

2016 Budapest, Hungary

53rd European Bridge Team Championships



16th to 25th June 2016

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WE ♥ BRIDGE BUDAPEST



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Israel's Hila Levi & Adi Asulin lead the qualifiers going into the final of the European Women's Pairs Championship. The Netherland's Carla Arnolds & Sandra Kolen are second with Turkey's Mehves Pisak & Tuna Aluf third.

In the European Team Championship Finland (who are playing four handed) has surged to the top of the table, having compiled eight consecutive wins, including victories over second-placed France and fourth-placed Poland, as well as Ireland & Monaco. Meanwhile, Norway remains in third place.

SCHEDULE AND BBO SCHEDULE TODAY

10.00:
Women's Pairs
Open Teams

BBO:

- 🌐 RUS - FIN (O) 🔊
- 🌐 EST - LAT (O)
- 🌐 ROM - GRE (O)
- 🌐 DEN - HUN (O)
- 🌐 POR - SWE (O)
- 🌐 MON - AUT (O)

🌐 ON SITE VG + BBO

13.20:
Women's Pairs
Open Teams

BBO:

- 🌐 HUN - SWE (O)
- 🔊 CRO - ISR (O)
- 🌐 GEO - FAR (O)
- 🌐 GER - SPA (O)
- 🌐 ICE - NOR (O)
- 🌐 NED - BEL (O)

🌐 BBO ONLY

16.00:
Women's Pairs
Open Teams

BBO:

- 🔊 ITA - NOR (O) 🔊
- 🌐 HUN - GEO (O)
- 🌐 FRA - TUR (O)
- 🌐 BUL - MON (O)
- 🌐 ISR - DEN (O)
- 🌐 ENG - RUS (O)

🔊 VOICE + BBO

17.30:
Women and Senior
Captains' meeting

19.30:
Prize giving
Women Pairs

Opening Ceremony
O/W/S





MATCHES TODAY

OPEN ROUND 9	OPEN ROUND 10	OPEN ROUND 11
ROM GRE	FRA ROM	ROM ICE
CZE NED	AUT LAT	LAT SER
EST LAT	BLR TUR	GER FIN
ENG SER	POL WAL	POL SWI
RUS FIN	SWI IRE	HUN GEO
CRO ICE	HUN SWE	FRA TUR
CYP GER	GEO FAR	AUT BLR
ISR GEO	GER SPA	SWE IRE
DEN HUN	ICE NOR	WAL FAR
POR SWI	FIN ITA	ITA NOR
SCO POL	SER UKR	SPA UKR
BUL BLR	NED BEL	BUL MON
MON AUT	EST MON	GRE CZE
BEL TUR	GRE BUL	ISR DEN
ITA FAR	ENG POR	POR SCO
NOR WAL	RUS DEN	ENG RUS
SPA IRE	CRO ISR	CRO CYP
UKR SWE	CYP SCO	NED EST
FRA Bye	CZE Bye	BEL Bye
TIME: 10.00	TIME: 13.20	TIME: 16.00



MATTERS OF CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony of the 53rd European Bridge Team Championships and the prize-giving ceremony for the Women's Pairs Championship will take place today, Saturday 18 June at 19.30 on the second floor of the Groupama Arena.

The players, captains and coaches representing each country should sit together for the team presentations.





ADVENTURES WITH OTTLIK

by Mark Horton

SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S PROBLEM

Dealer South

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



West	North	East	South
			1NT*
2♦*	3♦*	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

1NT 14-16

2♦ Spades and another suit

3♦ Hearts, invitational or better

Against 6♥ by South West leads ♦K.

Declarer wins in hand and draws trump in two rounds (West following) then plays ace, queen of spades, overtaking with the king and cashing the jack to pitch a diamond from dummy. Plan the defence.

The full deal:

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



East should be wide-awake as declarer leads a club from dummy. The defence needs two tricks in clubs to defeat the slam. This can be done if West holds a singleton jack or queen. South has the ace and will probably try to duck the first club round to West in order to get a ruff and discard. So go up immediately with your king!

NEW PROBLEM

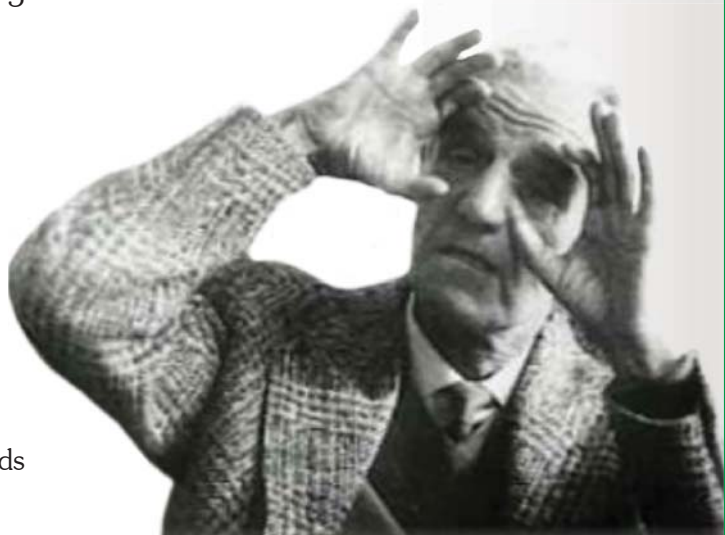
Dealer South. E-W Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	2♦
Pass	2♥	3NT	Pass
Pass	4♥	4♠	All Pass

Against 4♠ by East. South leads the ♦K; North contributes the ♦Q so South underleads in diamonds to North's jack. Back comes the ♥J; plan the play.





NORWAY vs ISRAEL & HUNGARY vs ICELAND

by Jos Jacobs

Open Teams, Round 2

Not for the first time, I decided to make a joint report of two matches in one story. The main reason for this is, of course, that on quite a number of boards, swings are occurring in many matches. These two matches proved no exception.

Both Nordic teams involved in this report had made a very good start to the Championships, scoring 20 V.P. and 19.85 V.P. respectively. Would they be able to go on at this rate?

Hungary, the proud host country, had also made a reasonable enough start, beating their neighbours Romania by 14.18 – 5.82 V.P., thus making Israel the only team of these four not to win its first match – they lost heavily to Belgium.

Both the matches started with a flattish board but then, on board 18, at least two of our pairs had their chances:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

At first sight, there seem to be no games on for either side on this board but as it happened, in both matches they had different ideas some of which even came off.

Norway v. Israel:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Charlsen</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♥	Dble	Redbl	3♦
3♥	All Pass		

At this table, and at this table only, E/W managed to reach the proper contract, which made exactly when North led the ♠A and another for his partner to ruff. Declarer then lost his two diamonds but made his contract. Israel +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Levin</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Redbl
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

When Brogeland reopened with a double rather than 2♥, N/S looked in trouble. They might well have gone just one off in 2♦ for -200 but E/W were not content with that and tried for an even better score by transferring their problems to South. On lead against 3NT, South might have won the board for his side quickly or slowly by a pointed-suit lead but when he tried a club instead, Lindqvist had nine tricks for +400 and the first 6 IMPs to Norway.

In the Hungary-Iceland match, we saw two nicely contrasting auctions, or at least, so it looked:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jonsson</i>	<i>Szilágyi</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Hegedüs</i>
–	–	2♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

2♥ by East was obviously his idea of a weak two in spades and thus West duly converted. When he ran into a 5-1 trump split, there was no hope. Down two, Hungary +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Winkler</i>	<i>Eiriksson</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Ingimarsson</i>
–	–	2♠	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Well, 2♠ was not such a good weak two in spades but Gábor Winkler was not interested. He simply bid what he thought he could make as a natural suit so 4♥ became the final contract. There are many ways,



I think, for N/S to beat it, as South might produce some sort of spade signal on the $\diamond A$ lead. Even playing the queen should help as North can then underlead his $\diamond K$ and South should find the spade shift easily. When South played the $\diamond 2$ instead, North continued with two more rounds of the suit, thus letting through the contract. Hungary another +420 and 11 IMPs to them.

Back now to Norway v. Israel:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	\spadesuit 6 5		
	\heartsuit A Q J 4		
	\diamond 9 6		
	\clubsuit K Q 9 5 4		
\spadesuit 10 8	N	\spadesuit Q J 9 3 2	
\heartsuit K 8 7 6 3	W	\heartsuit 5 2	
\diamond A K Q 3	E	\diamond 7 2	
\clubsuit 8 7	S	\clubsuit J 10 6 3	
	\spadesuit A K 7 4		
	\heartsuit 10 9		
	\diamond J 10 8 5 4		
	\clubsuit A 2		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Levin</i>
–	–	–	1 \diamond
1 \heartsuit	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

When the defenders managed to crash two of their combined trump honours, the contract went only two off, so Israel had to be content with just +500.

