



28th European Youth Team Championships

19-26 July 2022 - Veldhoven, The Netherlands



DAILY BULLETIN

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UNDERWAY!



The Old and the New

At the end of the first day's play in the 2022 European Youth Team Championships, the five series have five different leaders. In the U26 Open, Estonia leads the way from Sweden and Italy. In the U26 Women, Norway leads from Poland and Netherlands. The Netherlands is in the lead of the U31 championship, followed by Hungary and France. In the U21s, Israel leads the way from Netherlands and Sweden. And finally, the U16 championship is led by Poland, from Hungary and Czech Republic.

Thursday will see a full schedule of matches in all five series, with U26 Open teams playing three matches and all the others playing four.

At the time of writing, we have not received any entries for the Auction of the Day competition, so I'll put forward a suggestion.

You are playing in your first championships and on the very first board you pick up:

♠ J 5 2 ♥ 9 8 5 4 ♦ – ♣ A 10 7 6 5 3

Nobody is vulnerable and it goes two Passes to you. How do you fancy a psychic 2♣ opening, the usual nearly game-forcing bid? That is what our hero tried.

Alas, the next hand overcalled 2♦, partner jumped to 3NT and, when that came back to left-hand-opponent, he doubled. As our hero had no sense of self-preservation, he did not run to 4♣, which would have been down only one as partner had a club fit, but stood his ground in 3NT doubled.

After all, he wouldn't have to play it. The defence cashed five diamonds, three hearts, and the ace of spades, so the contract was down five for -1100.

BBO MATCHES TODAY

10:00	U26	RR3	IRELAND	TURKEY	BBO1
10:00	U26	RR3	LATVIA	CROATIA	BBO2
13:40	U26	RR4	ESTONIA	ITALY	BBO1
13:40	U26	RR4	HUNGARY	POLAND	BBO2
16:30	U26	RR5	NORWAY	SWEDEN	BBO1
16:30	U26	RR5	NETHERLANDS	FRANCE	BBO2
9:30	U21	RR5	ISRAEL	NETHERLANDS	BBO3
	U26W	RR4	DENMARK	NORWAY	BBO4
11:35	U26W	RR5	POLAND	ITALY	BBO3
	U31	RR6	BULGARIA	NETHERLANDS	BBO4
14:20	U16	RR7	NETHERLANDS	CZECH REPUBLIC	BBO3
	U31	RR7	TURKEY	HUNGARY	BBO4
16:25	U21	RR8	ENGLAND	ITALY	BBO3
	U31	RR8	FRANCE	ISRAEL	BBO4

Vouchers

Dear players,

Nice to know: there are two vouchers in your goody bag with which you can buy books at the bookstore of the bridge museum in the Kemperzaal.

Thursday night is quiz night!

Especially for all players, captains and coaches: Pub Quiz Night at the Brabantzaal. Jochem Geerdink from Upbeatles will be your host.

Assemble a team of 4 to 6 people and go for the win! The quiz will start at 20:00, so be there on time. The winner will be announced by 21:30.

There is room for about 300 people. Arrive on time and register your team on site.




Brian Senior, **OPEN TEAMS U26, ROUND 1****ISRAEL vs NETHERLANDS**

As is traditional, we start our coverage of these championships with a match featuring the host nation, Netherlands. In 2019 Netherlands were runners-up in the U26O series, and they start their campaign here in Veldhoven against another powerhouse of youth bridge, Israel, who finished seventh in 2019.

Israel drew first blood, but it was barely a scratch, when both Norths declared 1NT on Board 1 and the Israeli declarer made two overtricks for +150 against -90, for +2 IMPs. There was considerably more than a scratch on Board 2, when the Dutch E/W pair had a misunderstanding.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Baniri</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ezion</i>
–	–	1♣	1♦
1♥(i)	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

(i) Spades

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Nijssen</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>V de Pavverd</i>
–	–	1NT	All Pass


For Israel, Aviv Zeitak opened a weak NT and played there on the lead of a low diamond to the jack, queen and king. Zeitak played on clubs, first the jack and, when that held the trick, the king to Tim van de Pavverd's ace. Van de Pavverd led a low diamond to his partner's ten and the defence cashed out the diamonds. Next, Van de Pavverd played ace

and another spade, Nijssen winning the king for the setting trick; down one for -50.

