



7th EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Daily Bulletin



Tromsø
27th June-11th July

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A LEGEND HAS LEFT

SATURDAY,
JULY 11 2015



Issue No. 14

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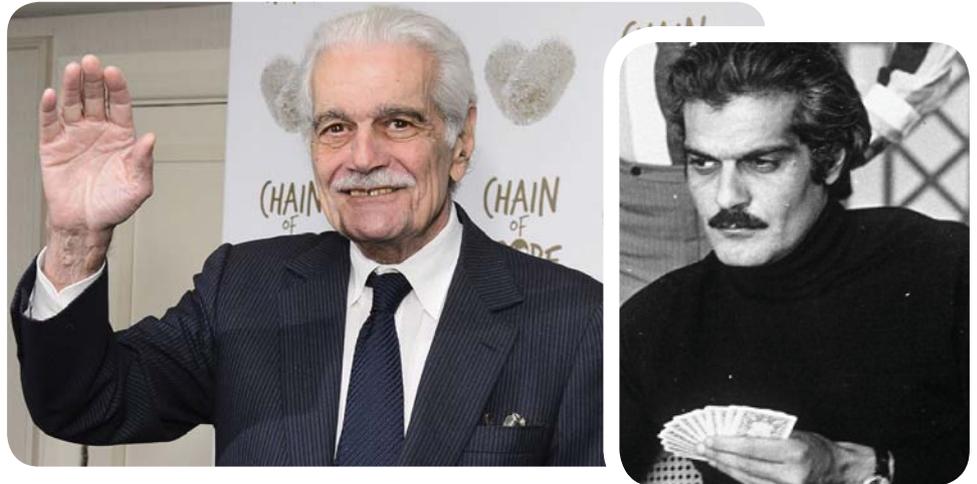
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Today we pay tribute to one of the legendary figures of the bridge world, Omar Sharif, who died yesterday. His career as a film star and his passion for bridge are revealed in this issue.

What better way to remember him than by recalling that at the Closing Ceremony of the European Championships in Malta in 1999 the audience rose to their feet and cheered when he went up to collect his medal and the organisers played the theme to Dr. Zhivago.

Tonya: Yuri, there's an extraordinary girl at this party.
Zhivago: I know. I'm dancing with her.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Yd2PzoF1y8>

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

OPEN PAIRS FINAL

10.00 - 11.30: Round 6
11.45 - 13.15: Round 7
14.30 - 16.00: Round 8
16.15 - 17.45: Round 9
18.00 - 19.45: Round 10

MARIT SVEAAS SWISS PAIRS

10.30 - 14.00: Session 1

**20.00: Prize Giving &
Closing Ceremony**



**OPEN PAIRS PRIZE-GIVING
& CLOSING CEREMONY
TODAY SATURDAY 11th JULY AT 20:00
(NOTE THE TIME CHANGE)
IN CAFETERIA AREA**

OMAR SHARIF (1932-2015)



Omar Sharif, actor and bridge player died yesterday of a heart attack in a Cairo hospital.

Omar Sharif, the Franco-Arab actor best known for playing Sherif Ali in Lawrence of Arabia (1962) and the title

role in Doctor Zhivago (1965), was born Michel Demitri Shalhoub on April 10, 1932 in Alexandria, Egypt. Of Lebanese and Syrian extraction, the young Michel was raised a Roman Catholic. He was educated at Victoria College in Alexandria and took a degree in mathematics and physics from Cairo University. After graduating from university, he entered the family lumber business.

He developed an interest in acting and studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London.

Before making his English-language film debut with Lawrence of Arabia, for which he earned a Best Supporting Actor Academy Award nomination and international fame, along with two Golden Globe awards, Sharif became a star in Egyptian cinema. His first movie was the Egyptian film Siraa Fil-Wadi (1954) (The Blazing Sun) in 1953, opposite the renowned Egyptian actress Faten Hamama whom he married in 1955. He converted to Islam to marry Hamama and took the name Omar al-Sharif. The couple had one child (Tarek Sharif, who was born in 1957 and portrayed the young Zhivago in the eponymous picture) and divorced in 1974. Sharif never remarried.

He was a fine sportsman, representing Egypt at football, but his passion was bridge.

Beginning in the 1960s, he earned a reputation as one of the world's best-known players. In the 1970s and '80s, with Charles Goren, he co-wrote a syndicated newspaper bridge column for the Chicago Tribune. He wrote several books on bridge and licensed his name to Omar Sharif Bridge, which was first marketed in 1992.

In 1967 he founded the Omar Sharif Bridge Circus, which included energetic and quick-witted Egyptian Leon Yallouze as the coordinator, young Mike Ledeen (later to become a world renown terrorism expert) who served as the American Manager of the Circus,

Benito Garozzo, (considered by many as the greatest bridge player of all time) plus his Italian compatriots Pietro Forquet and Giorgio Belladonna and handsome Parisian internationalist, Claude Delmouly.

In the early 70's Omar set up a Rubber Bridge match in London against Jeremy Flint and Jonathan Cansino at the then unheard of stakes of £1 a point. He won £7,000 but lost £100,000 on a film of the match, which was never shown to the public.

In 1991, Omar was a special guest at the World Bridge Championships in Yokohama. A boat trip was organised around the harbour and the TV cameras were out in force. Omar was a bad sailor but when the time came for him to be interviewed he gave a bravura performance.

He had two separate bridge careers: in 1964 and 1968 he captained (and played on) the Egyptian team in the Olympiad, finishing 21st on both occasions.

Then, in 1997, he was a member of the Committee of Honour for the Bermuda Bowl on the first occasion that this was organized in an Arab Country, Tunisia.



He competed in a truly transnational team (with French, German and Lebanese players) and finished 11th. Two years later, Omar was asked to join a French entry for the senior teams at the European Championships in Malta. Omar's team finished second. Another year later, at Maastricht, Omar Sharif joined Egypt's senior team, finishing in a creditable ninth place.

The three French Senior teams in Malta finished in the first three positions and, as was customary at the time, this would mean the public would get to hear the 'Marseillaise' performed three times. The Organisers decided to play the theme to Doctor Zhivago instead, which was greeted with great cheers.

Following this breakthrough role in films, Sharif played a variety of characters, including a Spanish priest in Behold a Pale Horse (1964), a Yugoslav wartime patriot in The Yellow Rolls-Royce (1964) and the Mongolian conqueror in Genghis Khan (1965). In the same year, Sharif reunited with Lean to play the title role in Doctor Zhivago, an adaptation of Boris Pasternak's novel and won another Golden Globe.

Over the next few years, Sharif starred as a German military officer in The Night of the Generals, as Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria in Mayerling and as Che Guevara in Che!. Sharif was also acclaimed for his portrayal of Nicky Arnstein, husband to Fanny Brice in Funny Girl, though some thought he was miscast as a New York Jewish gambler. His decision to work with co-star Barbra Streisand angered Egypt's government at the time due to Streisand's support for the state of Israel. Streisand herself responded with 'You think Cairo was upset? You should've seen the letter I got from my Aunt Rose!' Sharif reprised the role in the film's sequel, Funny Lady in 1975.

Among his other films were the western Mackenna's Gold, as an outlaw opposite Gregory Peck; the thriller Juggernaut, which co-starred Richard Harris, and the romantic drama The Tamarind Seed, co-starring Julie Andrews, directed by Blake Edwards. Sharif also contributed comic cameo performances in Edwards' The Pink Panther Strikes Again and in the 1980 spy-film spoof Top Secret!



