	North Anderssen	East Russyan	South Marstrander I♣

Roald doubled the Polish Club and Kowalski transferred to spades. When Helge could double to show some values and hearts, he jumped to the heart game. Either a spade or a diamond lead would have enabled the defenders to take the first four tricks. However, Kowalski chose to lead passively and on a club lead there were ten easy tricks, Roald winning, crossing to the ten of hearts and taking a spade pitch on the club king. The I & opening had, of course not promised clubs; it would only be natural if 15+, and Romanski would have rebid 2 with that hand-type, so Kowalski really was just looking for a safe option when he led the suit.

In the other room, Lasocki preferred to overcall $I \heartsuit$ and Anderssen doubled to show four or more spades.

Russyan's 3° was pre-emptive but Lasocki of course went on to game. Now Anderssen did well by bidding 4^{\bullet} as a save against 4° , and earning a bonus when nobody could double. He lost two clubs and one trick in each of the other suits for down two; -100 but 8 IMPs to Norway, who closed to 16-31.

West R. MaeselNorth KowalskiEast H. MaeselSouth Romanski Pass $I \diamond$ Pass2 PassPass $3 \diamond$ Pass3 \heartsuit Dble $3 \blacklozenge$ Dble PassPassPass $3 \bigstar$ Dble PassPassPass $3 \bigstar$ Dble RussyanPassPassI \diamondNorth AnderssenEast RussyanSouth Marstrander Pass $I \diamond$ PassINTPass $2 \bigstar$ PassINTPass $2 \clubsuit$ Pass4 \bigstarAll Pass	Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul. ▲ A 10 7 6 ♡ Q J 8 2 ◇ J 10 9 ▲ J 9 ▲ Q J 9 5 ♡ 5 ◇ A Q 8 5 2 ▲ K 8 3 ▲ K 4 2 ♡ K 10 9 7 4 ◇ 7 6 ▲ Q 10 4				
IPassPass $1 \diamond$ Pass $2 \bigstar$ Pass $3 \bigstar$ Pass $3 \heartsuit$ Dble $3 \bigstar$ DblePassPass $3 \bigstar$ DblePassPass $3 \bigstar$ All PassEastSouthWestNorthEastSouthLasockiAnderssenRussyanMarstranderI \diamondsuitPassINTPass	West	North	East	South	
$I \diamond$ Pass $2 \bigstar$ Pass $3 \bigstar$ Pass $3 \heartsuit$ Dble $3 \bigstar$ DblePassPass $3 \bigstar$ DblePassPass $3 \bigstar$ All PassEastSouth $West$ NorthEastSouth $Lasocki$ AnderssenRussyanMarstrander $I \diamond$ PassINTPass	R. Maesel	Kowalski	H. Maesel	Romanski	
3♣Pass3♡Dble3▲DblePassPassPass3NTAll PassEastSouthWestNorthEastSouthLasockiAnderssenRussyanMarstranderI♦PassINTPass				Pass	
3▲ 3NTDble All PassPassPassWest LasockiNorth AnderssenEast RussyanSouth Marstrander PassI◇PassINTPass	$ \diamond$	Pass	2♣	Pass	
3NTAll PassWest LasockiNorth AnderssenEast RussyanSouth Marstrander PassI◊PassINTPass	3 🛧	Pass	3♡	Dble	
WestNorthEastSouthLasockiAnderssenRussyanMarstranderIPassINTPass	3♠	Dble	Pass	Pass	
Lasocki Anderssen Russyan Marstrander Pass I♦ Pass INT Pass	3NT	All Pass			
, I♦ Pass INT Pass	West	North	East	South	
I Pass INT Pass	Lasocki	Anderssen	Russyan	Marstrander	
				Pass	
2 Pass 4 All Pass	I \diamond	Pass	INT	Pass	
	2♣	Pass	4 🌺	All Pass	

The Maesels bid a pushy game – the sort of thing that we all do from time to time – and, with the defence mapped out by the two doubles, it merely required accurate discarding to ensure the contract's defeat after a heart lead. Sure enough, Roald ducked two rounds of hearts, won the third, perforce, and cashed the diamonds. Romanski held on to his club stopper and that was one down for –50. Lasocki rebid in his three-card club suit, sure that there

would be a better spot than INT when his opponents held at least nine hearts between them, and Russyan jumped to 4♣ to invite game, liking both his five-card support and three key cards. There was little to the play and Lasocki scored a painless +130 to add 5 IMPs to the Polish lead; 39-19.