When Sibrand van Oosten did not support spades immediately, it appears that Stefan Thorpe assumed that he could not have four cards in the suit. He therefore corrected, if that is the right description, 3♠ to 4♣, and Van Oosten in turn guessed that perhaps his partner actually had hearts rather than spades. The music stopped in 5♣ doubled. Amir Ezion cashed the aces of clubs and diamonds then continued with a second diamond to the jack, queen and king. There were three spade tricks to come so the contract was down three for -500 and 10 IMPs to Israel, who led by 12-0.

There was more good news for Israel a couple of boards later:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ 9 8 7 6 5 3 ♥ Q J 8 2 ♦ – ♣ 8 3 2</p>		<p>♠ K Q 2 ♥ K 7 6 ♦ Q J 10 6 5 ♣ 10 4</p>	<p>♠ J 4 ♥ A 10 5 3 ♦ 4 3 ♣ A K J 9 7</p>
		<p>♠ A 10 ♥ 9 4 ♦ A K 9 8 7 2 ♣ Q 6 5</p>	

West	North	East	South
<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Baniri</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ezion</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Nijssen</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>V de Pavverd</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♠	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Nijssen passed the North hand so Zeitak got to open 1♣ as East and Van de Pavverd overcalled 1♦. Nir Khutorsky introduced his long spade suit but Nijssen jumped to 2NT, presumably showing a constructive diamond raise, and Van de Pavverd raised that to the NT game. Zeitak led out three rounds of clubs, Oscar

Nijssen winning dummy's queen and cashing out six diamonds and three spades for +630.

In the other room, Ilai Baniri opened a potentially short club on the North cards and that shut Van Oosten out of the auction, until, that is, his opponents alighted in 3NT, played by South. Now Van Oosten doubled for a club lead – can you blame him? Alas, the ♣Q was not where it was supposed to be. Not that it mattered, as Thorpe led a spade anyway. Ezion could cash three spades and six diamonds, and came to the queen of clubs at trick 13; plus one for +950 and 8 IMPs to Israel, who led by 20-0.

Netherlands got on the scoreboard on Board 6.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Baniri</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ezion</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
Dble	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Nijssen</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>V de Paverd</i>
–	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	All Pass		

Ezion's 1NT was supposedly 10-13. Does anyone who plays the mini-NT actually stick to their published range? My experience is that the mini is opened on all sorts of strange distributions and frequently a point light. Anyway, this proved not to be a good time for the bid, as Thorpe had a 15-count and an easy double. That concluded the auction and Thorpe led a diamond round to declarer's jack. Ezion played a low club and Thorpe played the jack, which Ezion ducked. Thorpe led a diamond to dummy's bare king and Ezion tried a low heart, which Thorpe won with the jack. Thorpe cleared the diamonds, so Ezion won the ace and cashed the ace and queen of clubs. Next he played the queen of hearts, but Van Oosten won the king and cashed the ten of clubs. That enabled Thorpe to discard his last remaining low spade and he had the

last four tricks with the two major-suit aces and two diamonds. The contract was down two for –300.

With no mini-NT at the other table, it was Khutorsky, West, who opened 1NT and played there. He won the spade lead with dummy's queen and ran the ten of diamonds to Nijssen's king. Back came a club to the ace and jack, and Van de Paverd switched back to spades. Khutorsky won the ace and continued with another spade to North's king. Nijssen returned a club to the now bare king and Khutorsky crossed to the king of hearts, cashed the jack of spades, pitching a diamond from hand, and led a diamond towards the queen. He had seven tricks now for +90 but 5 IMPs to Netherlands; 5-20.

Israel picked up an overtrick IMP on Board 8 for 1NT+3 against 1NT+2, to make it 21-5 in their favour, then:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Baniri</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ezion</i>
–	2♦	Pass	2♠
Dble	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Nijssen</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>V de Paverd</i>
–	2♠	Pass	3♠
Dble	Pass	4♦	All Pass


Baniri opened an Ekren 2♦, weak with both majors, and Ezion gave simple preference to 2♠; he couldn't do more facing possibly only four spades. Thorpe doubled then bid 3NT in response to his partner's cuebid. Baniri led a spade to the five, queen and ace, and Thorpe knocked out the ace of hearts. Ezion ducked a spade to establish the rest of the suit, but Thorpe had three tricks in each red suit, two spades and a club, for +600.