In 2003, he received acclaim for his role in the French-language film adaptation of the novel Monsieur Ibrahim et les fleurs du Coran, as a Muslim Turkish merchant who becomes a father figure for a Jewish boy. For his performance, he won the Best Actor Award at the Venice Film Festival and the Best Actor César, France's equivalent of the Oscar, from the Académie des Arts et Techniques du Cinéma.

In November 2005, Sharif was awarded the inaugural Sergei Eisenstein Medal by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in recognition of his significant contributions to world film and cultural diversity. The medal, which is handed out very infrequently, is named after Russian director Sergei Eisenstein. Only 25 have been struck, as determined by the agreement between UNESCO, Russia's Mosfilm and the Vivat Foundation.

He told the press in 2006 that he no longer played bridge, explaining, I decided I didn't want to be a slave to any passion any more except for my work. I had too many passions, bridge, horses, gambling. I want to live a different kind of life, be with my family more because I didn't give them enough time.'

Sharif became friends with Peter O'Toole during the making of Lawrence of Arabia. They appeared in several other films together and remained close friends. He was also good friends with Egyptologist Zahi Hawass. Actor and friend Tom Courtenay revealed in an interview for the July 19, 2008, edition of BBC Radio's Test Match Special that Sharif supported Hull City Association Football Club and in the 1970s would telephone their automated scoreline from his home in Paris for score updates. Sharif was given an honorary degree by the University of Hull in 2010 and used the occasion to meet up with Hull City football player Ken Wagstaff.



THE EBL PRESS CONFERENCE

by Patrick Jourdain



Patrick Jourdain (IBPA President), Jan Kamras (Championship Chairman), Yves Aubry (EBL President), Jostein Sørvoll (NBF President), Inger Kjellemarken (On-Site Organizer)

Some twenty members of the Press attended the Conference. At the top table answering questions were: Patrick Jourdain, IBPA President, Jan Kamras, Championship Chairman, Yves Aubry, EBL President, Jostein Sørvoll, NBF President, Inger Kjellemarken, On-site Organiser.

The EBL President opened with a statement that the Conference would include a link with Charles Allavena in Monaco regarding the new EBL event next February. The countries for future EBL tournaments had been announced in the Bulletin. The former Secretary of the EBL, David Harris, had been made its Legal Counsel and Paul Porteous appointed Secretary in his place.

There would also be a test of a journalist asking a question via the internet.

The President of the Norwegian Bridge Federation reported that the playing conditions in Tromsø were good and the EBL staff and local staff and volunteers had performed well. The Federation was satisfied with the attendance though, of course, it would have liked more.

Jan Kamras referred to the changes in format made since Ostend, two years ago. Following requests from the players the length of the knockout matches had been increased, consolation events better timed (with a big increase in participation) and technical changes allowed last-minute changes in format when players did not turn up. All events started within five minutes of the published time.

Patrick Jourdain asked whether, in the absence of printed Bulletins, some method of seeing them could be provided for those people present without the necessary equipment. Barry Rigal asked whether a truncated version could be provided, possibly for a charge. Mr Aubry replied that few complaints had been received in Tromsø but ideas would be considered.

On the matter of the change in eligibility rules three years ago, Patrick Jourdain said he understood the option of a new country for residence purposes could not be amended for ten years, but did that also apply to a player attempting to return to represent the country of his/her birth? Mr. Aubry said the 10-year restriction applied to any change of allegiance even to the country of birth. There was also the continuing restriction that no player could represent different countries in consecutive national EBL or WBF events even if just over two years apart.

Jan van Cleeff in the Hague (via Skype) asked questions about the new EBL event, next February. Replies were that it had not yet been given a name (suggestions welcome), that it was an additional official EBL event not replacing any existing event, that the venue and local Federation would be Monaco and the event was supported with prize money provided by Pierre Zimmermann. On the matter of whether Monaco would no longer host the Cavendish Mr. Aubry said he could not speak for Mr. Zimmermann on this matter but it was possible the two events would be in alternate years.

Mr. Aubry concluded by stating the EBL had decided that next year's national championships in Budapest would revert to a full round robin for all three events, Open, Women and Senior. The Open would be fixed in length as 10 days and the other two as 7 days. The length of matches would therefore be shorter and as the entry was unknown full details depending on the number of entries would be published in advance.

Those present were invited to join the President in a drink.



YOUTH TAKE OVER IN WOMEN

by Micke Melander

When checking out who qualified for the final in the Open Women Pairs in Tromsø it was quite remarkable and pleasing to see that the average age was far lower than it used to be.

The format of the final was five sessions with ten boards in each, except the last which contained twelve boards. They met each of the other qualified pairs twice. Breaking free in the first session were Chinese Lu-Liu with a 72.92% game, which was 10% more than second placed Gladiator-Weber managed to score. Amongst the pre-tournament favourites would be Zmuda-Dufrat, Poland, and Rimstedt-Övelius (previously Sjöberg – she got married this summer) from Sweden.

After the second session Zmuda-Dufrat took over the lead with 65.08% and Lu-Liu dropped to second with 62.88 while Rimstedt-Övelius were sixth with 51.97%.

Then came session three, in which we knew that Zmuda – Dufrat were going to meet S. Rimstedt – Övelius for the second time, a battle that had to be recorded in detail!

Rimstedt finished as declarer in 3NT, after a strong club opening and negative diamond response. Getting the declarer to be East was key, since South was endplayed from the start, to give something away to declarer.

Zmuda eventually led the three of spades which ran to declarer's nine. Rimstedt now cashed the ace of clubs and exited with a small club. Zmuda hesitated for a while, but correctly rose with the queen to lead back the suit, killing declarer's second entry to dummy. Rimstedt won with the jack and ran the nine of hearts to South's ten and Zmuda was again endplayed. Eventually she exited with the king of spades. Declarer won, then cashed the king of clubs, putting more pressure on South who had to discard a heart and then entered dummy with the king of diamonds to repeat the heart finesse - when that lost to the queen she could claim ten tricks for 66% of the matchpoints.

Watching the game from behind at the table I was wondering what effect an immediate low club at trick two would have created, after winning the first trick with the nine of spades?

If South rises with the queen to return the suit, declarer simply wins in hand to play the ace and king of diamonds and duck a diamond and will be scoring ten tricks when the diamonds were 3-3. And this would have been eleven tricks if the king of spades had been onside.

If South plays low on the first club, declarer wins the jack and plays a heart to South's ten, who does best to return a club. Declarer then wins in hand and cashes the clubs, to put more pressure on South, who is forced to keep her diamonds and king-ten of spades. Declarer then plays the ace of hearts and gives up a heart to North. Regardless of the return, declarer wins in hand and plays her last established heart, which will squeeze South and East will then score eleven tricks (100%) when South can't hold on to both the diamonds and the spades.