And that was that. A match which had been very quiet with the exception of the huge swing on Board 2 ended in a 39-16 IMP, 15.56-4.44 VP win for Poland, who retained their position at the top of the rankings.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

BBO Poland v Norway S FI

Seniors Final Round I

By David Bird

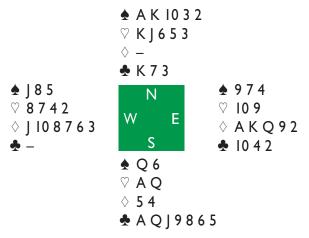


Ireland v England



After four days of play, the Seniors event had been reduced to the top 10 teams, with a carry-over of VPs. Ireland (4th) faced England (6th) in the first round and there was not long to wait for a splendid bidding board:

Board 2.Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
P. Hackett	O'Brien	Mossop	Macdonagh
		Pass	♣
3♢	4 \diamond	5◇	6♣
All Pass			

All 13 tricks were soon claimed for +1390 but E/W had a possible sacrifice available. What drama would unfurl in the Closed Room?

West	North	East	South
Mesbur	Holland	Fitzgibbon	Hallberg
		Pass	♣
3◊	3♠	3NT	4♠
Pass	5 ◇	6�	7♣
Pass	Pass	7 ◇	Dble
Pass	7♡	Pass	7♠
Dble	All Pass		

Drama, indeed! England bid to the cold $7\frac{4}{2}$ but Fitzgibbon was not hard-pressed to sacrifice at the favourable vulnerability. A double would have netted only 1100 (for 7 IMPs away). Holland cast his line into the sea with 7∇ , hoping to catch a bigger fish. The $\frac{4}{2}$ was due to fall, which was great news for $7\frac{4}{2}$. Much less welcome was a Lightner Double from West and the grand went one down after a club lead; 17 IMPs away. A good bidding hand deserves a good play hand. Ah yes, perhaps this board will serve the purpose:

Board 7.Dealer South. Both Vul.			
	🛦 K Q J	9743	
	♡62		
	♦ A		
	📥 K 9 2		
◆ 5 2	Ν	🔶 A	
♡ K J 9 5 3		_ ♡ A	8 7
♦ K 5 3 2		E \Diamond Q	J 9 7 6
뢒 Q 10	S	📕 👲 J 8	363
	👲 1086)	
	♡ Q I0 4	4	
	♦ 1084		
	📥 A 7 5	4	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
P. Hackett	O'Brien	Mossop	Macdonagh
			Pass
Pass	♠	Dble	2♠
4 ♡	4♠	Dble	All Pass

O'Brien won the $\Diamond Q$ lead and led the $\bigstar K$ to the ace. Mossop cashed the $\heartsuit A$ and played a low diamond to the eight and king, ruffed by declarer. Now came a second round of hearts to the ten and jack. The key trick had been reached. The fall of the cards in diamonds had left East in sole control of both minor suits. To prevent a squeeze West had to kill dummy's $\Diamond 10$ with a diamond return. When a trump was played back, the run of the trumps squeezed East in the minors for +790.

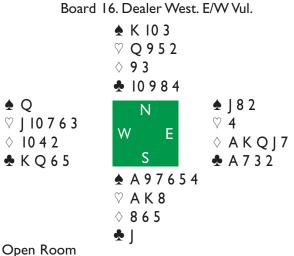


Nick Fitzgibbon, Ireland

West	North	East	South
Mesbur	Holland	Fitzgibbon	Hallberg
			Pass
Pass	♠	Dble	2♠
4 ♡	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Fitzgibbon cashed the $\bigstar A$ and switched to the $\Diamond Q$. A heart went to the ten and jack, Holland ruffing the $\Diamond K$ return. If Holland had rectified the count by ducking another heart, East would surely have risen with the ace and played the \Diamond J. In fact, Holland ran his trumps immediately. With only two tricks lost, no squeeze materialized and it was 14 IMPs to Ireland.