Nijssen opened 2♠, just a simple weak two bid, and that enabled Van de Paverd to make a pre-emptive raise

to 3♠, making life more difficult for his opponents. Khutorsky doubled for take-out and Zeitak responded 4♦ and played there. The result in 4♦ was relatively unimportant, given that a vulnerable 3NT had been bid and made at the other table. After a spade lead and continuation, Zeitak had a loser in each suit so was down one for -100 and 12 IMPs to Netherlands, closing to 17-21.

Given that it is tough to bid 3NT with the East spade holding, the winning action at our second table would of course have been to pass the double then lead a trump.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Baniri</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ezion</i>
–	–	3♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Nijssen</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>V de Pavverd</i>
–	–	3♠	4♥
All Pass			


Both Easts opened the classical spade pre-empt. Ezion judged to defend with the South hand, while Van de Pavverd overcalled 4♥ and played there.

Against 3♠, Ezion cashed the ace of hearts but then could not read the position and switched to ace and another diamond. Van Oosten ruffed and took the losing club finesse, won the club return and ruffed a diamond then, blissfully unaware of the position in the suit, tried to cross to dummy with a heart. North and East crossruffed a few tricks until Van Oosten, down to ♠AQ10, exited with the queen. Baniri won the king but was endplayed and Van Oosten put in the ten on the spade return. The contract was down two for -200.

Khutorsky led a diamond against 4♥, Van de Pavverd winning in dummy and leading a heart to the nine and ten. Khutorsky played ace and queen of clubs to dummy's king, so declarer could play two more rounds

of trumps to avoid any defensive ruffs. The contract was down one, losing two hearts and two black aces; -100 and 7 IMPs to Israel, whose lead grew to 28-17.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Baniri</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ezion</i>
–	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Nijssen</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>V de Pavverd</i>
–	1♠	Pass	Pass
1NT	2♥	2NT	3♥
4♣	4♥	Dble	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Ezion responded 1NT with the South cards and that was sufficient to earn his side an uncontested auction to 2♥. Van Oosten led ace and another diamond, Baniri ruffing and laying down the ace of hearts. When the king appeared, he continued with the ♥ Q followed by a low spade. That slipped past Van Oosten so the nine forced the ace. Baniri ruffed the diamond return and cashed the king of spades. When the queen fell he had the rest, so 11 tricks in all for +200.

Van de Pavverd did not respond on the South cards so Khutorsky got to make a balancing NT overcall (11-14). From here the auction became highly competitive and finally stopped in 5♣ doubled, played by West. Nijssen just had to keep his fingers away from a spade lead and, sure enough, he chose the singleton diamond, after which there were three defensive tricks for down one and -200 for a slightly unusual way of flattening a board.

Repeated diamond leads look as though they would beat 4♥ by a trick. Declarer would have to ruff the second diamond and cash the ace and queen of trumps. The only way to avoid two spade losers would

then be to lead a heart to dummy followed by a spade to the king and a second spade to the queen. But now a diamond back takes declarer's last trump and, though he can ruff out the ♠A, he has no way back to the established spade winners.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 2 ♥ A K ♦ A Q J 6 ♣ K J 10 8 6 5		♠ K Q J 9 ♥ 9 7 3 2 ♦ K 10 ♣ A 9 7	♠ A 7 6 5 4 ♥ 10 5 4 ♦ 9 5 4 3 ♣ 2 ♠ 10 8 3 ♥ Q J 8 6 ♦ 8 7 2 ♣ Q 4 3
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West	North	East	South
<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Baniri</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ezion</i>
–	–	1♣	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦(i)	Pass
4♣(ii)	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

- (i) Weak NT type
- (ii) RKCB for clubs

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Nijssen</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>V de Pavverd</i>
–	–	1NT	Pass
2♠(i)	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠(ii)	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♣	All Pass

- (i) Clubs
- (ii) Shortage

Zeitak/Khutorsky stopped in game, and quickly chalked up 11 tricks for +400, losing a club and a spade.