3NT making ten tricks gave Rimstedt – Övelius 8/12 matchpoints or 66.67%.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

	♠ 8 7 4 2										
	♥ K 5 3										
	♦ 7 6 3										
	♣ 10 7 6										
♠ J 5	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <table style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		N		W		E		S		♠ A Q 9
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 9 6 4		♥ A J 8 2									
♦ K 10 9 4 2		♦ A 8									
♣ J 9 5		♣ A K 3 2									
	♠ K 10 6 3										
	♥ Q 10 7										
	♦ Q J 5										
	♣ Q 8 4										

West	North	East	South
Övelius	Dufrat	S. Rimstedt	Zmuda
	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♦*	Pass	1♥*	Pass
1♠*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

GO TO PAGE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
Övelius	Dufrat	S.Rimstedt	Zmuda
2♠	Dble*	1NT	Dbl*
3♠	All Pass	Pass	3♥

Rimstedt-Övelius play a variable NT. At this vulnerability and position, it promised 9-12 and could even be semi-balanced. The first double was for strength and the second take-out. South did very well to compete to Three Hearts which East might have been tempted to try to defend. However the contract could be made regardless of West's opening lead. West eventually won the bidding competition and got to be declarer in Three Spades. North started with a club, declarer rose with the king and South won with the ace. The hand was quickly over when South cashed the ace of diamonds to return the suit. When trumps broke 3-1, declarer had to lose a heart, a diamond and two clubs. That was 10 out of the 12 possible matchpoints.

The Chinese pair was back in the lead after the third session with 61.72%, followed by Zmuda-Dufrat with 60.36 and Rimstedt-Övelius were up to 57.86 and had started their hunt for the absolute top placing's.

The Swedish women had a good fourth session and went up to take over the lead for the first time with 60.36%, Zmuda-Dufrat second with 59.29 and the Chinese dropped to third with 59.13.

Nothing changed regarding the medal positions in the last session of the championship final. Rimstedt-Övelius ended up with 60.06, Zmuda-Dufrat finished second with 58.30 and Lu-Liu got third with 58.18. For those wondering, the difference between the first and second pair in points converted to a single board. It was basically one top or twelve points separating the medallists.



 Sandra Rimstedt & Emma Övelius

NEW VIDEOS AVAILABLE



"Prize Giving in the Open Teams"



"Team Orange White on Top"



THE LUCK (AND SKILL) OF THE IRISH

by Barry Rigal

Here are two deals from the Semi-finals of the pairs, showing John Carroll and Tom Hanlon at work.

Pairs semi-final session 3

Board 27 Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Carroll</i>		<i>Hanlon</i>	
1♣	1♥	Dble*	Pass
1♠	2♥	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♠	All Pass

Dble 4/5 spades

When Tom Hanlon found Carroll with precisely three spades and a minimum balanced opener he might have opted for a slightly more sophisticated approach than the bludgeon of Keycard. But then Carroll would not have had to work so hard.

Carroll won the heart lead in hand and led a spade to the king, then the spade queen, ducked by North. A spade to the jack and ace saw North exit in clubs. Carroll won the ace and now knew North was 4-6 in the majors, with ♦A, but not the rest of his pattern. He cashed the last trump, to arrive at this ending.



John Carroll

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

Declarer overtook the club queen with the king and led a diamond up. Had North been originally 4-6-2-1 and able to follow low, it would have been easy to duck a diamond now. As it was North won his ace and had no choice but to exit in hearts, suicide-squeezing his partner in the minors as Carroll won his ♥K. 11 tricks made and an 80% score.

The bar had been set fairly high. Hanlon now had to try for his own bulletin entry.



Semi-final 4

Board 5 Dealer North. NS Vul.

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



ending he reaches, with the lead in East:

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Carroll</i>		<i>Hanlon</i>	
		1♠	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass
2♥	limit/slammish in spades		
2NT	GF		
5♣	Exclusion KCB		

On the lead of the ♦A the defender's trump winner vanishes in a puff of smoke. Truly the work of the Devil! 980 was worth a 94% board for E/W – four other people recorded the same result.

It might not be much consolation but note that if South pitches a heart on the fourth diamond he concedes 1010 via the Devil's Coup!

PS If any of the successful declarers in 4♠ or 6♠ found the Devil's Coup, please let us know. +480 was an 85% result.

After Hanlon set up a game force, Carroll showed extras, and after an exchange of value-showing calls Hanlon used Exclusion Blackwood then bid slam facing the two-keycard response.

When South led a heart against the slam Hanlon decided it was impossible that he had led from the king here. He rose with the ace, cashed three diamonds pitching a heart, then led a fourth diamond. South ruffed high, and Hanlon overruffed and ran the spade eight, avoiding the trump loser and conceding just a heart in the ending. It might look as if declarer would be doomed if he finesses at trick one. Not so! North wins his ♥K and returns a heart. Declarer arranges to cash two hearts, one club and two diamonds while ruffing a diamond in dummy and three clubs in hand. This is the



 **Tom Hanlon**

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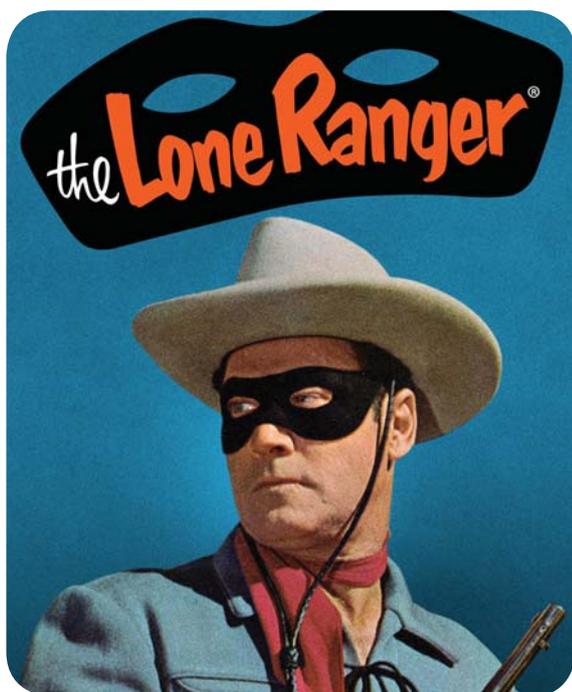


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THE LONE RANGER

by Mark Horton



Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Whittaker	Stokkvik	Bertheau	Berset
	2♠	3NT	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

This is just the sort of hand you want at the start of a session. Not.

When South made the obvious looking lead of the queen of diamonds declarer won in hand with the ace and claimed, +990 and 6/44 (seven pairs bid the slam).

Had South avoided a diamond lead (a heart looks reasonable as this is less likely to pick up something vital in partner's hand) then he would have been looking at at least 31/19.

At the end of 20 deals neither pair was at the business end of the table.



Peter Bertheau

The Lone Ranger is an American western drama television series that aired on the ABC network from 1949 to 1957, with Clayton Moore in the starring role. Jay Silverheels, a member of the Mohawk tribe in Canada, played The Lone Ranger's American Indian companion Tonto.

Every show was introduced with the words:
A fiery horse with the speed of light, a cloud of dust and a hearty Hi-Yo Silver! The Lone Ranger! ... With his faithful Indian companion Tonto, the daring and resourceful masked rider of the plains led the fight for law and order in the early western United States! Nowhere in the pages of history can one find a greater champion of justice! Return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear! From out of the past come the thundering hoofbeats of the great horse Silver! The Lone Ranger rides again!

That was followed by: "Come on, Silver! Let's go, big fellow! Hi-yo Silver! Away!"

When the staff of the Daily Bulletin went on the IBPA outing yesterday, the Editor was left as The Lone Reporter, with the role of Tonto being played by the layout editor.

Would the Open Pairs Final reveal any injustices at the bridge table?

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kolata</i>	<i>Stabell</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>	<i>Stabell</i>
1♣	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

2♦ Strong with a good suit

With all those controls West was surely too good to opt for 3NT. +520 was 50/0.

One intrepid EW pair were +1520 for 0/50.