The last board of the match featured an excellent defence:



West	North	East	South
P. Hackett	O'Brien	Mossop	Macdonagh
Pass	Pass	$ \diamond$	♠
Dble	2♠	3♣	3♡
Pass	40	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Hackett started with king and another club. Macdonagh ruffed East's ace and led the $\diamond 5$ to the two, nine and jack. Declarer won the heart shift with the ace and led a trump to West's queen and dummy's king. In addition to six trumps and three hearts, he needed a diamond ruff. (The bidding and the play so far made it impossible that four heart tricks were available.) 'Three of diamonds, please!'

On this trick Mossop contributed the \Diamond 7! Hackett was then able to win with the $\Diamond 10$ and deliver a heart ruff for one down. It proved to be a flat board. At the other table $3 \Leftrightarrow$ went one down when declarer cashed the $\bigstar A$ on the first round.

Ireland won the match by 52-22, giving them a hefty 16.73–3.27 in VPs.

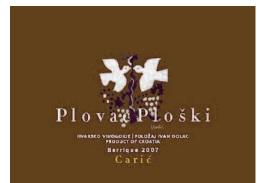
You can replay all the deals from this match at:

BBO Ireland v England S FI

Championship Diary

On this day, 28th June 1914 in Sarajevo, Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife, Sophie, were shot dead by Serbian nationalists. The outcome was a European-wide mobilisation and ultimately the outbreak of the First World War.

The President of the Croatian Bridge Federation, lurica Carić, was kind enough to donate a bottle of wine to the Daily Bulletin relief fund. The Plovac Ploski 2008 is well worth looking out for – here is a picture of the label to help you find it:



The original label was designed by the wellknown Croatian painter Edo Murtic.

We understand that Liverpool (Luis Suarez's club in the English Premier League) are planning to appeal to the Court of Human Bites.

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

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)

John Carruthers adds some Numbers:

- 15.65 St. Augustine, the oldest continuouslyestablished settlement in NA
- 18.67 Canada's birth as a nation
- 19.93 Montreal Canadiens, the last Canadian team to win the Stanley Cup

I will not mention 19.50 as it was the year I was born.

If you would like to see the BBO kibitzer figures for the Championships simply go to:

http://livebridge.net/bbo/kibs.php

Between Scylla and Charybdis

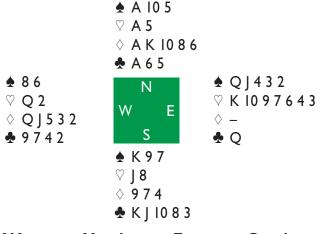
By Mark Horton

Being between Scylla and Charybdis is an idiom deriving from Greek mythology, meaning 'having to choose between two evils'. Scylla and Charybdis were mythical sea monsters noted by Homer; later Greek tradition sited them on opposite sides of the Strait of Messina between Sicily and the Italian mainland. Scylla was rationalized as a rock shoal (described as a six-headed sea monster) on the Italian side of the strait and Charybdis was a whirlpool off the coast of Sicily. They were regarded as a sea hazard located close enough to each other that they posed an inescapable threat to passing sailors; avoiding Charybdis meant passing too close to Scylla and vice versa.

According to Homer, Odysseus was forced to choose which monster to confront while passing through the strait; he opted to pass by Scylla and lose only a few sailors, rather than risk the loss of his entire ship in the whirlpool.

On this deal from the match between Belgium and Turkey in Round 10 East was caught between a rock and a hard place:



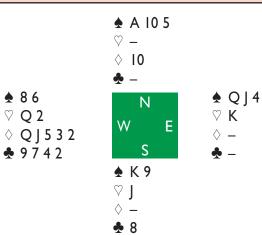


West	North	East	South
Kolata	Dewasme	Kandemir	Dehaye
		2◊*	Pass
20	Dble	3♡	4♣
Pass	6♣	Dble*	All Pass

^{2◊} Majors, 5-5, 6-10 Dble Lightner

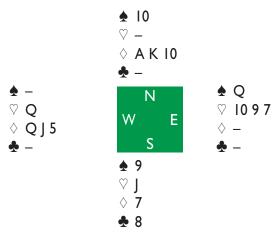
It was not difficult for West to diagnose that East wanted a diamond so he led the two. The situation was also clear to declarer, who covered with the six. East ruffed with the queen and considered his options.