The Dutch pair were more optimistic and reached the borderline slam, so a low of IMPs would be decided by how Van Oosten tackled the trumps. Ezion led the queen of hearts, which Van Oosten won in dummy. He started clubs by leading low to the ace but then continued with a low club to the king and was down one for –50 and 10 IMPs to Israel, whose lead was up to 39-17.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A 9 ♥ Q 8 7 ♦ A 5 ♣ J 9 8 5 3 2		♠ K 10 6 3 ♥ K J 9 ♦ J 10 9 4 2 ♣ A ♠ Q 8 7 4 2 ♥ A 10 6 ♦ 8 7 ♣ K Q 7	♠ J 5 ♥ 5 4 3 2 ♦ K Q 6 3 ♣ 10 6 4
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West	North	East	South
<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Baniri</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ezion</i>
–	1♦	1♠	3♦
Dble	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Nijssen</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>V de Pavverd</i>
–	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	3♦
All Pass			

Both Norths promised five diamonds unless 4-4-4-1.

Ezion's pre-emptive diamond raise caused great problems to his opponents. Thorpe doubled to show his values and Van Oosten decided that he had enough to spare to commit to game. He did so by cuebidding 4♦ and Thorpe settled for 4♠. Van Oosten won the diamond lead with the ace and played ace and another spade to the queen. When that held the trick, he switched his attention to clubs, Baniri winning the ace and playing two rounds of diamonds. Van Oosten ruffed and played a trump, but the four-two split meant that the contract was doomed. He was down two for –100, losing two spades, a club and two diamonds.

Van de Pavverd did not make the pre-emptive raise, so his opponents could get together in clubs with no danger of getting too high. Only when the opposing club fit came to light, Van de Pavverd competed in diamonds and that ended the auction. Zeitak led the king of clubs. Nijssen won the ace and led a diamond to the king and ace. On the heart return he put in the nine, so lost to the ten, won the diamond return in dummy, and led the jack of spades and ran it. That lost to the queen and there was a second trick to be lost in each major so down one for –50 and 4 IMPs to Israel.

At the end of 18 boards, Israel had come out on top by 45-17 IMPs, converting to 16-4 VPs.



Brian Senior

Nice Card-reading

This was one of the more interesting boards from Round 3 of the U31 Championship. We have seen the deal already as part of an U26W match report, but in that report the contract was 3NT at both tables, as indeed was the case at one table in Serbia v Germany in the U31 series. Serbia's Stefan Velja was at the helm in 4♥.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bohnsack	Vazic	Weber	Velja
–	–	1♠	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Velja received the lead of the two of spades and, of course, his first attempt was to put up the jack in hope of getting a cover. No, Weber got that one right by playing low. Velja won the ace of spades and, reading from the auction that the ace of hearts was almost certainly offside, led the nine of hearts and, when Bohnsack played low, ran it. Weber won the ♥A and returned the ten of diamonds, so Velja rose with the ace and led a heart to the queen, a spade to the king, and a third heart to the king.

Certain that he knew the lie of the missing cards, Velja now led a low club off the dummy, won by Weber, who returned a second diamond. Velja rose with the king and played a club to the ace and another club, setting up the jack of clubs for his tenth and game-going trick – three hearts, two spades, two diamonds, two clubs, and a spade ruff.

Not bad to read the position in hearts, diamonds and clubs from East's opening bid.

Plus 420 was worth 10 IMPs to Serbia as they defeated 3NT a trick at the other table, and that helped them on their way to a 52-27 IMP, 16.55-3.45 VP victory.





Jos Jacobs, OPEN TEAMS U26, ROUND 1

ITALY vs NORWAY

It is a good tradition in European bridge to put the host country on vugraph (or on BBO, for that matter) for the first match of any championship. That's why you can read an extensive report on the Netherlands v Israel match elsewhere in this Bulletin. Making a choice for the other match to be broadcast on BBO would be not so easy in Junior events because there are almost no past results to rely upon. On paper, Italy-Norway looked a good choice anyway, once you keep in mind that both countries are regular, and also recent, qualifiers (or better!) for the Bermuda Bowl.