E/W were ninth at lunch, N/S literally not on the scoreboard, as their names were temporarily missing.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sveindal</i>	<i>Kovachev</i>	<i>Hegge</i>	<i>Isporski</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠	Dble*	3NT
All Pass			

2♥ Transfer
Dble Takeout

An interesting auction saw East bid his time and South elect to play in notrumps rather than spades.

What should East lead?

He went for the seven of clubs and declarer won in hand with the king and returned a club. There was nothing East could do. After he had taken the queen and switched to the queen of diamonds declarer won and played another club, claiming +460 when East took the ace.

To some extent what you lead against 3NT is a guess, but I have a feeling that the computer would go for a top diamond - maybe David Bird will be able to enlighten us.

North/South collected 45/5 and went into lunch in fifth place.

At the end of each episode, mission completed, one of the characters would always ask the sheriff or other authority, "Who was that masked man?" "Oh, he's the Lone Ranger!

The theme music that accompanies his departure is the "March of the Swiss Soldiers" finale of Rossini's William Tell Overture (or as we have referred to it in the past, The Lone Ranger Overture by William Tell).

Experience it now at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=533oFxctSJo>



Suleyman Kolata



CHAMPIONSHIP DIARY

by Mark Horton

2012: Fisher-Schwartz won the *Cavendish Open Pairs in Monaco*, and the buyer of the pair during the auction received 5.80 times the amount of his bid.

2013: Nanev-Gunev won the Cavendish. The return for this pair was 13.21 times the original bid.

2014: Buras-Narkiewicz were the winners, and the lucky buyers received 5.09 times their bid.

Do you have an idea what will be the return for the winner of the auctions at the Cavendish Pairs 2015 in Monaco, 21-23rd October? Just leave your forecast #cavendishmonaco on Facebook. A surprise prize will go the closest estimation, and as you know surprises can be very exciting in Monaco!



As we left the venue on Thursday evening the sun was still shining brightly on the hottest day we have enjoyed so far in Tromsø. Having failed to anticipate the dramatic change in temperature, I remarked that we were dressed for a polar expedition.

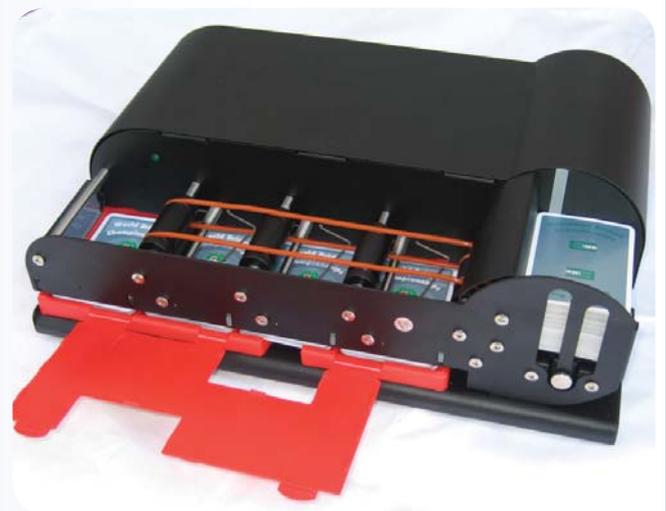
Herman's comment: 'Some would say we are on a polar expedition.'

Our favourite watering hole in Tromsø is located almost directly opposite Burger King. It reminded me of a story about Tony Priday, one of the real gentlemen of bridge. He was playing in a one day event where there was only a short break between sessions. His teammates took him to McDonalds and once inside asked him what he would like to eat. Tony replied, 'I can't possibly choose until I have seen the wine list.'

No Norwegian trees were harmed during the production of this Bulletin.

DUPLIMATE

The Duplimates used to duplicate the championship boards in Tromsø are sold out but you can pre-order a Duplimate to be used at the World Championships later on this year on the same terms, i.e. EUR 1999. Contact Jannerstens at the bridge stall in the bridge plaza, or drop a line to per@jannersten.com.





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- The Société des Bains de Mer (SBM), partner of the Monaco Bridge 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.

Information and contact

- Jean-Charles Allavena, President of the FMB
Email: jcaconseil@libello.com - Cell: + 33 6 80 86 91 03



THE SENIOR PAIRS FINAL (CONTINUED)

by Jos Jacobs

In session 3, we saw one of the two confrontations between the two leading pairs at the time, Germany's Kratz/Sträter and Norway's Maesel brothers. This is what happened.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

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

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	N										
W		E									
	S										

West <i>Sträter</i>	North <i>Helge M.</i>	East <i>Kratz</i>	South <i>Roald M.</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	All Pass	Pass

The Norwegians managed to stay very low on this deal but they were not in the most profitable denomination. As there were a few accidents on this board at other tables, it did not matter that much. At least three pairs overbid to 4♥ or 3NT but when this 3NT was let through on the ♦10 lead (it is not always best to lead partner's suit), all partscores made would bring both pairs about an average score. Kratz found the best lead of a low club to partner's queen, declarer immediately winning the trick with his ace. Next came five rounds of hearts, on which Kratz threw two spades and a club, thus enabling declarer to establish a diamond and make an overtrick. West went up with his ace on the first round of diamonds to return a club but the defenders could make only four more tricks. NS +120 was just 50% but NS +90 would have given NS only 33,33%.

On the second board, EW missed a vulnerable game but they were in good company.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

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

	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										

West <i>Sträter</i>	North <i>Helge M.</i>	East <i>Kratz</i>	South <i>Roald M.</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	All Pass

At no fewer than four out of seven tables they were in a diamond partscore, making 12 tricks for a 25% score to EW.

The odd pairs out were in three different game contracts: 5♦ making 12 tricks for 83,33%, 5♣, a strange contract in which only 11 tricks were made in spite of the very favourable breaks but still worth 66.67%, and the inevitable 3NT in which declarer made all 13 tricks after a low heart lead. However, even one overtrick for +630 would already have brought them all the matchpoints...



Ulrich Kratz

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- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

Board 10 proved a textbook hand in defence:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Doremans</i>	<i>Helge M.</i>	<i>Trouwborst</i>	<i>Roald M.</i>
		1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	All Pass

South made the fine lead of a low diamond from his strong holding. Declarer won dummy's ace on which North followed with the ten. When declarer next advanced the ♠9, South was so eager to give his partner a diamond ruff that he immediately won the ace. Had he ducked, what would declarer have done next? A heart would not do him any good at all so let's assume he plays a club to his queen. Once again, South ducks. This way, all is set for a jolly good defensive ruffing festival. South wins the ♠A, gives North a diamond ruff, gets the desired club return and gives partner a club ruff as well. The ♥AK then will lead to down one and an 83.33% score instead of the 25% NS had to accept after letting the contract through.

Not that any pair managed to beat 2♠ but that was not the issue, since other pairs went minus or scored less than 100 in club partscores.



An interesting board was this one:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Double-dummy, 6♥ is cold if played by East as South cannot lead a diamond without giving away the contract. North's diamond lead would wreck the slam if played by West.

One Norwegian pair (Holmbakken-Lindqvist) were in 6♥ by East and made it.

From the six other pairs, five were playing 4♥ from the West chair and three of them got a diamond lead, restricting them to 11 tricks. The only pair not to bid the slam but still make 12 tricks were the eventual winners, Germany's Kratz and Sträter. They got a spade lead from North, after which declarer had no trouble in eliminating the black suits and endplaying South in diamonds for the 12th trick to register another 83.33% score.