Not that it mattered very much, because in the other room, Zack had a slightly better idea:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Charlsen</i>
–	–	–	1 \diamond
1 \heartsuit	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	1 \spadesuit	Dble
All Pass			

Basically, the board should still have been flat, as South might have cashed two top trumps followed by four rounds of clubs, leaving declarer with just three trump tricks and two of his top diamonds.

When South selected the $\diamond J$ as his opening lead, declarer won the ace and immediately led a club off dummy. At this point, the same eight defensive tricks

are still available but North, rather than playing a trump, persisted with diamonds. Dummy won and led another club. South won the ace and played another diamond, North ruffing dummy's queen and declarer overruffing. Next came a club on which South discarded a heart. Dummy ruffed and led the last diamond, ruffed and overruffed. Declarer then could ruff his last club with dummy's ten on which South discarded his last heart. As a result of all this, declarer suddenly had seven tricks...

Israel a surprise +160 and 12 IMPs to them.

And more to them on the very next board:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

	\spadesuit 10 3		
	\heartsuit J 9 5		
	\diamond K Q 8 6		
	\clubsuit 9 6 5 2		
\spadesuit A Q 7 6 4	N	\spadesuit K 8 5 2	
\heartsuit 10	W	\heartsuit A 8 7	
\diamond J 3	E	\diamond 10 9 7 2	
\clubsuit Q J 10 8 4	S	\clubsuit K 3	
	\spadesuit J 9		
	\heartsuit K Q 6 4 3 2		
	\diamond A 5 4		
	\clubsuit A 7		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Charlsen</i>
2 \spadesuit	Pass	4 \spadesuit	Dbl
All Pass			

The Polish-style 2 \spadesuit worked well here as Charlsen, not unreasonably, thought action was needed over 4 \spadesuit . Down two in 5 \heartsuit would have been a fine sacrifice but -990 (one overtrick) was not the result Norway had been looking for...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Levin</i>
1 \spadesuit	Pass	3 \diamond	3 \heartsuit
3 \spadesuit	Pass	4 \spadesuit	All Pass

Once Brogeland judged his hand worth a one-level opening bid, Norway's chances of beating par were gone. Eleven tricks, +650 to Norway but another 8 IMPs to Israel.





Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Charlsen</i>
–	–	–	2♥
Pass	3♣	3♠	All Pass

After another Polish-style opening bid, this time by the Norwegians, and a 3♣ “pass or correct” response, Israel ran into trouble when East chose an unlucky moment for his overcall.

Down one, Norway +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Levin</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♠	2♥
Pass	Pass	2♠	3♦
All Pass			

When South did not open, the N/S pair reached the correct denomination, albeit at a pretty dangerous level. West lead a spade but when East won and played



Josef Roll
ISRAEL

off two rounds of trumps, declarer had a lot of hearts to lose and thus went down two for another +200 and 7 IMPs back to Norway.

More IMPs to Norway on the next board:

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Charlsen</i>
Pass	1♦	3♥	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

Hoftaniska did very well to take partner's 3♠ followed by 5NT over his own 4♠ as the suggestion to look for any minor suit slam as an alternative, if at all possible. 6♣ proved an excellent spot for a well-deserved +920.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Levin</i>
Pass	1♦	3♥	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

When Roll did not find a bid over partner's double, the Israelis had to be content with +500 only for a loss of 9 more IMPs.

In our other match, the Hungarians were less enterprising:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jonsson</i>	<i>Szilágyi</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Hegedüs</i>
Pass	1♦	3♥	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

One overtrick, Hungary +420.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Winkler</i>	<i>Eiriksson</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Ingimarsson</i>
Pass	1♦	1♥	1♠
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

The Iceland N/S pair did not show any signs of being in a hurry, South's 4♥ bid being the key to success. Well done, Iceland +920 and 11 IMPs to them to level the match.

Some quiet boards but then lots of action near the end:

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jonsson</i>	<i>Szilágyi</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Hegedüs</i>
4♠	All Pass		

When Jónsson opened 4♠, everyone kept silent. This proved a sound idea, even more so when you see East's hand.

As the defence did not lead hearts (and why should they?), declarer made all the tricks. Iceland +510.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Winkler</i>	<i>Eiriksson</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Ingimarsson</i>
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Against the same opening bid, the Icelandic South took his fate into his own vulnerable hands when he ventured 5♦. This time, the cost was a mere -800 and a 7-IMP loss.

On the next board, Iceland looked a little bit unlucky at one table:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jonsson</i>	<i>Szilágyi</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>	<i>Hegedüs</i>
—	Pass	1♦	2♠
3♦	4♠	Pass	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

A priori, 6♦ looks quite a playable slam but on the actual auction, E/W would have been well advised to be a little more cautious. Declarer could not do anything at all against the 5-0 trump break and thus had to concede two down for +200 to Hungary.



Birkir Jonsson
ICELAND

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Winkler	Eiriksson	Dumbovich	Ingimarsson
–	Pass	1♦	3♠
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, the Hungarians took no risks when they tried to settle for a small plus. A trump lead and trump continuation as soon as East got the lead would have led to one down but when West led the ♥A first before shifting to his trump, declarer had the entry position he needed to ruff three diamonds, enough to just scramble home. Iceland +790 and 11 IMPs back to them.

In the Norway v. Israel match, we saw basically the same auction to 4♠ doubled:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Barel	Hoftaniska	Zack	Charlsen
–	Pass	1♦	1♠
2♥	3♠	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		



 **Thomas Charlsen**
NORWAY

Barel made no mistake. He led his trump and thus, declarer was held to nine tricks. Israel +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Roll	Lindqvist	Levin
–	Pass	1♦	2♠
3♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, the Norwegians reached the same unlucky slam as their Icelandic counterparts. Down two, another +200 to Israel and another 9 IMPs to them.

The final board of the match was nerve-racking. As you can see, South can make 5♠ by using his only entry to dummy for a hazardous trump finesse rather than a diamond finesse. As the ♠A would bring down the king next, declarer's losers would thus be restricted to a diamond and a club.

As 5♠ was the final contract at all my four tables, sometimes doubled, sometimes not, we can look at the four chosen lines of play one by one.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jonsson	Szilágyi	Magnusson	Hegedüs
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♥
2NT	3♠	4♣	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	5♠
Dble	All Pass		

For Hungary, Szilágyi as North was in 5♠ doubled after South's two-suited overcall. East led the ♣K and shifted to the ♦8. When declarer finally decided to run this to his ten, he suffered a quick down one when West won his king and returned the suit for his partner to ruff. Iceland +100.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Winkler</i>	<i>Eiriksson</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Ingimarsson</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♥
3♥	4♠	5♥	5♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Eiriksson, North for Iceland was also in 5♠ doubled. He won the ♥K lead and immediately went for the diamond finesse. When this lost, West returned the suit for a ruff and still held his ♣A as the entry for a second ruff in the suit. Down two, Hungary +300 and 5 IMPs to them.

The final result: Hungary-Iceland 24-27 or 9.09 - 10.91 V.P. Both teams had managed not to lose too much ground.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Charlsen</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♥
3♥	4♠	5♥	5♠
All Pass			

Hoftaniska, too, got the ♥K lead and he too won his ace and took an immediate diamond finesse. West won and...cashed the ♣A before giving his partner just one diamond ruff. Israel +50.

In the Closed Room, we saw an interesting variation:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Lindquist</i>	<i>Levin</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	3♣
3♦	4♠	5♥	5♠
Dble	All Pass		

East led the ♦8 which, after the actual auction, gave away the show. Roll went up with the ace and now went for his outside chance of not losing a trump trick. When this came off, he was home for a juicy +650 and 12 more IMPs to Israel to make it a 51-28 or 15.56 - 4.44 V.P. win to them. They had managed to make up most of the lost ground.



Boye Brogeland (NOR) and Amir Levin (ISR)



WOMEN'S PAIRS QUALIFYING SESSION SIX

by Brian Senior

At the halfway point in the Women's Pairs qualifying stage the Lebanese pairing of Hana Kreidieh and Nahla Hamdan held the lead on 59.66%. The two previous winners of the event playing in 2016, Carla Arnolds of the Netherlands and Matilda Poplilov of Israel were lying second and 14th respectively, Carla partnering Sandra Kolen and Matilda playing with Daniela Birman.

The top 24 pairs at the end of day two would qualify for Saturday's final, which would be an all-play-all barometer event over 46 boards. Qualifying position did matter, as the leading qualifiers would start with a carry-over of 50 MPs, going down to zero for the 24th qualifiers, a spread of just over two tops.