If he returned a low heart West would have to cover whichever card declarer played. After winning with dummy's ace declarer would draw trumps and play the nine of diamonds. West would have to duck that and then cover the next diamond. After cashing a diamond and discarding a spade declarer would lead the losing ten of diamonds in this position:



East is squeezed by the loser that declarer is about to ruff.

If East returns the king of hearts declarer takes dummy's ace, draws trumps and runs the nine of diamonds. He cashes two spades ending in hand to reach this ending:



When declarer plays the last trump it is West's turn to be squeezed.

Faced with two impossible alternatives should East choose to fall on his sword or stab his partner in the back?

Before I reveal the answer observe that if East returns the ten of hearts at trick two it is essential for declarer to cover when the eight becomes a menace against East.

As you might have guessed East exited with the king of hearts.

(The contract in the other room was 3NT, +430, so E/W lost 12 sailors.)

Seniors Final Round 2

By John Carruthers

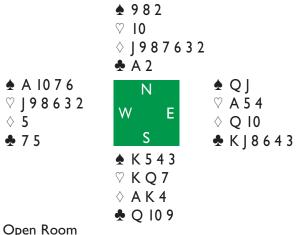


Poland v England



These two teams would have been on everyone's shortlist to represent Europe in the next d'Orsi Trophy at Chennai next year. A critical decision came immediately ...





Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Kowalski	Simpson	Romanski
	Pass	♣	INT
2♣*	3♢	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

2 🜩 Majors

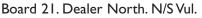


Jacek Romanski, Poland

West	North	East	South
Lasocki	Holland	Russyan	Hallberg
	Pass	2♣	2NT
Pass	5◇	All Pass	

This was all about tempo - the One Club opening allowed Jacek Romanski to overall INT and David Price to show the majors. Romanski was then charmed to settle in 3NT when Apolinary Kowalski showed diamonds. Not having a natural and forcing Three Diamond bid available, John Holland guessed to bid Five Diamonds when Gunnar Hallberg had to overcall 2NT over the natural Two Clubs. Five Diamonds had no play and 3NT was unbeatable: 10 IMPs to Poland.

Three pushes followed - all in the same game at either table. The first one made, the second went one off and the third went two off.



	★ Q ♡ A (◇ 9 4 ♣ 7	Q 5 4 3		
🛦 A 9 5 4	Ν	1	🛦 K J	106
♡ 1092			ŶКĴ	
♦ J 8	W	E	◊ Α 0	
📥 K 1032	S	5	9 9 6	5
	4 7			
	V 76)		
	♦ K	0652		
		Q J 8 4		
Closed Roon	า			
West	North	East		South
		_		

West	North	East	South
Lasocki	Holland	Russyan	Hallberg
	Pass	♣*	$ \diamond $
	Dble*	Pass	3 🛧

3⊘

Pass

Holland led a diamond, thinking to set up a forcing game. Krzysztof Lasocki ducked that in the dummy and Hallberg won it with his king. Seeing that there was no forcing game available, South shifted to the ace and jack of clubs. Holland ruffed out declarer's king and took his heart ace. Hallberg had a club trick to come for plus 50 to England.

3♠

All Pass

At the other table, Price and Colin Simpson created a swing out of thin air:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Kowalski	Simpson	Romanski
	Pass	♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	2NT
Dble	Rdbl*	Pass	3♢
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

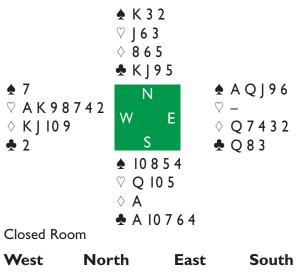
Rdbl Hearts, with a diamond preference

Again, the tempo of the auction was critical. When Price doubled the 2NT balance, Simpson was able to double Three Diamonds on the way out. Price led a trump, of course, and Simpson won with the ace and played another. Romanski misguessed by ducking and Price won with the jack and exited with a low spade to East's ten. East was delighted to be able to play a third trump. Declarer won that and, expecting East to have the ace and king of spades, finessed the queen of hearts, losing to the king. That allowed East to lead another spade to set up a forcing defence. Declarer ruffed, led a heart to dummy's ace and tried a club to the queen. When that lost to the king, another spade forced out declarer's last trump. Subsequently, he was able to make only the ace and jack of clubs. That was three down, minus 800, and 13 IMPs to England.