On board 16, there was another slam in the cards but you would be very ill-advised to bid it. It would require not only a doubleton ♣K in East (or ♣109 bare in West and some clairvoyance) but also a correct (inspired, it's also often called) view in diamonds. In fact, no pair came anywhere near bidding a game contract. At matchpoints, it can be an advantage to play in a major, however, and the Maesel brothers showed that they knew all about "false preference."



Helge Maesel

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

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

Well bid, in a sense, but still some work to do when East led a heart. Declarer ruffed and led a club to the jack which held. Next, he misguessed the diamonds, leading low from dummy to his queen. When East took the ace and tried the ♣ K next, declarer could win the ace, draw trumps in three rounds and concede a trick to West's ♦J after all without losing control. Making 11 tricks for +200 was worth 91.67% of the matchpoints, the other 200 coming from an over-optimistic EW pair going down two in 3♥ which, though undoubled, still scored NS +200.

West	North	East	South
Andreasson	Helge M.	Svensson	Roald M.
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
All Pass			



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OPEN PAIRS FINAL

by David Bird

Sessions 1 & 2

In an email around a year ago, I mentioned to Boye Brogeland that I was about to write a book on matchpoints. ‘What advice should I give the readers?’ I asked him. ‘Bid 6NT!’ was his reply. When I came to running computer simulations on slam bidding problems, I soon found that Boye was right. Even if 6NT is a 70% chance and 6♦ a 90% chance, you should bid 6NT at matchpoints. You will beat the 6♦ bidders 70% of the time and tie with them when both slams go one down. Perhaps we will have a chance to see whether the finalists in the Open Pairs follow these tactics. I was hopeful on the very first board:

Board 1 Dealer North Neither N-S Vul.

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

West <i>Willenken</i>	North <i>Hegge</i>	East <i>Bilde</i>	South <i>Sveindal</i>
4NT	3♠ All Pass	3NT	Pass

East’s 3NT overcall has to cover a very wide range. Willenken invited a slam with 4NT and Bilde declined. I expect most of the field played in a slam, either 6NT or 6♦, partly because not all Norths will open 3♠. Played by West, 6NT is cold against a 3-1 diamond break. When East is declarer, a club lead may set up a second trick for the defenders. E-W could not complain about their luck when the diamonds split 4-0. E-W scored 17/33 for their +430.

To survive this 4-0 diamond break in 6NT, you need to find South with ♣K-3-2 instead of ♣5-3-2. At double-dummy, you can then strip him to ♦Q-J-10-5 ♣K-3-2 and force a final discard with your last

major-suit winner. If he throws a club, you finesse the ♣Q, cash the ♣A and end-play South in diamonds. If he throws a diamond, you establish that suit.

At some tables, South judged that the ♦Q was a promising lead against 6NT. The unlucky cost of this choice was 990 in the minus column, N-S scoring only 6/44.

Board 3 Dealer South E-W Vul.

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

West <i>Haetta</i>	North <i>Kolata</i>	East <i>Emstsen</i>	South <i>Kandemir</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

Haetta and Emstsen strayed to the five-level. We were expecting a lead of the ♣J, which would have exposed a third loser for the declarer. As it happens, he could have survived by rising with the ♣A and playing three rounds of diamonds.

North began with the ♠3 instead, perhaps having thought that 4♣ was a splinter bid. Declarer won with the ♠A and led the ♥3. It was open to North to rise with the ♥A and switch to the ♣J. He chose to play low and South won with the ♥K. Correctly, he switched to a club from his side of the table, hoping that his partner held the ♣Q. Declarer rose with this card and played another trump, eventually scoring +650 (16/34).

We were told that the director had been called after the deal, presumably with regard to the explanations given of the 4♣ bid, but nothing emerged from this.

Board 4 Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Haetta</i>	<i>Kolata</i>	<i>Ernstsen</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	Dble	2♦*	Pass
2♠	Dble	All Pass	

Board 5 Dealer North N-S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Baumann</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Eileraas</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

North was sailing close to the wind with his second double, it seemed to me. An alternative was 2NT to offer South a choice between the minor suits. South decided to defend on his hand, but to a nervous player like me this looked risky too. Since North's shape was likely to be 1-4-3-5 or 1-4-4-4. I rather like a 3♣ bid from South. It was too late for that now. How would declarer fare in 2♠?

A forcing defence would have worked well but North started with his singleton trump, South ducking dummy's ♠K. South let the ♠J pass too. If trumps are continued, North comes under pressure and the contract can be made if declarer reads the cards well. Haetta preferred to chase a diamond trick, leading the ♦Q. South won with the ♦A and can beat the contract by attacking in clubs. No, he returned a heart to the ace. Declarer can then make the contract by reverting to trumps but he preferred to play another diamond. North won with the ♦K and played another heart. When declarer somewhat belatedly played the ♠Q, South was able to win and cross in clubs for a heart ruff.

After a five-minute ride on the see-saw, 2♠ had gone one down and North-South had a 'Magic 200' on their card, for a matchpoint score of 49/1.

After such a limited auction, West might perhaps have ventured a penalty double. (I was assured by fellow BBO commentator, Roland Wald, that South's 2♠ was only a game-try on this sequence.) West elected not to double and led the ♥2. Eileraas discarded his club loser on the third round of hearts, ruffed a club in his hand and played the ♠A. When he led a diamond, West rose with the ♦A and returned a club, declarer ruffing. A diamond to the jack was followed by a second club ruff in the South hand and a diamond exit. West had to ruff and eventually concede a trick to South's ♠Q for only one down.

Even on a club lead, declarer can escape for one down with accurate play. N-S scored 43/7 for their -100. One down doubled for -200 would have netted only 24/26.



 **Lemet Ivar Haetta**



Board 8 Dealer West Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Stokkeland</i>	<i>D. Yadlin</i>	<i>Johnsen</i>	<i>I. Yadlin</i>
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Ah, a clear-cut slam hand. In a local duplicate you might score above average for daring to bid 6♦ or 6♣. In a European final, with matchpoint tigers at every table, surely 6NT would be the popular contract.

Johnsen showed diamonds and then clubs. Diamonds were agreed, cue-bids and RKCB followed and... yes! East bid 6NT instead of 6♦. North led a club and declarer took an immediate diamond finesse, scoring +1020. The matchpoint score for this will indicate how many pairs bid the same contract (excluding a few mavericks in a grand slam). I didn't know the score at the time but... Mark Horton will fill it in for me now. Ah, N-S scored 21/29.

I moved to a different table for the second session and there was disappointingly little action of note. I was left regretting my decision to miss the start of the England-Australia cricket. I will end with a typical matchpoint auction, featuring two of the pairs that I had watched at the first table:

Board 15 Dealer South N-S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Eileraas</i>	<i>D. Yadlin</i>	<i>Baumann</i>	<i>I. Yadlin</i>
1♥	Dble	2♥	Dble
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

East would often have bid 3♥ with four-card support. With a near world record number of losers in his hand, he ventured just 2♥. South's responsive double tends to deny four spades, since with four cards in the 'other major' he would bid spades. North might have rebid 3♣ on this basis but he liked the look of his sturdy spades, preferring 2♠.

Eileraas was expecting only three-card hearts opposite and could hardly expect to make 3♥. Could he maybe go only one down, he wondered. Would these mean-looking opponents let 3♥ escape undoubled? There was only one way to find out and he stretched out his hand towards the 3♥ card.

The Yadlins answered West's questions. Yes, they did intend to double 3♥. Yes, it would go two down. That was +300 to N-S and a matchpoint score of 48/2.