Watching the leading pair meant that, by chance, I got to see the same N/S line as on the previous day.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hamdan	Reiter	Kreidieh	Elbro
–	Pass	2♠	2NT
3♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Hana Kreidieh opened 2♠, weak with five or more spades plus a five-card or longer minor. Helle Simon Elbro overcalled 2NT and Nahla Hamdan introduced her hearts. I like a pass now but Kreidieh showed her main suit and Hamdan, not liking those, repeated the hearts. The E/W hands fit together very well and it takes an early trump lead to prevent an overtrick as the cards lie.

Kate Reiter led the nine of hearts to the queen and ace, preventing the club ruff, and Elbro switched to a club. Hamdan won the ace, drew trumps and led a

diamond to the ace then a spade up. Elbro won the ace and returned the queen of clubs. Declarer had to concede a club at the end so Hamdan had 10 tricks for +420.

Saving the overtrick earned the Danish pair quite a lot of MPs, as they took 35 MPS and the Lebanese pair only 23.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hamdan	Reiter	Kreidieh	Elbro
–	–	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

Hamdan opened a strong no trump in third seat and Kreidieh transferred to hearts then passed the response.

Reiter again led a trump, to the queen and king. Hamdan ducked a diamond at trick two, losing to Reiter's eight, and back came a second trump. Hamdan won the jack and played ace then ten of diamonds to Elbro's jack and the spade return went to the king and ace. Reiter persevered with trumps, leading a third round which Hamdan won in the dummy and led a club, putting in the ten as she believed Elbro's discouraging club discard on the third round of hearts. Reiter won the jack and was endplayed. She returned a spade, Elbro ducking dummy's ten, and declarer had to give up a diamond at the end, just making for +110 and another 23 MPs to E/W. Once again, the trump lead had won the day for N/S.

Reiter/Elbro ended mini-session six in 22nd position, just above the cut line. There were, however, four more mini-sessions to go.



Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamdan</i>	<i>Haddad</i>	<i>Kreidieh</i>	<i>Farhat</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

A simple auction saw the leaders get to 4♥ after also bidding and supporting clubs. Their opponents were the other Lebanese pair in the field. Wafa Haddad led the three of spades, third and fifth, to the nine and queen. Faten Farhat tried the spade ace at trick two and that was that. Hamdan ruffed and played ace of hearts and a heart to the king. A diamond pitch on the king of spades was followed by five rounds of clubs, pitching both the diamonds from dummy. A diamond ruff now completed a quick and easy play with 12 tricks the outcome. Plus 680 scored 38 MPs for the leaders, 20 for N/S.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamdan</i>	<i>Haddad</i>	<i>Kreidieh</i>	<i>Farhat</i>
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Haddad opened 2NT and played 4♠ after a transfer sequence. What would you lead on this auction? With a strong balanced hand to the right, it hardly looks criminal to lead a club, but that proved to be an expensive choice. The nine of clubs went to the ten, queen and king and Haddad played king of spades then the queen to dummy's ace and ran the seven of clubs. A heart to the ace put her back in hand to cash the ace of clubs, pitching dummy's heart loser, and now it was just a matter of giving up a diamond and ruffing two diamonds in hand; 12 tricks for +480.

That gave 55 MPs to N/S, just 3 MPs to the leaders, and Haddad/Farhat ended the mini-session in tenth place.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamdan</i>	<i>Asulin</i>	<i>Kreidieh</i>	<i>Levi</i>
–	2♠	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Adi Asulin of Israel opened 2♠, weak, and Kreidieh overcalled 2NT. Hamdan had a borderline raise and took the mildly optimistic decision to go on to game.

Hila Levi led the king of hearts and must have liked the look of dummy, with heart length but no significant spot card. She cleared the hearts and Kreidieh led a club to the queen, Levi not seeing the need to rush in with her ace. Right she was, as the play continued with a diamond to the queen, back to dummy's king and a spade to the queen. Declarer should surely have cashed out now, settling for down two. While that would not have exactly been a triumph, it would have salvaged a few matchpoints compared to her actual play of a second spade, ducking Levi's ten. Asulin overtook with the jack, cashed the ace and played a club through, resulting in down four and –400. E/W might have been grateful to collect 11 MPs for this result, giving the Israeli pair 47.



Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hamdan	Asulin	Kreidieh	Levi
-	-	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	2♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

Asulin opened 1NT in fourth seat and Kreidieh made a natural overcall. Levi wanted to bid something but nothing seemed right so she passed. With two strong four-card majors, Asulin reopened with a take-out double and Levi made the good decision to respond in her weak four-card major rather than the strong five-card minor.

Hamdan led king and another diamond so Kreidieh won the ace and continued with the ten of diamonds. Levi discarded a spade on the third diamond as Hamdan ruffed. She returned a spade to dummy's ace and Levi cashed a top heart, saw the five-nil split, and switched her attention to the black suits. A spade ruff was followed by a club to the ten and ace, She won the spade return with the king and cashed two club winners, throwing dummies last spade loser. There was still a heart to be lost but Levi had eight tricks and her contract for +110 and 54 MPs, leaving only 4 MPs for Hamdan/Kreidieh.

Asulin/Levi ended the mini-session in third place overall.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hamdan	Gilliland	Kreidieh	Whelan
-	-	-	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Hamdan opened a strong no trump and Kreidieh used a range inquiry – usually a raise to 2NT. When Hamdan rebid 2NT to show a minimum, Kreidieh gave up on slam and raised quietly to 3NT. Ireland's Dolores Gilliland led a heart so Hamdan called for dummy's jack and, when that held, led a club to her ten followed by a diamond to the ten and the eight of clubs to the jack and ace. She cleared the clubs now and had 12 tricks for +490 and 30 MPs to the Irish pair's 28. The key was, of course, the play of the club suit, and not everyone got the suit right, balancing out the pairs who got to slam and made it.



Hana Kreidieh
LEBANON

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	♠	J 8 2	
	♥	Q 9 7 5	
	♦	A 9 6 4	
	♣	K 2	
♠ 5 ♥ A K 10 3 ♦ K 10 5 3 2 ♣ Q J 9	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K Q 6 3 ♥ 4 ♦ J 8 ♣ A 10 8 7 5 4	
	♠	A 10 9 7 4	
	♥	J 8 6 2	
	♦	Q 7	
	♣	6 3	

West	North	East	South
Hamdan	Gilliland	Kreidieh	Whelan
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	All Pass

Hamdan opened 1♦ and rebid 1NT rather than repeat the moderate diamond suit. Kreidieh had no good way to both invite game and show the long clubs so compromised with an invitational raise to 2NT and Hamdan judged to treat her hand as a minimum, perhaps because of the singleton spade.

Gilliland led the eight of spades to dummy's king and Maria Whelan won the ace but was unable to read her partner's lead. She switched to a heart. Hamdan won the king and led the queen of clubs to the king and ace. With all suits still covered and her communications open, Hamdan might have tried diamonds now, but she preferred to cash her winners and see

what developed. She played a club back to her jack, cashed the ace of hearts and rattled off the clubs. The defenders discarded all the diamonds with the exception of the ace, while Gilliland also came down to the bare queen of hearts. Hamdan now judged correctly that she could afford to play a diamond without first cashing the queen of spades. Gilliland won and cashed the heart but then had to lead a spade to dummy's queen and declarer had a diamond for her tenth trick; +180 and 33 MPs to Hamdan/Kreidieh, 25 to Gilliland/Whelan.

The Irish pair ended the mini-session in 47th place.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

	♠	J 5	
	♥	10 3	
	♦	A J	
	♣	A K Q 7 5 4 3	
♠ A 9 8 6 4 2 ♥ A K 8 ♦ K 9 8 ♣ 9	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K ♥ J 5 4 2 ♦ 10 7 5 2 ♣ J 10 8 6	
	♠	Q 10 7 3	
	♥	Q 9 7 6	
	♦	Q 6 4 3	
	♣	2	

West	North	East	South
Hamdan	Vechiatto	Kreidieh	Krftner
–	1♣	Pass	1♦
1♠	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Claudia Vechiatto, representing Germany (which might not have been your first guess for someone of that name), opened with a strong club (17+) and Suzanne Krftner made a negative response (0-7). When Vechiatto showed her long clubs over Hamdan's overcall, Krftner tried 2NT and Vechiatto, hoping to have seven running club tricks, raised to game.

Hamdan led a low spade to her partner's bare king and Kreidieh switched to a low heart. That went to the six, king and ten, and Hamdan cashed the ace of hearts then exited with a club. Krftner won in dummy and played three more rounds of the suit. Kreidieh was now endplayed but her diamond exit to the queen, king and ace (declarer had pitched diamonds to keep spades and hearts) was good enough to defeat the contract as Krftner had to concede a spade at trick 13.

Minus 100 was worth 27 MPs to the Germans, leaving 31 for Hamdan/Kreidieh.