Simpson's double was enterprising, certainly, but had Romanski risen with the king of diamonds, then played the ace and another club, ruffing it in the dummy, he'd have held the loss to minus 200 and 6 IMPs. Ducking the second diamond had, very unusually, allowed the defence to draw a third trump then tap him out.

Board 22 was a partscore battle, won by England by dint of three spades making five for plus 200 and three hearts down one for minus 50, 4 IMPs. That made the match score England 17 - Poland 10.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



west	North	East	South
Lasocki	Holland	Russyan	Hallberg
			Pass
\square	Pass	I ♠	Pass
4 ♡	All Pass		

Holland led a passive diamond, the only lead to give the defence a chance. Hallberg won with his ace and, had he been able to see Holland's jack of hearts, would have shifted to a medium-sized club to get a diamond ruff. He could not, and so cashed the ace of clubs and played another. Lasocki ruffed, played three rounds of trumps and when they proved to be 3-3, claimed plus 620.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Kowalski	Simpson	Romanski
			2 📥
4 ♡	5♣	Dble	All Pass

Here, with king-jack to four trumps opposite a known five-plus-card suit and a limited hand, Kowalski was bullied into taking the sacrifice. Price began with the two top hearts and shifted to his spade. At this point, Simpson had to play three rounds of spades, allowing West to ruff the third, then receive his heart ruff for down four. Instead, he won the spade shift cheaply and shifted to a diamond. Declarer won that, drew trumps with the aid of the finesse and lost two more spades. Still, that was plus 800 and 5 more IMPs England's way. A heart ruff at trick three would have also led to 1100.

That swing made the match score 22-10 to England.

An extra undertrick sent 2 IMPs Poland's way on the next board then a push and an overtrick sent another to Poland to make the scoreline 22-13 to England. Then Price slightly mistimed the play in one notrump to go off one, while Lasocki made it. That was 4 IMPs to Poland, closing the gap to 22-17.

The remaining five boards were completely unexceptional, with only 4 IMPs exchanging hands, 3 to Poland and I to England, making the final score England 23 - Poland 20. It had been a relatively dull affair, with just two double-digit swings, one each way. England had held Poland to 1.25 IMPs per board while scoring just under 1.5 IMPs per board themselves, both side having played pretty well. Edgar Kaplan might have predicted a win for both teams, his gold standard being 1.5 IMPs allowed per board.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

BBO Poland v England S F2

RESULTS

OPEN

18 ITALY

19 BOSNIA H.

Open A RI2

Match		١٢	1Ps	V	′Ps
I RUSSIA	SWEDEN	33	44	6.96	13.04
2 GERMANY	ICELAND	57	30	16.26	3.74
3 MONACO	NORWAY	34	40	8.24	11.76
4 SCOTLAND	FRANCE	45	40	11.48	8.52
5 SLOVAKIA	ESTONIA	7	66	0.07	19.93
6 CROATIA	IRELAND	34	57	4.44	15.56
7 SPAIN	PORTUGAL	19	58	2.03	17.97
8 FINLAND	GREECE	63	5	19.85	0.15
9 SLOVENIA	AUSTRIA	25	32	7.97	12.03

Open A RI3

	Match		11	IMPs		′Ps
1	SWEDEN	ICELAND	40	15	15.92	4.08
2	RUSSIA	NORWAY	41	25	14.18	5.82
3	GERMANY	FRANCE	13	26	6.48	13.52
4	MONACO	estonia	43	46	9.09	10.91
5	SCOTLAND	IRELAND	27	58	3.12	16.88
6	SLOVAKIA	PORTUGAL	31	31	10.00	10.00
7	CROATIA	GREECE	49	28	15.19	4.81
8	SPAIN	AUSTRIA	61	21	18.09	1.91
9	FINLAND	SLOVENIA	62	35	16.26	3.74

Open A RI4

Match		IMPs	VPs	
1	GERMANY	RUSSIA	74 7	19.77 0.23
2	MONACO	SWEDEN	55 31	15.74 4.26
3	scotland	ICELAND	19 43	4.26 15.74
4	SLOVAKIA	NORWAY	33 32	10.31 9.69
5	CROATIA	FRANCE	35 32	10.91 9.09
6	SPAIN	estonia	43 29	13.75 6.25
7	FINLAND	IRELAND	25 51	3.91 16.09
8	AUSTRIA	PORTUGAL	60 35	15.92 4.08
9	SLOVENIA	GREECE	26 59	2.83 17.17