So with my colleague Brian Senior going to watch the Netherlands as a more neutral observer than I could possibly have been ☺, I set off for the other BBO match in the U26, Italy v Norway, hoping to find a board or two that would not interfere or duplicate with the happenings in the other U26 match.

The first board that attracted my attention was Board 3.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>S Sjodal</i>	<i>Porta</i>	<i>Kjensli</i>
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

In the Closed Room, the Norwegians stayed out of game, as both N/S pairs did in the other U26 match. They were content to score an overtrick for +140 to Norway but, in the Open Room, the Italians were more ambitious.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Heiberg-E</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

To me, the auction looked like modified Gazzilli, but the contract itself was more interesting, I thought. Can it be defeated? Can you always make it?

West led a top diamond and switched to a club. Declarer won in hand and immediately (and correctly) took the heart finesse. It would not do East any good to duck this so he won the king and returned another club. Declarer ruffed a diamond in hand, ruffed a club in dummy and cashed two good hearts, pitching his last club. When nobody ruffed, he could afford to run dummy's ♠J and just lose one more trump trick in the end. Nicely done with a little luck; Italy +420 and 7 IMPs to them.

It looks to me that once the hearts are 3-3 and declarer plays for it, there is no way to go down in the spade game.

About half-way through this 18-board match (what a remarkable number of boards per match, by the way...), we saw an equally remarkable auction, I feel.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Heiberg-E</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
–	–	3♠	4♥
Dble	All Pass		



Well, what can you do when South overcalls the pre-empt and West doubles?

This question equally applies to both North and East...

Down one, of course, Norway +200.

In the other room, the auction started in the same way.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	S Sjodal	Porta	Kjensli
–	–	3♠	4♥
Dble	4NT	Pass	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

In this room, the Norwegians apparently thought they had to take evasive action. This led to the second-best contract for N/S. Down three, +800 to Italy, good for 12 more IMPs to them.

Two boards later, the Italians were given the opportunity to find a sacrifice against the opponents' non-vulnerable game and they duly took it.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Heiberg-E	Scata	Lund	Gaiotti
1♥	Pass	1♠	2NT
4♥	5♦	Dble	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

In view of the adverse vulnerability, the opposition being down two in 5♦ doubled would have been a fair result for E/W but, when they decided to try for an even better score, they soon found out that the ♠Q was not on their side. One down and +50 to Italy rather than +500 to Norway...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	S Sjodal	Porta	Kjensli
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

When Donati could open 3NT to show his semi-solid major, the Italians had the tools to place the contract in partner's hand. Apart from that, the high-level opening bid made it less attractive for N/S to take any action. So Italy scored another +420 in peace, good for 10 more IMPs.

The result of the match: 61-10 or 18.98 – 1.02 V.P. to Italy.



More pictures are available on the EBL Facebook Page!
<https://www.facebook.com/europeanbridge>


Brian Senior, WOMEN TEAMS U26, ROUND 3

NORWAY vs ITALY


After two rounds of the U26W championship, Italy lead the way with Norway in third place. This already had the look of being a match which could have an important bearing on the fight for the medals.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>E Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Indrebo</i>	<i>Capobianco</i>	<i>Ekren</i>
–	–	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Saegrov</i>	<i>V Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Plana</i>	<i>F Dalpozzo</i>
–	–	1♠	Pass
2♠	All Pass		


For Norway, Erleta Plana opened 1♠ then passed Maren Idland Saegrov's simple raise and was left to play there. For Italy, Sophia Capobianco went on over 2♠ with what looks to be a non-constructive reraise to 3♠. However, Eleonora Dalpozzo tried 3NT over that and Capobianco went back to 4♠.

The spade game proved to be hopeless. Federica Dalpozzo led her singleton diamond and, needing the king to be onside, Plana played low from dummy. Valentina Dalpozzo won the king and returned the ♦10. Federica ruffed and returned the requested heart to her partner's ace for another diamond through. Plana discarded a club loser as Federica ruffed, and she then got out with her last spade. Plana won that, crossed to dummy with a trump to take another discard on the ace of diamonds, but still had one more loser to come so was down two for –100.