Susanne Krftner
GERMANY

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
Hamdan	Vechiatto	Kreidieh	Kriftner
–	–	Pass	1♠
2♣	2♥	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♥	All Pass	



 **Nahla Hamdan**
LEBANON

the queen of clubs now but Vechiatto could ruff and play king and another diamond, losing to the queen. There was just a trump to be lost now, the spades going away on the diamonds; ten tricks for +170.

The Germans scored 26 MPs to Hamdan/Kreidieh's 32. Vechiatto/Kriftner ended the mini-session in 49th position with a lot of work to do to make the final. Our leaders, Hamdan and Kriedieh, had slipped to second overall on 56.27%, and still looked good for a place in the final. The new leaders were Tuna Aluf and Mehves Pisak of Turkey, on 57.67%.

Kriftner's 1♠ opening promised only four cards with the possibility of a longer side-suit, as indeed proved to be the case on this deal. Two Hearts was natural but non-forcing but, when Kreidieh's club raise came back to her, Vechiatto had an extra heart so could compete with 3♥, where she played.

Kreidieh led the four of clubs to the king and ace. Vechiatto cashed the king then ace of hearts and followed up with the jack of diamonds, running it to the ace. Kreidieh tri-



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IRELAND vs ENGLAND

by Ron Tacchi

With England due to play Wales in that other European event that is running concurrently with these championships Round two saw them pitted against the Republic of Ireland, though by the time the match finished it would be England versus Wales in both tournaments.

Though this match was a low-scoring affair the deals were not without interest.

The first board was a nerve-settler:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ 8 7 3					
	♥ 9 6					
	♦ K 8 7 4					
	♣ K J 10 6					
♠ J 10 2	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K Q 9	
N						
W E						
S						
♥ A Q 7 3 2	♥ K J 10 4					
♦ Q J 6 3	♦ A 9 5					
♣ A	♣ Q 5 2					
	♠ A 6 5 4					
	♥ 8 5					
	♦ 10 2					
	♣ 9 8 7 4 3					

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Garvey</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Carroll</i>
–	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2NT*	pass	3♥	Pass
3NT*	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

1♣ clubs or a 15-17 NT

2♣ Transfer diamonds

After East showed a strong no-trump and West the red suits the easy heart game was reached. North found the imaginative lead of the king of clubs, as has been said and no doubt will be said many times during this tournament, 'that did not exactly paralyse declarer', though there was nothing that would. With the amazingly fortuitous layout of the diamond suit, there were always twelve tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McGann</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Robson</i>
–	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

After a strong no-trump opening Robson super-accepted the heart transfer and was soon in game and he made the same twelve tricks (though a trifle more slowly) and the session started with a push.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ A 10 7 5 3					
	♥ 5					
	♦ A K 6					
	♣ Q 10 6 5					
♠ Q 4	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K J 9 6 2	
N						
W E						
S						
♥ A K Q J 9 6	♥ 3 2					
♦ 7 3	♦ 10 9 2					
♣ A 7 4	♣ K J 9					
	♠ 8					
	♥ 10 8 7 4					
	♦ Q J 8 5 4					
	♣ 8 3 2					

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Garvey</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Carroll</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The spotlight was on North but he was not hard-pressed to find the lead of the diamond ace and so the defence took the first six tricks and that was down two.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McGann</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Robson</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

This time it was South who had to lead and he too chose a diamond so the defence took the same six tricks and a second push. (Spoiler Alert - This will be a recurring theme in this report.)



After another three simple game contracts making there had now been four successive pushes and the score was a riveting 0 – 0.

We now come to our first swing – be prepared for excitement.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Garvey</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Carroll</i>
–	–	Pass	1♣*
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT*
All Pass			

1NT 11-13

As is their wont, the Irish were attacking in the bidding. Having just taught my ninety-two year old mother to play bridge I am confident she would not have opened the South hand but in these modern times there are many that would.

Bakhshi led a small spade to the ace and Gold continued the suit to Carroll's king. He continued with a small diamond to dummy's king ducked by West and the queen was then taken by Bakhshi's ace who cashed the ten of spades and gave Gold the lead with the fourth round of spades. The jack of hearts came back to dummy's queen from whence a club was led to East's jack and declarer's ace. He exited with a diamond to West's jack at which point BBO says six tricks were claimed for one one off but it would appear if West leads a minor-suit card declarer will fail by two tricks. So declarer failed by one trick, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McGann</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Robson</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The pulse – raising auction in the closed room gave England two IMPs.

Board 25 had a slightly Molloesque tinge to it as in both rooms the contract was played in spades, only by Ireland and excluding the concluding passes only three bids were made.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Garvey</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Carroll</i>
–	3♠	All Pass	

With five tricks available in the suit in which declarer had pre-empted this was never going to be a successful contract and drifted three off, -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McGann</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Robson</i>
–	2♦*	2♠	All Pass

2♦ Weak two in a major or 16+ 4441

Having polled some experts on the multi 2♦ there were varying opinions as to the best course for South. The two main actions considered: pass as espoused by Robson at the table or a double by those who were of the opinion that if partner's major was spades then the contract may well fail. In this instance the pass was the better action as declarer fulfilled his contract for – 110 but yet another IMP for England.



The following three boards produced an IMP each for both teams giving rise to the score of 4 – 1 to England.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Garvey</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Carroll</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♠
3♥	4♠	Dble	Pass
5♥	All Pass		



Tommy Garvey
IRELAND

Bakhshi elected to try for the vulnerable game and when dummy appeared he must have had high hopes but after a spade lead and a diamond switch from South ruffed by North the 4-1 trump split took him one down for +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McGann</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Robson</i>
—	Pass	1♣	3♠
4♦	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

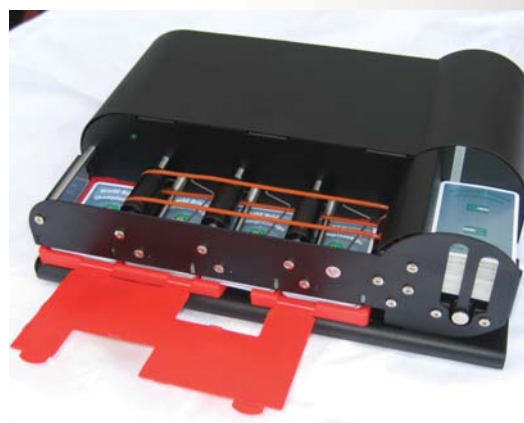
West tried for a vulnerable penalty and started with the classic lead of a trump. Robson won in hand and essayed the nine of diamonds and West fell from grace when he played a small card. South was now home as he could ruff two diamonds in dummy and establish the suit for +790 and 12 IMPs, the first real swing of the set.

Board 30 featured a defensive slip up by the Irish South which allowed a no-trump game through for England and another 6 IMPs. But on the final board England took a wrong view and doubled a cast iron game and lost 5 IMPs resulting in a final score of 23 – 6.

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ESTONIA vs FAROE ISLANDS

by John Carruthers



Open Teams, Round 1

The early history of the Faroe Islands, midway between Norway and Iceland, is shrouded in mystery. It is possible that the first settlers were monks from Ireland, perhaps driven out by Norse raiders. Various Irish (the monk Brendan's) and Norse accounts of uncertain reliability from the 400s to the 800s describe islands that could have been the Faroes. Permanent settlement was established sometime in the late 800s and the islands have been under the control of, first Norway, then Denmark, ever since. Although an independence referendum was held and passed in 1946, this was not recognised by Denmark. Today there is a high degree of self-rule, but full independence has not yet been granted.

With a population of less than 50,000, the Faroese NBO boasts 200 members, making it amongst, if not the, highest per capita bridge-playing country in the world. The Faroes faced Estonia in the first match of these championships.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ J 7 3 ♥ 8 3 ♦ A K Q J ♣ K J 5 3	♠ A 10 ♥ Q J 10 5 4 ♦ 10 9 5 ♣ Q 8 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K 9 6 5 ♥ A K 7 6 ♦ 6 4 3 2 ♣ 10
N						
W E						
S						
	♠ Q 8 4 2 ♥ 9 2 ♦ 8 7 ♣ A 9 7 6 2					

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Naber	Jøkladal	Luks	Simonsen
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♦ ¹	1♥	Dble ²	2♥
Dble ³	All Pass		

1. 11-16 HCP;
promises zero diamonds (could be 4=4=0=5);
a 1NT opener at this vulnerability would have
shown 10½-13 balanced.
2. 4+ spades
3. 3-card spade support

The editor admonished us before the tournament: "No partscores." Surely that cannot apply to partscores doubled into game, of which there were an abundance in this match.