Open B RI2 IMPs VPs Match **II DENMARK** LATVIA 38 24 13.75 6.25 12 TURKEY **SWITZERLAND** 58 24 17.31 2.69 13 ENGLAND HUNGARY 29 6 15.56 4.44 14 ISRAEL WALES 22 2 15.00 5.00 15 POLAND **BELGIUM** 26 29 9.09 10.91 **16 BULGARIA** ROMANIA 20 36 5.82 14.18 18.66 **17 NETHERL.S** LITHUANIA 55 10 1.34

Open B RI3

FAROE ISLANDS 26 52

34 22

13.28

6.72

3.91 16.09

SERBIA

Match		IMPs	VPs	
II BULGARIA	POLAND	55 25	16.73 3.27	
12 NETHERL.	ISRAEL	26 56	3.27 16.73	
13 ITALY	ENGLAND	28 45	5.61 14.39	
14 FAROE ISL.	TURKEY	7 74	0.00 20.00	
15 SERBIA	DENMARK	29 53	4.26 15.74	
16 LITHUANIA	LATVIA	10 38	3.58 16.42	
17 ROMANIA	SWITZERL.	43 17	16.09 3.91	
18 BELGIUM	HUNGARY	8 46	2.15 17.85	
19 WALES	BOSNIA H.	45 26	14.80 5.20	

Open B RI4

Match		IMPs		VPs		
П	BELGIUM	ROMANIA	31	47	5.82	4. 8
12	WALES	LITHUANIA	54	54	10.00	10.00
13	HUNGARY	SERBIA	29	30	9.69	10.31
14	SWITZERL.	FAROE ISLANDS	67	8	19.93	0.07
15	LATVIA	ITALY	46	38	12.29	7.71
16	DENMARK	NETHERLANDS	50	39	13.04	6.96
17	TURKEY	BULGARIA	33	56	4.44	15.56
18	ENGLAND	POLAND	28	39	6.96	13.04
19	BOSNIA H.	ISRAEL	12	38	3.91	16.09

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 RI2

Match		١N	1Ps	٧	′Ps
21 ROMANIA	RUSSIA	23	32	7.45	12.55
22 POLAND	scotland	46	54	7.71	12.29
23 NORWAY	SERBIA	32	46	6.25	13.75
24 NETHERL.	SPAIN	29	4	15.92	4.08
25 LEBANON	SWEDEN	30	50	5.00	15.00
26 ITALY	TURKEY	57	28	16.58	3.42
27 ISRAEL	AUSTRIA	62	4	19.85	0.15
28 IRELAND	BULGARIA	44	47	9.09	10.91
29 GREECE	CROATIA	15	53	2.15	17.85
30 GERMANY	DENMARK	44	52	7.71	12.29
31 FRANCE	ENGLAND	33	23	12.80	7.20
32 ESTONIA	BYE			12.00	

Women RI3						
Mat	ch	١١	1Ps	V	′Ps	
21 FRANCE	GERMANY	38	19	14.80	5.20	
22 ESTONIA	GREECE	32	59	3.74	16.26	
23 ENGLAND	IRELAND	30	20	12.80	7.20	
24 DENMARK	ISRAEL	46	15	16.88	3.12	
25 CROATIA	ITALY	24	37	6.48	13.52	
26 BULGARIA	LEBANON	44	25	14.80	5.20	
27 AUSTRIA	NETHERLANDS	9	94	0.00	20.00	
28 TURKEY	NORWAY	53	16	17.72	2.28	
29 SWEDEN	POLAND	14	25	6.96	13.04	
30 SPAIN	ROMANIA	12	67	0.39	19.61	
31 SERBIA	RUSSIA	35	40	8.52	11.48	
32 SCOTLAND	BYE			12.00		