Lsmund Stokkeland



WOMEN'S FINALS - THE DENOUEMENT

by Jos Jacobs

The last twelve deals of the women's event saw three pairs fighting it out for the major honours. Rimstedt-Ovelius of Sweden led Zmuda-Dufrat and Yan Lu/Yan Liu but less than half a top separated the three pairs with second and third only fractions of a MP apart. All three pairs sat E/W for the first two deals.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

The field played 4♠ here, making 420, the one exception being the opponents of Ovelius-Rimstedt. Here Liu/Wang elected to play for penalties against 3♥. The defenders lost a trick in the wash, and collected only 100. A clear top for the Swedes.

On the next deal the defenders against 3NT had a club holding of AK8 facing Q5. Assuming no accidents, they should hold the contract to ten tricks – but Zmuda/Dufrat's opponents failed to unscramble their honours. Since neither the Chinese nor the Swedes' opponents made that mistake, they scored below average on the deal.



Sandra Rimstedt & Emma Övelius

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

NS can make game in NT on remarkably few high cards – and likewise any West who wanders into the auction can be smacked for -800 even at the two-level. You'd expect NS would need a big number to score well here. Not so: only one pair bid game and made it. Two pairs went down in 4♠, one played 5♦x down 200. So Sjöberg-Ovelius and Zmuda-Dufrat collected 9/12 for playing a diamond partscore – and since the former did so against Liu/Lu, those MPs counted double!



GO TO PAGE:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26



Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

A board that would separate the sheep from the goats. After a pre-emptive overcall in spades from North, you'd expect the field to play the heart slam. If South did not raise spades, North might well lead a diamond and defeat the slam. So much for preconceptions – of the seven pairs who played the deal one 3NT, the remaining six played hearts, only two on a diamond lead. Ovelius played 4♥ on a low diamond lead and made 11. Chen Zhao played slam on the lead of the ♦8; when declarer played low from dummy, South fell from grace and split her honours – an embarrassing +980.

The other four tables played game or slam on a spade lead. Dufprat led a spade against Cameron, who miscounted her tricks and tried a diamond to the queen early, thinking it was for the overtrick. That was 10 MP for the Poles instead of the half they would have got had declarer not slipped up. But since two of the other three declarers who received a spade lead in slam also went down, only Chediak/Barendregt passing the test with flying colours, maybe the hand is harder than I think. I'm not convinced. The Swedes emerged with a dead average here and were now .6MP behind the Poles and a board in front of the Chinese.

The next board was another critical one in determining the event winners.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ A 9 8 6 2 ♥ 8 6 ♦ A 7 6 3 ♣ Q 6		♠ 4 ♥ 3 ♦ QJ1098542 ♣ A K 7
♠ K Q J 10 7 3 ♥ K 4 2 ♦ — ♣ 10 8 4 3		

A typical auction would see South opening 2♠, North bidding some number of hearts, East overcalling in diamonds, and West...you pays your money you takes your choice. If South raised hearts West might try 6♦ as a sort of two-way shot. The NS sacrifice in 6♥ would cost 800; and while North might hold out some hope when dummy went down of scoring his ♦K, devotees of Resnick's rule (when holding 12 trumps play for the drop) would get this trump holding right more often than not...

The Swedes bid the slam, (12/12) the Poles did not for 3/12, and the opponents of the Chinese also stayed out of slam.



Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ K Q 5 2
♥ A 9
♦ 10 9 8 3
♣ 8 5 3

♠ 9 8 6 4
♥ Q
♦ A K 5 4
♣ A 6 4 2



♠ A 10 7 3
♥ K J 7 6 4 3 2
♦ 2
♣ 7

♠ J
♥ 10 8 5
♦ Q J 7 6
♣ K Q J 10 9

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ A K 10 9 7
♥ —
♦ Q 9 8 7
♣ Q 8 6 2

♠ 8 5 3
♥ A K J 3
♦ J 3 2
♣ 10 9 4



♠ J 6 4
♥ Q 9 8 6 5 2
♦ A 4
♣ K 5

♠ Q 2
♥ 10 7 4
♦ K 10 6 5
♣ A J 7 3

This was a very difficult one to bid sensibly. Slam makes in no fewer than three denominations but even game is by no means cold. After 1♠-1NT-2♣ Lu/Liu played 2♠, for +170 and an average, Hong Li Wang passed 2♣ against Zmuda/Dufrat and Zhang collected +150 for 10 for the Poles, and Baldysz-Sarniak had a Gazzilli auction to 4♠. (1♠-1NT-2♣-2♦-2♠-3♠-4♠). Declarer ruffed the heart lead and took a club finesse – West dropping the ten. Now came a diamond to the queen and ace. She ruffed the heart return and put herself in considerable jeopardy by cashing three top trumps. The spade-break was good news, but now declarer had to guess whether to play for the drop in clubs or the diamond finesse, or to try to combine both chances. Had she cashed ♣A earlier she would have been home free. Eventually Baldysz tried to drop first ♦J then ♣K – and when one honour co-operated, she was home, and had taken all the MP from her Swedish opponents and helped her compatriots in the process. Their lead was now .4MP.

The lead changed hands when the Swedes got the worst of a partscore result, while the Poles were collecting +280 after a Raptor 1NT overcall was doubled and left in. It was a 7MP lead now for Dufrat/Zmuda.

The margin got closer after this hand. Rimstedt opened the East cards 4♥ and was left to play there. Yan put her fingers unerringly on the lead of ♠J – a remarkably successful decision, I think. Declarer could pitch one spade on the diamonds, but North got in with ♥A and could lead three more rounds of spades to promote the ♥10. Down one, for a spectacular result – but still 4 MP to the Swedes since 4♥ had somehow gone down two at another table, and Dufrat-Zmuda had bid 1♦-1♥-1♠-4♠. After a diamond lead declarer badly misguessed the play to go three down for a zero. Lu/Liu closed right up by bidding to 4♥ on the auction 1♦-1♥-1♠-4♥. Now the club lead looked automatic. Declarer dislodged the trump ace and ran all but one of her trumps, North kept her diamonds and came down to just two spades, so the Chinese emerged with +450 and 11/12 MP. It was 356.8 for the Poles, 354 for the Chinese, 353.2 for the Swedes.



Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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



6♦ is a decent spot here: Zmuda/Dufrat defended to 4♠ for -450 and scored 10/12. But both Rimstedt/Ovelius and Barendregt/Chediak (against Lu/Liu) bid to 6NT by North on a club lead. This is not a great spot but declarer drove out the ♦A, cashed a top spade and ran the diamonds, then went back to ♥A and took the second top spade, reducing to a three-card ending with ♥9 and two spades in dummy, and ♥KJ10 and ♣10 in hand. West was forced to keep ♣J and thus only two hearts. Declarer pitched the club and finessed in hearts to take 12 tricks. 11 MP to the two NS pairs, and now the Swedes and Poles had moved nearly a top in front of the Chinese with the Poles leading by 2.6MP.

On the next deal a thin NS 3NT was due to go two down. Zmuda/Dufrat let it out for one down, and the Swedes now had a 0.4MP lead, with the Chinese 7 further behind. Let's switch to Jos Jacobs for the last two deals.

The second and third placed pairs had to meet in the last round so the colour of their medals was going to be decided right there. Meanwhile Ovelius/Rimstedt would take on Aralt-Rasmussen, currently well down the table.