I daresay this auction has occurred somewhere before today, but I had certainly never seen it previously. Both hands doubled to show spades and they passed Two Hearts doubled for penalties! Luks started with his stiff club, ducked to the king. Naber shifted to the eight of hearts to the king and a low heart went to dummy's nine. Declarer overtook with his ten and led the queen of hearts, forcing out the ace (Naber discarded the jack of spades). East shifted to the six of diamonds. West cashed three diamonds, and then gave East a club ruff. East exited with his last diamond and waited to score the king of spades. That was eight tricks for the defence, plus 800 for Estonia.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lassaberg	Karpov	Mikkelsen	Laanemae
–	–	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Here was an auction with which we could all identify. Unfortunately for Lassaberg, he could not come close to making his contract, losing one spade trick, three hearts and two clubs for two off, minus 100, and 14 IMPs to Estonia.





Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Naber</i>	<i>Jøkladal</i>	<i>Luks</i>	<i>Simonsen</i>
Pass	1♣ ¹	2NT ²	Dble
4♣	Dble	All Pass	

1♣ 2+ clubs, 10+ HCP
2NT Minors

This table produced another (slightly) unusual auction. Three rounds of clubs would have left declarer one off, but Jøkladal preferred a spade lead, which might have led to two down. With ruffs the only entries to the East hand, and needing to make something of the diamonds, declarer led a trump. North won with his king and shifted to the ... ace of diamonds! Declarer was not hard pressed to ruff, ruff a spade, ruff a low diamond and lead another trump. Minus 710 was Jøkladal's punishment. He'd had the right idea – tapping the dummy – he'd just needed to follow that plan.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lassaberg</i>	<i>Karpov</i>	<i>Mikkelsen</i>	<i>Laanemae</i>
Pass	1NT	Dble ¹	Redble
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Dble Described as (14)15+

The fortunate lie meant that 3NT could always be made. Karpov's job was made easier on the king of diamonds lead and he made an overtrick. Plus 630 and 800 added up to 16 IMPs to Estonia.



Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Naber</i>	<i>Jøkladal</i>	<i>Luks</i>	<i>Simonsen</i>
–	1♣	1♥	Dble*
Pass	2♣	2♦	Dble
All Pass			

For the fourth deal in a row, a partscore was doubled at this table (South declared Three Diamonds doubled down one on Board 3). Simonsen led a trump: three, two, seven, nine. Luks attempted to cash the ace and king of hearts. Jøkladal ruffed and cashed the ace of diamonds. The black-suit force meant that East could make only the three trumps left in his hand for minus 500.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lassaberg</i>	<i>Karpov</i>	<i>Mikkelsen</i>	<i>Laanemae</i>
–	1♣	2♥	Dble
All Pass			

It appears that declarer needs to guess diamonds to restrict his losses to six tricks. However, South led the ace of clubs and shifted to the three of diamonds, two, seven, nine. East thought playing diamonds a very good idea and led another: four, six, king, ace. A trump shift would still have meant one off, but North played a low club, allowing East to discard his spade loser and forcing South to ruff with one of his natural trump tricks. There were two more trump tricks to come for the defence, but that meant eight for declarer; plus 670 and 15 IMPs to the Faroes. We'd played five boards and had seen swings of 14, 16 and 15 IMPs; five contracts had been played doubled.

Two boards later, Simonsen held

♠A987632 ♥74 ♦A ♣K94, at game all. He opened Four Spades in first seat, got doubled and, when the defence dropped a trick, went two off for minus



500. His teammates made ten tricks in 1NT at the other table, so Simonsen's loss was 8 IMPs.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

<p>♠ K 8 6 2 ♥ 10 9 4 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ A J 3</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ A Q ♥ 6 2 ♦ Q 9 6 3 ♣ Q 10 9 8 7</p>	<p>♠ J 5 4 3 ♥ A Q J 7 ♦ 2 ♣ K 5 4 2</p> <p>♠ 10 9 7 ♥ K 8 5 3 ♦ A K J 10 4 ♣ 6</p>
---	--	---	---

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Naber	Jøkladal	Luks	Simonsen
Pass	Pass	1NT	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The defence led and continued clubs. Declarer won with the king of clubs and finessed the diamond jack. When the queen of diamonds failed to drop under the ace and king, he could, however, take only eight tricks. Down one, minus 50.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lassaberg	Karpov	Mikkelsen	Laanemae
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Mikkelsen led the nine of clubs to Lassaberg's ace. West shifted to the six of spades, three from declarer and ... ? Mikkelsen thought long and hard about playing the ace and continuing with the queen, but eventually settled for the queen, then the ace. He shifted to diamonds and it was Karpov's turn for long, hard though. He was, however, in the enviable position of having no losing play (other than a nullo four of diamonds). Karpov eventually rose with the ace of diamonds, cashed the king and crossruffed for ten tricks. That meant plus 420 and 10 IMPs for Estonia.

We were not, however, finished with doubled partscores ...



Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

<p>♠ A Q J 10 9 3 ♥ 9 6 ♦ K 8 5 4 3 ♣ —</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ K 7 5 ♥ A K J 8 4 2 ♦ — ♣ K J 9 5</p> <p>♠ 6 ♥ Q 10 7 5 ♦ 7 6 2 ♣ A Q 10 6 2</p> <p>♠ 8 4 2 ♥ 3 ♦ A Q J 10 9 ♣ 8 7 4 3</p>	<p>♠ 8 4 2 ♥ 3 ♦ A Q J 10 9 ♣ 8 7 4 3</p>
---	--	---	---

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Naber	Jøkladal	Luks	Simonsen
—	1♥	Pass	1NT
3♠	4♣	Dble	All Pass

North had a very awkward bid at his second turn, thanks to West's off-shape preempt. Before you crime Jøkladal, consider if South's minors were reversed slightly. East started with his spade. West won with the ace and returned the nine for the king to be ruffed out. East obediently shifted to a diamond and declarer won with dummy's ace to discard his third spade. Declarer mis-stepped here, playing a club to the king. That allowed East to play three rounds of the suit. Declarer won in hand, cashed the two high hearts, ruffed a heart and led the queen of diamonds. West covered and declarer ruffed and gave East a heart trick with his queen. East still had a long trump but had to surrender a diamond to dummy. Still, that was minus 800.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lassaberg	Karpov	Mikkelsen	Laanemae
—	1♥	Pass	1NT
2♠	3♥	Pass	3♠(!)
All Pass			

Assuming the BBO operator got it right, what an extraordinarily lucky pass of the cue bid Karpov made! Strangely, Three Spades cannot be beaten more than two tricks, at least 7 IMPs better than Four Clubs doubled or Four Hearts doubled would have been. Laanemae did indeed take seven tricks for minus 200 and a 12-IMP win.

It had been a very entertaining start to the tournament for those of us who watched. Also for Estonia, but less so for the Faroe Islands. The final score was 87-36 Estonia. Only one other match racked up in excess of 100 IMPs, and that just barely.



LADY LUCK

by Mark Horton

The definition of luck varies by the philosophical, religious, mystical, and emotional context of the one interpreting it; according to the classic Webster's dictionary, luck is "a purposeless, unpredictable and uncontrollable force that shapes events favourably or unfavourably for an individual, group or cause". The author Max Gunther defines it as "events that influence one's life and are seemingly beyond one's control."

A game may depend on luck rather than skill or effort. For example, chess does not involve any random factors such as throwing dice, while dominoes has the "luck of the draw" when selecting tiles. In poker, especially games with a communal board, pure luck may decide a winning hand.

Luck plays its part in bridge, but from the journalists or commentators point of view, the decision about which match to follow is of immense significance. Whilst part-scores can be interesting, the excitement that readers and viewers crave comes from games and slams, but when you choose a match you have no idea how things will turn out.

In these championships I am wearing so many hats that I am struggling to find the time to put pen to paper, so whatever I decide to report on needs the utmost co-operation from the Great Shuffler.

Decide for yourselves if he was in a benevolent mood for this Round 4 encounter between Croatia and Serbia.