Women RI4					
Mat	ch	١١	1Ps	V	′Ps
21 ENGLAND	estonia	64	36	16.42	3.58
22 DENMARK	FRANCE	24	48	4.26	15.74
23 CROATIA	GERMANY	40	36	11.20	8.80
24 BULGARIA	GREECE	54	46	12.29	7.71
25 AUSTRIA	IRELAND	41	26	13.97	6.03
26 TURKEY	ISRAEL	92	36	19.69	0.31
27 SWEDEN	ITALY	19	39	5.00	15.00
28 SPAIN	LEBANON	52	51	6.96	9.69
29 SERBIA	NETHERLANDS	19	29	7.20	12.80
30 SCOTLAND	NORWAY	54	50	11.20	8.80
31 RUSSIA	POLAND	47	45	10.61	9.39
32 ROMANIA	BYE			12.00	

SENIORS

Seniors Final R4-6

	Ma	tch	11	1Ps	V	′Ps
1	SWEDEN	HUNGARY	40	7	17.17	2.83
2	AUSTRIA	IRELAND	25	26	9.69	10.31
3	NORWAY	BELGIUM	50	24	16.09	3.91
4	ENGLAND	DENMARK	30		14.80	5.20
5	BULGARIA	POLAND	30	2	16.42	3.58
	Ma	tch	11	1Ps	V	′Ps
1	BELGIUM	HUNGARY	49	14	17.45	2.55
2	ENGLAND	AUSTRIA	50	38	13.28	6.72
3	SWEDEN	POLAND	7	29	4.62	15.38
4	BULGARIA	IRELAND	34	21	13.52	6.48
5	NORWAY	DENMARK	52	54	9.39	10.61
	Ma	tch	11	1Ps	V	′Ps
1	NORWAY	HUNGARY	30	43	6.48	13.52
2	IRELAND	DENMARK	47	23	15.74	4.26
3	BULGARIA	SWEDEN	11	34	4.44	15.56
4	AUSTRIA	POLAND	40	30	12.80	7.20
5	ENGLAND	BELGIUM	65	18	18.87	1.13

Seniors Final B R4-6

	Jen	iors rinai	D N4-	0
	Match		IMPs	VPs
 2 3 4 5 6 7	GERMANY SCOTLAND FINLAND TURKEY ESTONIA ITALY SLOVENIA	ISRAEL CROATIA ROMANIA SPAIN PORTUGAL WALES SERBIA	26 21 66 47 36 64 40 49 6 35 23 38 28 61	11.488.5214.805.203.5816.427.4512.553.4216.586.0313.972.8317.17
	Match		IMPs	VPs
 2 3 4 5 6 7	GERMANY ISRAEL CROATIA PORTUGAL FINLAND SERBIA WALES	SCOTLAND ROMANIA SPAIN TURKEY ESTONIA ITALY SLOVENIA	3734623053134447633416794112	10.91 9.09 17.03 2.97 18.09 1.91 9.09 10.91 16.58 3.42 0.00 20.00 16.58 3.42
	Match		IMPs	VPs
 2 3 4 5 6 7	ISRAEL GERMANY SCOTLAND TURKEY ROMANIA ESTONIA SPAIN	CROATIA PORTUGAL FINLAND WALES ITALY SERBIA SLOVENIA	52 15 51 24 33 50 53 51 12 53 79 10 62 28	17.722.2816.263.745.6114.3910.619.391.7918.2120.000.0017.312.69



MONTE-CARLO 5-6-7 SEPTEMBRE 2014 SPORTING D'HIVER Place du Casino

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150 € au lieu de 250 €



Cavendish Teams	- Monday September 1st and Tuesday 2nd
Coupe Prince Albert II	- Open Team 7500 Euros
Coupe I rince Moerr II	- Ladies or Junior team : 3500 Euros
	- Auction : no
Cavendish Invitational Open Pairs	- Auction : September 2nd (18h30)
	- Wednesday September 3rd, to Friday 5th
	- Entry fee: 1500 Euros per pair
	- Auction guarantee : 5000 Euros per pair
Cavendish Invitational Ladies Pairs	- Auction : Tuesday September 2nd (18h30)
	- Wednesday September 3rd, to Friday 5th
	- Entry fee: 750 Euros per pair
	- Auction guarantee : 2000 Euros per pair
Prize Money	- 90% of the entry fees and auctions paid back to the players and bidders.
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	Fed, will propose great conditions for her prestigious hotels (Hôtel de
	Paris, Hôtel Hermitage), but you may find any other accomodations in
	Monaco as well at different rates. Tell us about your needs and we'll
	find solutions for you.
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