At the start of the round, the Poles were leading the Chinese by a very small margin but when Dufrat could show some values as well as some spades over Liu's invitational fit-showing 2NT, the Poles were set to reach a fair enough result on the board:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Liu	Dufrat	Lu	Zmuda
2NT	Pass	1♥	2♣
	Dble	4♥	All Pass

When Lu successfully ducked South's opening club lead to her jack, the contract went the normal one down. Of course, after a neutral lead, there is an easy endplay on North for the same one down, but after a diamond lead the defenders might be able to get their diamond trick in early and then get off play in spades. An average board: 50% to both. No change, of course, in the medal race. The Swedes built themselves a little breathing space when they bought the hand in 2♥ after NS dramatically under-competes. They made 140 on a club lead, for 11/12 MP. 380.2 to them, 374.8 to the Poles, 368 to the Chinese.



The last board might still become the decisive one:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

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



West	North	East	South
Liu	Dufrat	Lu	Zmuda
Pass	2♥	Pass	1♥
2♠	3♥	Dble	Pass
		All Pass	

When Liu found the trump lead, the contract could no longer be made. Declarer had to use up her dummy entries to lead clubs twice, so only one spade would go on the ♦A. One down was worth 75% to the Chinese but this was just enough for the Poles to bring their silver medal safely past the post by .8MP. Both pairs had achieved identical session results, at 54.86%

The Poles might well have increased their margin over the Chinese, though without having a chance to catch up the Swedish winners, had they doubled 2♠. There is something to be said for a pass by North over 2♠ as she only has three trumps. Applying the Law of Total Tricks, you might wait to have a look at partner's opinion.

Given that result, the Swedes were safe for the gold medal, but they made the margin look a little more comfortable by defeating 3♥, also on a trump lead. They had won the session as well as the overall event, averaging a fraction over 60% for the day.

The Swedish Bridge Festival is simply fantastic, I really hope to come back to this event in the future, where the game is being played at the highest level and with an organisation that is World Class.

Michael Byrne
Captain for England and
winner of Chairman's Cup



Play Chairman's Cup you too!

www.svenskbridge.se/festival-2015



OPEN PAIRS FINAL

AFTER ROUND 5

1	NANEV I. - GUNEV R.	1,493.78	55.53
2	BOMPIS M. - VINCIGUERRA H.	1,482.00	55.09
3	BESSIS T. - VOLCKER F.	1,478.00	54.94
4	JOERSTAD K. - JOERSTAD R.	1,464.85	54.46
5	KOLATA S. - KANDEMIR I.	1,463.72	54.41
6	WILLENKEN C. - BILDE D.	1,462.93	54.38
7	STABELL L. - STABELL T.	1,457.59	54.19
8	HELGEMO G. - HOFTANISKA T.	1,453.64	54.04
9	LINDQVIST E. - BROGELAND B.	1,437.01	53.42
10	HELNESS T. - HELNESS F.	1,436.03	53.38
11	MORATH A. - EFRAIMSSON B.	1,412.48	52.51
12	MARSTRANDER P. - ANDERSSON R.	1,407.32	52.32
13	GAWRYS P. - KLUKOWSKI M.	1,406.50	52.29
14	MARTENS K. - FILIPOWICZ D.	1,406.09	52.27
15	HANLON T. - CARROLL J.	1,400.29	52.06
16	VOLL R. - KINDSBEKKEN A.	1,392.92	51.78
17	DE WIJS S. - VAN PROOIJEN R.	1,390.03	51.67
18	KVANGRAVEN N. - LIE T.	1,389.55	51.66
19	LANZAROTTI M. - MANNO A.	1,382.77	51.40
20	YADLIN D. - YADLIN I.	1,379.93	51.30
21	DRIJVER B. - NAB B.	1,375.58	51.14
22	SMIRNOV A. - PIEKAREK J.	1,374.94	51.11
23	ERNSTSEN S. - HAETTA L.	1,372.01	51.00
24	SANBORN K. - SANBORN S.	1,367.03	50.82
25	YILMAZ M. - GUR O.	1,363.45	50.69
26	KOLESNIK A. - ROEDER R.	1,361.94	50.63
27	SIMONSEN S. - BERG E.	1,361.09	50.60
28	ROMANSKI J. - GRZELAK R.	1,355.91	50.41
29	GIERULSKI B. - SKRZYPCZAK J.	1,354.94	50.37
30	KOPSTAD O. - GRUDE T.	1,341.43	49.87
31	JASSEM K. - MAZURKIEWICZ M.	1,340.48	49.83
32	GUMBY P. - LAZER W.	1,334.71	49.62
33	OHREN J. - BRENTBRAATEN F.	1,332.43	49.53
34	ISPORSKI V. - KOVACHEV V.	1,331.59	49.50
35	HOMONNAY G. - WINKLER G.	1,323.88	49.21
36	JANSONS U. - GERMANIS A.	1,310.82	48.73
37	RIMSTEDT P. - JONSSON S.	1,301.22	48.37
38	GINOSSAR E. - RESHEF O.	1,290.91	47.99
39	GIARD O. - BENOIT A.	1,290.72	47.98
40	BAUMANN K. - EILERAAS S.	1,285.95	47.80
41	LEVIN R. - BLANCHARD S.	1,283.36	47.71
42	KING P. - McINTOSH A.	1,264.31	47.00
43	KOLUDA P. - DARKIEWICZ-MONIUSZKO G.	1,253.58	46.60
44	VAN LANKVELD J. - BOS B.	1,238.97	46.06
45	MATUSHKO G. - STERKIN A.	1,229.97	45.72
46	HANTVEIT T. - HOYLAND S.	1,222.05	45.43
47	COLDEA I. - ROTARU I.	1,210.97	45.02
48	BERSET O. - STOKKVIK D.	1,184.83	44.05
49	HEGGE K. - SVEINDAL J.	1,182.06	43.94
50	BERTHEAU P. - WHITTAKER W.	1,158.45	43.07
51	HOFSETH J. - KRISTENSEN A.	1,151.76	42.82
52	JOHNSEN S. - STOKKELAND L.	1,031.23	38.34