2NT Minors, 5-10

North led the seven of hearts for the king and ace and declarer played a club to the queen and ace. He won the return of the ten of spades with the ace, crossed to dummy with a diamond and played the jack of clubs, covered and ruffed. When both defenders followed to the ace of diamonds declarer claimed, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zoric	Radisic	Stanicic	Zipovski
—	—	3♣	3NT
Dble	All Pass		

West led the two of clubs and declarer took East's ten with the ace and played the king of hearts which was allowed to hold (that cost the defenders one trick). Declarer continued with the six of hearts and West won with the queen and switched to the five of diamonds (East had discarded the four of clubs). East won with the queen and returned the three (which cost the defenders a second trick). The defenders cashed their diamonds and then East played a spade, five down, -1400 and 14 IMPs for Croatia - it would have been 17 if they had taken all their tricks.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ J 9 8 7 2						
	♥ 10 7 4						
	♦ 9 8						
	♣ 7 6 3						
♠ A Q 6 4	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> </table>	N	W	S	E	♠ 5	
N							
W							
S							
E							
♥ A Q 3 2	♥ 9						
♦ A 10 7 5	♦ K Q 6 4 3						
♣ 2	♣ Q J 10 8 5 4						
	♠ K 10 3						
	♥ K J 8 6 5						
	♦ J 2						
	♣ A K 9						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Perisic	Borevkovic	Parezanin	Marinowski
—	—	2NT*	Dble
5♦	All Pass		



Ognjen Stanicic
CROATIA

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Perisic</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Parezanin</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

2♣ Gazzilli
2♦ 8+
3♣ ♠+♣

The convention card is silent as to the exact meaning of this sequence - it might be that after 3♣ that 4♦ was RKCB for clubs, with the response of 4♠ promising 0-3 key cards. With the king of clubs offside it was a good job North held a singleton spade.

On the lead of the king of hearts declarer won and played to set up the spades, +1370.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Radisic</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Zipovski</i>
—	—	—	1♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

1♣ 15+ HCP 4441 or 18+ HCP or 8+ tricks
2♦ 5 ♣+, 4X+, 8-11 or 11-12, Balanced

I cannot decipher the auction after 2♦, but it got the job done, no swing.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Perisic</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Parezanin</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
—	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

West led the two of clubs for the queen, king and ace and declarer played a spade, West taking the ace and switching to the three of diamonds. If declarer had guessed to put up the king he would have had a shot at making eight tricks, but he played the jack, East winning with the queen and returning the four, West taking the ace and switching to the five of clubs. Declarer won with dummy's jack and cashed the king of spades. Best now is to play a diamond, but declarer tried the queen of spades and West ruffed, and returned the ten of clubs. East ruffed that and played a spade, ruffed with the ten and overruffed and West exited with a diamond. Forced to ruff declarer played the king of hearts and East won and played a diamond, promoting a trump for three down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Radisic</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Zipovski</i>
—	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

East led the two of spades and West won with the ace and returned the nine. Declarer won with the king, played a heart to the queen and a diamond for the jack and queen. East returned a diamond and West won and played a third diamond. Declarer won, cashed the queen of spades and with the king of clubs onside emerged with nine tricks, +140 and 10 IMPs, getting Serbia on the scoreboard.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Perisic</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Parezanin</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
1♠	Pass	2♠	3NT
All Pass			

1♣ 11-14 balanced (could be 5332 with 5 diamonds and 2254 if we treat this hand as balanced) or 10-21 natural unbalanced 5+♣ or (4414)
1♦ Transfer

When West led the four of spades declarer's gambit in the bidding paid off to the tune of +520 when the defenders unguarded the hearts.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Radisic</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Zipovski</i>
1♠	2♣*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

2♣ 8 - 15 HCP, min. 4-4 in suit bid and next higher



Darko Parezanin
SERBIA



Dimitraki Zipovski
CROATIA

West led the two of hearts and declarer won with dummy's ace and ran the clubs, somehow finishing with twelve tricks to lose an IMP.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Perisic</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Parezanin</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
—	—	—	4♦
Dble	5♦	6♣	All Pass

Declarer won the diamond lead in dummy and played trumps from the top, +920.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Radisic</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Zipovski</i>
—	—	—	4♦
Dble	5♦	6♣	All Pass

An identical auction was matched by an identical line of play.

Fourteen pairs were given the space to find a route to a grand slam - and of course they all went down.



Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

	♠ Q		
	♥ A 10 9		
	♦ A K 7		
	♣ K Q 8 7 5 4		
♠ A 10 7 6 4	<div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">N</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">E</div>	♠ 9 8 5 2	
♥ Q 5 4 3	<div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">W</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">S</div>	♥ K J 7 2	
♦ 9 8 5		♦ J 4 3 2	
♣ 3		♣ 2	
	♠ K J 3		
	♥ 8 6		
	♦ Q 10 6		
	♣ A J 10 9 6		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Perisic</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Parezanin</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
—	1♣*	Pass	1♠*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

1♣ 11-14♥ balanced
(could be 5332 with 5 diamonds and 2254 if we treat this hand as balanced) or 10-21♥ natural unbalanced 5+♣ or (4414)

1♠ At least invitational if partner has balanced hand; could have 4M with some minimum balanced hand and 4333 distribution).
Opener bids 1NT with minimum balanced 2NT with maximum

2♥ Natural, strong

It was asking a lot for East to find a heart lead - after the nine of spades declarer quickly claimed, +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Radisic</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Zipovski</i>
—	1♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

1♣ 15+ HCP 4441 or 18+ HCP or 8+ tricks
2♦ 5♣+, 4X+, 8-11 or 11-12, Balanced

This time East led the five of spades, no swing.
Four defenders found a heart lead, two from either side, and they all collected a double digit swing.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠ A Q 9 8 7 4		
	♥ 5		
	♦ 10 5		
	♣ J 9 7 2		
♠ —	<div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">N</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">E</div>	♠ J 5	
♥ A J 10 9 4	<div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">W</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">S</div>	♥ K 2	
♦ 3 2		♦ A K J 9 8 7 6 4	
♣ K Q 10 8 4 3		♣ A	
	♠ K 10 6 3 2		
	♥ Q 8 7 6 3		
	♦ Q		
	♣ 6 5		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Perisic</i>	<i>Borevkovic</i>	<i>Parezanin</i>	<i>Marinovski</i>
—	—	2♣*	Pass
2♥*	3♠	5♦	5♠
6♦	Pass	Pass	6♠
7♦	7♠	Dble	All Pass

2♣ 22+ hcp or 8.5playing tricks
2♥ CRAS

I am not familiar with CRAS - are you? My guess is that West was showing the ace of hearts.

Declarer lost the obvious tricks, four down, -800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zoric</i>	<i>Radisic</i>	<i>Stanicic</i>	<i>Zipovski</i>
—	—	1♦	1♥
1NT*	4♠	5♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

1NT looks like a transfer to clubs.

It is generally a good idea to raise partner when you have four-card support, so it is surprising that South saw fit to remain silent. +940 was worth 4 IMPs, leaving the teams level, 23-23.



Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ —		
	♥ K Q 6		
	♦ A 8 5 3 2		
	♣ 10 9 7 5 3		
♠ K 10 9 7 3	<div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A Q 6 5 4	
♥ 10 5 2		♥ 9 4	
♦ 10 7 4		♦ 9 6	
♣ K J		♣ A Q 8 4	
	♠ J 8 2		
	♥ A J 8 7 3		
	♦ K Q J		
	♣ 6 2		

West led the king of spades, and with both red suits behaving declarer could ruff in dummy, draw trumps and claim, +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zoric	Radisic	Stanicic	Zipovski
—	—	—	1♦*
Pass	1♥*	1♠	3♥
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

1♦ 2+♦, 1st/2nd possible 5M (11)12-15 HCP, Balanced
 1♥ 0+, 3+♥

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Perisic	Borevkovic	Parezanin	Marinovski
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♦	2♠	Pass
4♠	5♥	All Pass	

South led the king of diamonds and continued with the jack. North overtook that with the ace and played the eight of diamonds. Declarer ruffed high, cashed the queen of spades and claimed, +590 and 15IMPs to Croatia, their 38-23 victory leaving them at the top of the table.

FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY TEAMS BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016 - POLAND

From 22-28 August 2016,
 FISU (International University Sports Federation)
 will organize the

8th World University Bridge Championships in Lodz, Poland.

Teams can be composed of students from different universities
 and participants must be between 18 and 28 years old.

Entries should be made through
 the National University Sports Federation.

It is not too late to enter,
 For all information, please consult
www.unibridge.eu
 or
www.fisu.net or on the WBF website.

All your questions can be answered by
 contacting: geert.magerman@telenet.be.

See you in Poland!

Geert Magerman
 Technical Delegate Bridge FISU and EUSA





MONACO vs FRANCE

by Jos Jacobs

Open Teams, Round 4

For Thursday's evening match, having a look at the encounter between the neighbouring countries France and Monaco looked a good idea to me. I soon found out that this was a fine choice for a reporter as these were the first two boards:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Volcker	Multon	Bessis	Zimmermann
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		



Frederic Volcker
FRANCE

A pretty straightforward auction to the normal contract. South led a low club to declarer's king and Bessis immediately led a low spade to dummy's jack and North's queen. Now, rather than returning partner's led suit, Multon decided to remove an entry to dummy by returning the ♥8.

Declarer countered this defence by returning to hand in spades after winning the ♥A. His next move was a low diamond to dummy's king which held the trick. The ending was very hard to read (especially given North's low heart shift from a doubleton), but when Bessis worked out to get off play with a low diamond after the run of the spades, this brought down South's now bare ace – producing declarer's ninth trick in the process (4♠, 1♥, 2♦ and 2♣). France +400.

Bessis had decided that if ♦A was offside, North would simply have led back a club at trick three.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lorenzini	Helness	Quantin
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Quantin, too, led a low club to declarer's king but Helness opted for a different line. He unblocked dummy's ♥A, came back to his hand with the ♠A and played the ♥Q. North took his king perforce and simply returned a club. When the ♥10 did not appear and dummy's ♠J lost to North's queen later on, the defenders had six tricks. Down two, France another +100 and 11 IMPs to open their account.

Maybe, a diamond to dummy's king at trick two is best?



Tor Helness
MONACO

The next board brought another double-figure swing and again, it went to France:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
Pass	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Bessis showed good judgement here by jumping to game over partner's cuebid. His 5♣-bid could not possibly be misunderstood as he was known to be a passed hand. Volcker's raise to 6♦ then was automatic. Zimmermann expressed his scepticism about the auction by doubling the final contract, no doubt hoping his ♣AK would survive. When it turned out that declarer held only one club, France soon wrote down +1090. Nicely done.



Thomas Bessis
FRANCE

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
2♣*	All Pass	Pass	1NT

2♣ showed majors, so Helness could hardly imagine the hand Helgemo actually held. Monaco +150 but 14 IMPs more to France to lead 25-0 after just two boards.

With the score at 39-5 to France, two more interesting boards came up:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
2♠*	5♣	1♥	1♠
		Dble	All Pass

2♠ was a GF heart raise.

Whit his ♠Q proving a worthless value, Multon had to pay the full price when the defence was as obvious as it was merciless. Two rounds of trumps, followed by rising with the ♦A on the first round of the suit, meant that declarer was held to just his six trump tricks. France +1400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
2NT*	3♣	1♥	1♠
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
4♥	All Pass	4♦	Pass

2NT was a heart raise

Lorenzini, too, showed his suit at an already dangerous level but when nobody doubled, Monaco settled

for their normal 4♥. Ten tricks, +620 to them but still a further 13-IMP loss.

And the next board:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
			4♦
Dble	5♦	5NT	Pass
6♦	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Cautious bidding saw the French end up in a small slam rather than the seemingly obvious grand slam. We were told that Bessis claimed 13 tricks after the ♦K opening lead, though the layout is such that 13 tricks are impossible. Declarer cannot both draw trumps and ruff out the clubs.

Anyway: France +1010.



Jean-Christophe Quantin
FRANCE

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
			4♦
Dble	Pass	6♠	Pass
7♠	All Pass		

Good bidding by the Monegasques to an excellent contract, which has a well over 90% chance of success. As it happened, this was not their day, so one down meant France could chalk up another 14 IMPs to lead by 66-5 with just five boards to play.

The following two boards were the 3rd and 4th of this series of five:

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠	A Q 9 8 7 4	
	♥	5	
	♦	10 5	
	♣	J 9 7 2	
♠		—	♠
♥		A J 10 9 4	♥
♦		3 2	♦
♣		K Q 10 8 4 3	♣
		♠	♠
		K 10 6 3 2	J 5
	♥	Q 8 7 6 3	♥
	♦	Q	K 2
	♣	6 5	♦
			AKJ98764
			♣
			A



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
			2♦
			Pass
2♥	2♠	3♦	4♠
5♠	Pass	7♦	All Pass

The classic French 2♦, followed by 3♦ showed a game forcing hand with that suit. Bessis correctly took 5♠ as an invite for the grand and consequently accepted, hoping dummy would produce ♥A as well as a first-round spade control. France +1440.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
			1♦
			1♠
2♥	4♠	6♦	Pass
7♦	7♠	Dble	All Pass

When Helness opened just 1♦, the tempo of the auction changed. This enabled the French to find the good sacrifice against the grand. Down just four, Monaco +800 but another 12 IMPs to France to lead 79-5.

On the next board, Monaco finally struck back.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Volcker	Multon	Bessis	Zimmermann
Pass	2NT	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♥

When Volcker did not venture an overcall, the Monegasques scored their heart game in peace. Monaco +650.

In the other room, Helgemo immediately overcalled 1♠ over South's 1♥ opening bid, so the Monegasques could not avoid reaching 4♠ in quick time. When the French judged not to go on (the double fit not having been exposed during the auction) they had to be content with +50 only.

This gave Monaco 12 IMP to make the final score 79-17 but (still) 20-0 V.P. to France.

LYON - the place to be in August 2017

WORLD BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

from 12th to 25th August 2017

LYON - FRANCE

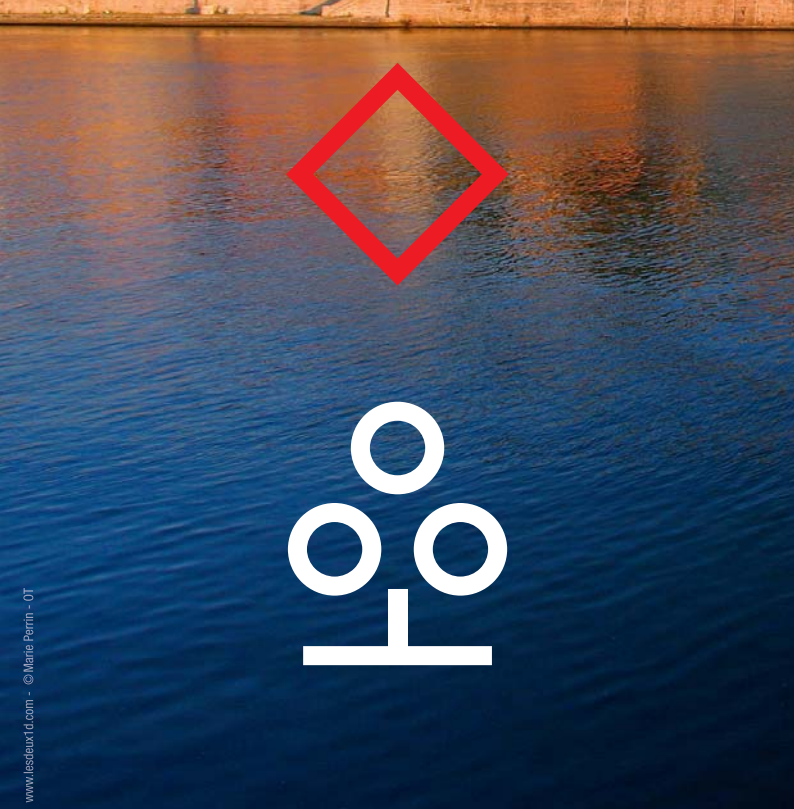
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Schedule of play for the 2017 World Bridge Teams Championships

Teams Registration	Saturday 12 th August
Captains meeting	Saturday 12 th August
Opening Ceremony	Saturday 12 th August at 19.00
Round Robin	1st Match Sunday 13 th August
Round Robin	Last Match Saturday 19 th August
Captains Meeting	(Qualified Teams) Saturday 19 th August
Quarter-final Sunday	20 th August
Transnational Teams	Monday 21 st August
Semi-final Tuesday	22 nd August
Final & Play-Off	Thursday 24 th to Saturday 26 th
Prize-giving & Closing ceremony	Saturday 26 th





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Josef SIMON
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Arno LINDERMANN coach

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Aleksandr KORZUN
Igor RADJUKEVICH
Andrej SOTNIKAU
Aleh TSIMAKHOVICH
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npc & coach

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Philippe COENRAETS
Steven DE DONDER
Steve DE ROOS
Zvi ENGEL
Mike VANDERVORST
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RESULTS OPEN TEAMS

ROUND 5

1	ROMANIA	PORTUGAL	40	14	16.09	3.91
2	SCOTLAND	ISRAEL	29	23	11.76	8.24
3	DENMARK	LATVIA	42	23	14.80	5.20
4	BULGARIA	CYPRUS	28	26	10.61	9.39
5	MONACO	CROATIA	33	15	14.60	5.40
6	BELGIUM	RUSSIA	34	25	12.55	7.45
7	ITALY	CZECH REPUBLIC	58	30	16.42	3.58
8	NORWAY	GREECE	24	24	10.00	10.00
9	SPAIN	ESTONIA	17	29	6.72	13.28
10	UKRAINE	NETHERLANDS	14	40	3.91	16.09
11	SWEDEN	SERBIA	62	30	17.03	2.97
12	IRELAND	FINLAND	29	67	2.15	17.85
13	WALES	ICELAND	50	11	17.97	2.03
14	FAROE ISLANDS	GERMANY	46	43	10.91	9.09
15	FRANCE	GEORGIA	45	22	15.56	4.44
16	TURKEY	HUNGARY	24	45	4.81	15.19
17	AUSTRIA	SWITZERLAND	14	27	6.48	13.52
18	BELARUS	POLAND	23	25	9.39	10.61
19	ENGLAND	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 6