MARIT SEAS SWISS PAIRS

AFTER SESSION 2

1	QUANTIN J. - LORENZINI C.	3,344.52	61.46
2	POLAK T. - VAN OVERBEEKE T.	3,312.81	60.87
3	LU Y. - LIU Y.	3,428.78	59.04
4	JANISZEWSKI P. - JASZCZAK A.	3,180.81	58.45
5	TATLICIOGLU S. - AYAZ I.	3,393.10	58.42
6	McGOWAN E. - LIGGAT D.	3,320.16	57.17
7	BAREKET I. - LENGY A.	3,317.26	57.12
8	GROSSACK A. - GROSSACK Z.	3,290.73	56.66
9	RUBINS K. - LORENC S M.	3,282.78	56.52
10	RONBECK T. - BEYER M.	3,241.42	55.81
11	DAVIDSEN R. - SAUR J.	3,208.14	55.24
12	GUSTAVSSON T. - CLARIN P.	3,206.69	55.21
13	BAARSEN T. - KARLSEN S.	3,206.51	55.21
14	EIDE H. - BAKKE C.	3,201.04	55.11
15	KRISTIANSEN T. - FAGERDAL R.	3,174.30	54.65
16	WANG W. - LIU J.	3,166.87	54.53
17	CORNELL M. - BACH A.	3,165.26	54.50
18	SMITH V. - EVJEN S.	3,164.87	54.49
19	MICHAUD-LARIVIERE X. - DE MENDEZ T.	3,155.35	54.33
20	TER LAARE M. - MOLLE L.	3,131.35	53.91
21	EIDE E. - ROREN T.	3,122.15	53.76
22	MIHAI G. - MIHAI R.	3,105.39	53.47
23	GOLD D. - CASTNER K.	3,089.09	53.19
24	BAKKE T. - FARSTAD A.	3,088.26	53.17
25	DINKIN S. - TUNCOK C.	3,087.61	53.16
26	DALECKI M. - MODRZEJEWSKI M.	3,080.20	53.03
27	THORESEN S. - OVESEN J.	3,079.16	53.02
28	AYDIN A. - SUZER U.	3,075.70	52.96
29	NOKLEBY J. - HEGBOM E.	3,072.21	52.90
30	ZACK Y. - COHEN I.	3,069.43	52.85
31	GARSEG T. - STATLE S.	3,055.70	52.61
32	SVENDSEN O. - HOILAND T.	3,055.59	52.61
33	CHEDIAK V. - OIGARDEN B.	3,044.78	52.42
34	AA T. - LIVGARD A.	3,041.75	52.37
35	BILDE M. - FARHOLT S.	3,040.60	52.35
36	SJOBERG E. - RIMSTEDT S.	3,036.14	52.28
37	JENSEN B. - JOHANSEN R.	3,035.57	52.27
38	SAETRE J. - OVESEN S.	3,033.55	52.23
39	BAKER L. - McCALLUM K.	3,026.15	52.10
40	OZBALCI E. - OZDIL M.	3,020.50	52.01
41	HORNISCHER G. - WEINBERGER S.	3,011.37	51.85
42	WANG H. - ZHANG Y.	3,010.07	51.83
43	SMILGAJS A. - BENDIKS J.	3,007.48	51.78
44	NITTER T. - LUTRO J.	3,006.70	51.77
45	MARTINUSSEN S. - PAULSEN D.	2,995.03	51.57
46	ROMANOWSKI J. - ROZWADOWSKI W.	2,989.05	51.46
47	FJAELBERG J. - OLSEN J.	2,974.35	51.21
48	FODSTAD A. - AAREBROT A.	2,974.04	51.21
49	OEVERVATN A. - OEVERVATN J.	2,972.76	51.18
50	RITMEIJER R. - TICHA M.	2,972.49	51.18
51	ILNICKI W. - CABAJ S.	2,969.31	51.12
52	JACOB T. - MACE B.	2,963.30	51.02
53	HAGA O. - BAARSEN T.	2,960.36	50.97
54	KOWALSKI D. - BLACH M.	2,958.00	50.93
55	WEINSTEIN S. - HUMPHREYS G.	2,957.94	50.93
56	BULL S. - REINHOLDTSEN J.	2,955.43	50.89
57	ODDEN B. - VALEN B.	2,937.29	50.57
58	BANASZKIEWICZ E. - BERG J.	2,934.70	50.53

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14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26



59	OLSEN R. - OLSEN S.	2,915.68	50.20
60	ERBIL E. - ZOBU A.	2,912.61	50.15
61	SVINDAHL F. - HANSEN J.	2,911.24	50.12
62	MORTENSEN M. - VAAGE J.	2,897.76	49.89
63	HOYLAND J. - HOYLAND S.	2,894.82	49.84
64	JENSEN R. - ALMLI S.	2,889.07	49.74
65	JOHANSEN J. - JOHANSEN A.	2,887.36	49.71
66	LARSEN E. - EVENSTAD S.	2,887.29	49.71
67	VERBEEK T. - HELMICH A.	2,886.02	49.69
68	SAYILKAN T. - KIZILOK O.	2,884.22	49.66
69	UELAND D. - HAUGSTAD E.	2,880.70	49.60
70	MALUISH A. - MILL A.	2,880.35	49.59
71	ELIASSEN E. - SOOILAND T.	2,877.26	49.54
72	ROMANOVSKA M. - GOLDBERG C.	2,862.56	49.29
73	TVEITO F. - FYLINGSLID F.	2,858.82	49.22
74	OVESEN V. - HATTEN O.	2,848.28	49.04
75	OLSEN M. - OEDEGAARDEN H.	2,845.47	48.99
76	ENGBRETSEN G. - LOEN L.	2,841.76	48.93
77	CHMURSKI B. - CHALUPEC I.	2,839.09	48.88
78	O'CONNOR S. - BELL M.	2,631.09	48.35
79	JOHANSEN L. - REKSTAD G.	2,803.73	48.27
80	LINDER P. - SWENSSON P.	2,803.24	48.27
81	RYDLAND B. - BOGEN J.	2,797.88	48.17
82	KVAMSDAL L. - HJELMELAND G.	2,796.14	48.14
83	DOBROWOLSKI M. - MADUZIA A.	2,795.61	48.13
84	SEN T. - KAYA E.	2,795.30	48.13
85	EIDE M. - LOMSDALEN O.	2,786.28	47.97
86	COPE S. - PASKE T.	2,781.19	47.89
87	MIRKOVIC A. - SIVERTSEN A.	2,607.26	47.86
88	FIELER R. - EIDE L.	2,777.47	47.82
89	BOGACH A. - RAPOPORT V.	2,776.55	47.81
90	HELMERSEN K. - FURUNES T.	2,767.83	47.66
91	ELIASSEN N. - CHRISTENSEN P.	2,767.57	47.65
92	McLEISH P. - McLEISH D.	2,767.28	47.65
93	ARNTSEN R. - SOTTAR R.	2,766.84	47.64
94	SHAN X. - WANG N.	2,753.95	47.42
95	GILL P. - DAWSON J.	2,753.71	47.41
96	CHEN Y. - ZHAO B.	2,742.12	47.21
97	YAN R. - LI Y.	2,740.04	47.18
98	STERN L. - URMAN L.	2,738.69	47.15
99	NORUM J. - SIVERTSEN S.	2,737.53	47.13
100	KOFOED R. - KALTENBORN J.	2,728.22	46.97
101	JENSEN P. - STRAUMSNES T.	2,721.59	46.86
102	SANDVIK C. - BREMNES H.	2,716.08	46.76
103	SILVERSTEIN A. - ROSENTHAL A.	2,711.66	46.69
104	LASSERRE D. - BRUNET K.	2,703.33	46.54
105	BRUUSGAARD R. - MILOVIC M.	2,677.76	46.10
106	DAHL S. - FUGLEM G.	2,666.95	45.92
107	BUIJS P. - DE HULLU H.	2,666.25	45.91
108	OLSEN R. - BJORKAN I.	2,494.89	45.79
109	VAN DER TOORN C. - KAPTEIN M.	2,649.82	45.62
110	KREUNING H. - OUDA S.	2,476.70	45.51
111	ZUBOV V. - FILIPPOV V.	2,591.92	44.63
112	OLSEN M. - LYGBOE T.	2,561.42	44.10
113	THOMASSEN K. - HINGE S.	2,557.93	44.04
114	MARRO C. - MARRO V.	2,524.11	43.46
115	ROBERTSEN G. - ROSLAND S.	2,329.98	42.77
116	LARSEN H. - LARSEN L.	2,307.53	42.40
117	FAILLA G. - DE MICHELIS L.	2,436.15	41.94
118	SVARE A. - DYRKORN O.	2,261.21	41.51
119	SVELA B. - DAHL P.	2,252.72	41.39
120	OTVOSI E. - CHRISTIANSEN K.	2,178.48	39.99
121	NORDVIK V. - IVERSEN T.	2,166.31	39.76
122	ANDERSEN W. - ANDERSEN M.	2,114.19	38.85
123	DAHL A. - TROEN B.	1,967.19	36.11 47