1	CYPRUS	ROMANIA	44	49	8.52	11.48
2	RUSSIA	CROATIA	52	30	15.38	4.62
3	LATVIA	ENGLAND	29	48	5.20	14.80
4	ISRAEL	ESTONIA	42	22	15.00	5.00
5	DENMARK	GREECE	40	24	14.18	5.82
6	PORTUGAL	CZECH REPUBLIC	31	45	6.25	13.75
7	SCOTLAND	NETHERLANDS	23	34	6.96	13.04
8	BULGARIA	ICELAND	39	47	7.71	12.29
9	MONACO	FINLAND	31	42	6.96	13.04
10	BELGIUM	SERBIA	50	48	10.61	9.39
11	ITALY	SWITZERLAND	42	15	16.26	3.74
12	NORWAY	HUNGARY	47	15	17.03	2.97
13	SPAIN	GEORGIA	55	2	19.43	0.57
14	UKRAINE	POLAND	2	47	1.34	18.66
15	SWEDEN	TURKEY	21	23	9.39	10.61
16	IRELAND	AUSTRIA	33	19	13.75	6.25
17	WALES	BELARUS	25	24	10.31	9.69
18	FAROE ISLANDS	FRANCE	3	32	3.42	16.58
19	GERMANY	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 7

1	GERMANY	ROMANIA	37	22	13.97	6.03
2	FINLAND	LATVIA	47	11	17.59	2.41
3	SERBIA	ICELAND	8	20	6.72	13.28
4	NETHERLANDS	GEORGIA	18	19	9.69	10.31
5	ESTONIA	POLAND	17	34	5.61	14.39
6	GREECE	SWITZERLAND	13	22	7.45	12.55
7	CZECH REPUBLIC	HUNGARY	9	25	5.82	14.18
8	ENGLAND	BELARUS	23	2	15.19	4.81
9	RUSSIA	FRANCE	9	32	4.44	15.56
10	CROATIA	TURKEY	66	36	16.73	3.27
11	CYPRUS	AUSTRIA	16	10	11.76	8.24
12	ISRAEL	FAROE ISLANDS	15	5	12.80	7.20
13	DENMARK	SWEDEN	17	48	3.12	16.88
14	PORTUGAL	IRELAND	21	41	5.00	15.00
15	SCOTLAND	WALES	26	40	6.25	13.75
16	BULGARIA	UKRAINE	21	30	7.45	12.55
17	MONACO	ITALY	22	7	13.97	6.03
18	BELGIUM	NORWAY	22	30	7.71	11.29
19	SPAIN	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 8

1	ROMANIA	DENMARK	35	37	9.39	10.61
2	LATVIA	SCOTLAND	31	45	6.25	13.75
3	ISRAEL	PORTUGAL	13	63	0.84	19.16
4	BULGARIA	RUSSIA	41	1	18.09	1.91
5	MONACO	ENGLAND	13	11	10.61	9.39
6	BELGIUM	CYPRUS	19	19	10.00	10.00
7	ITALY	ESTONIA	40	3	17.72	2.28
8	NORWAY	NETHERLANDS	23	21	10.61	9.39
9	SPAIN	CZECH REPUBLIC	49	31	14.60	5.40
10	UKRAINE	GREECE	18	33	6.03	13.97
11	SWEDEN	ICELAND	34	14	15.00	5.00
12	IRELAND	GERMANY	27	34	7.97	12.03
13	WALES	SERBIA	19	19	10.00	10.00
14	FAROE ISLANDS	FINLAND	13	56	1.56	18.44
15	FRANCE	SWITZERLAND	33	12	15.19	4.81
16	TURKEY	POLAND	31	22	12.55	7.45
17	AUSTRIA	GEORGIA	29	23	11.76	8.24
18	BELARUS	HUNGARY	31	18	13.52	6.48
19	CROATIA	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

RANKING AFTER ROUND 8

1	FINLAND	120.02
2	FRANCE	109.59
3	NORWAY	106.38
4	POLAND	105.61
5	ITALY	104.48
6	ENGLAND	104.26
7	CROATIA	101.66
8	SWEDEN	100.87
9	IRELAND	98.71
10	GERMANY	95.89
11	BELGIUM	93.36
12	HUNGARY	93.04
13	WALES	89.39
14	MONACO	87.83
15	NETHERLANDS	87.41
16	ROMANIA	87.29
17	ISRAEL	83.05
18	SPAIN	81.16
19	TURKEY	80.19
20	ICELAND	79.59
21	BULGARIA	79.49
22	ESTONIA	74.62
23	GREECE	71.71
24	DENMARK	71.49
25	RUSSIA	70.77
26	AUSTRIA	70.75
27	SWITZERLAND	70.10
28	PORTUGAL	66.90
29	SERBIA	66.44
30	UKRAINE	64.16
31	BELARUS	60.54
32	GEORGIA	55.30
33	FAROE ISLANDS	51.35
34	LATVIA	50.15
35	CYPRUS	48.70
36	CZECH REPUBLIC	45.59
37	SCOTLAND	45.16



RESULTS WOMEN PAIRS

AFTER SESSION 10

1	LEVI Hila	ASULIN Adi	ISR - ISR	58.02
2	ARNOLDS Carla	KOLEN Sandra	NED - NED	56.16
3	PISAK Mehves	ALUF Tuna	TUR - TUR	55.84
4	ERKKILA Pia	AHONEN Hulda	FIN - FIN	55.67
5	ORMAY Krisztina	FISCHER Brigitta	HUN - HUN	54.69
6	ZMUDA Justyna	DUFRAT Katarzyna	POL - POL	54.61
7	BILDE Lone	RASMUSSEN Helle	DEN - DEN	54.31
8	HACKETT Barbara	EGGELING Marie	GER - GER	54.30
9	SARNIAK Anna	CZAJKA Iwona	POL - POL	54.30
10	HELNESS Gunn	BLAAGESTAD Lise	NOR - NOR	54.23
11	CHEDIAK Virginia	SIVERTSVIK Ranja	NOR - NOR	54.21
12	CUMMINS Carol Anne	NEWELL Sandra	IRL - IRL	54.04
13	BROWN Fiona	O'CONNOR Sarah	ENG - ENG	54.03
14	POPLILOV Matilda	BIRMAN Daniela	ISR - ISR	53.88
15	KREIDIEH Hana	HAMDAN Nahla	LIB - LIB	53.20
16	HADDAD Wafa	FARHAT Faten	LIB - LIB	53.13
17	BROCK Sally	GROSS Susanna	ENG - ENG	52.85
18	HOMME Marianne	BIRIBAKKEN Aase	NOR - NOR	52.62
19	CESARI Barbara	MASINI Nicoletta	ITA - ITA	51.92
20	PAVLUSHKO Olga	RUDAKOVA Elena	RUS - RUS	51.83
21	KRIFTNER Susanne	VECHIATTO Claudia	GER - GER	51.66
22	THOMPSON-VINCENT Kristina	SIMHA Esther	SUI - SUI	51.43
23	ELBRO Helle Simon	REITER Kate	DEN - DEN	51.36
24	ZORLU Ferda	KOTAN Nilgun	TUR - TUR	51.33
25	ORAS Maarja	TAUBE Aire	EST - EST	51.25
26	PHELAN Lucy	MITCHELL Louise	IRL - IRL	50.73
27	DELESTRE Blandine	BOURDIN Dominique	FRA - FRA	50.72
28	MOSZCZYNSKA Zuzanna	PIESIEWICZ Dominika	POL - POL	50.65
29	SANDSTROM Kati	MYLLAERI Maria	FIN - FIN	50.42
30	TAGA Fethiye	OZCAN Nese	TUR - TUR	50.34
31	D'OIDIO Catherine	SALONEN Irmeli	FRA - FRA	50.09
32	GLADIATOR Anne	WEBER Elke	GER - GER	50.04
33	McQUAKER Fiona	ADAMSON Sheila	SCO - SCO	49.71
34	GREENWOOD Diane	KENNY Joan	IRL - IRL	49.54
35	SKORDALIDI Korina	MAKRI Eleni	GRE - GRE	49.51
36	EGE Tina	FARHOLT Stense	DEN - DEN	49.30
37	OZUMERZIFON Meltem	KOKTEN Hatice Nazan	TUR - TUR	49.19
38	NORDGREN Maria	BERGLUND Agneta	FIN - FIN	48.88
39	KURANOGLU Serap	ATES Ebru	TUR - TUR	48.88
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