The defence to 2♠ followed the same path as that against 4♠, but here that meant that the contract was just made for +110 and 5 IMPs to Norway. However, 2♠ looks as though it could have been defeated. Having taken her second diamond ruff, South can beat the contract by underleading in clubs to put her partner in with the king. A fourth round of diamonds now kills the discard on the ace. Declarer can ruff high but has a heart to lose in the endgame, or can discard and permit South to collect a third ruff.



Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.


<p>♠ 9 3 2 ♥ A 9 8 5 4 ♦ 9 6 5 4 ♣ 6</p>		<p>♠ – ♥ Q J 6 3 ♦ A Q 8 3 ♣ A Q 10 8 5</p>	<p>♠ A Q 7 5 ♥ K ♦ K J 7 ♣ K J 9 3 2</p>
			<p>♠ K J 10 8 6 4 ♥ 10 7 2 ♦ 10 2 ♣ 7 4</p>

West	North	East	South
<i>E Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Indrebo</i>	<i>Capobianco</i>	<i>Ekren</i>
<i>Saegrov</i>	<i>V Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Plana</i>	<i>F Dalpozzo</i>
–	–	–	2♠
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass

This one was flat, 4♠ doubled losing the five obvious tricks at both tables for –300.

Had either West judged to bid 5♥ in response to the double, they could have made it easily enough if they used dummy's trumps to take ruffs rather than trump finesses. I suspect, however, that choosing to defend would be the popular action.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>E Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Indrebo</i>	<i>Capobianco</i>	<i>Ekren</i>
1♣	2♥	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass


West	North	East	South
<i>Saegrov</i>	<i>V Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Plana</i>	<i>F Dalpozzo</i>
1♣	1♥	Dble	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Thea Lucia Indrebo overcalled 2♥ and Capobianco made a negative double then raised the 2NT response

to game. Indrebo led a heart to dummy's king and Eleonora led the three of clubs to the nine, ten and king, won the heart return, and led the four of clubs to the jack, queen and ace. She won the passive club return with dummy's eight and led the jack of spades and ran it. When that lost to the queen, she had only eight tricks on Indrebo's passive spade return, so was down one for –100.

Valentina overcalled at the one level and Plana too made a negative double then raised the NT response to game. Saegrov won the heart lead and led the ♣3 to the nine, ten and king. She won the second heart and led the eight of clubs to the jack, queen and ace. Back came a diamond to the queen and king. Federica cashed the ace of diamonds then switched to a spade, and Saegrov rose with the ace, cashed her club and heart winners, and followed up with the ♠K to drop the doubleton queen and make her nine tricks for +600 and 12 IMPs to Norway, who led by 17-0.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ K Q J 5 ♥ – ♦ Q J 9 8 4 3 2 ♣ 3 2</p>		<p>♠ 9 6 ♥ Q J 8 7 4 ♦ A ♣ A K 8 5 4</p>	<p>♠ A 7 2 ♥ A 10 6 5 2 ♦ K 5 ♣ 9 7 6</p>
			<p>♠ 10 8 4 3 ♥ K 9 3 ♦ 10 7 6 ♣ Q J 10</p>

West	North	East	South
<i>E Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Indrebo</i>	<i>Capobianco</i>	<i>Ekren</i>
–	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Saegrov</i>	<i>V Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Plana</i>	<i>F Dalpozzo</i>
–	1♥	2♣	2♥
Dble	All Pass		

Valentina opened the North hand with 1♥ and Plana overcalled 2♣. When Federica raised to 2♥. Saegrov made a competitive double to get the other two suits into the game, and what was Plana going to do but leave it in with her five-card heart holding? Plana cashed the ace of diamonds then switched to the nine of spades to the jack and ace. Valentina led a low heart and, when Plana played low, put in dummy's nine. Next, she played the queen of clubs. Plana won

that and returned her remaining spade, so Saegrov won that and led a diamond through so Plana could ruff out the king. Plana cashed the ace of clubs then switched to the queen of hearts. She had to come to the jack of hearts, and Saegrov to the ♠K, so the contract was down two for -500.

Indrebo avoided playing a doubled heart contract by the simple expedient of not opening the North hand and seeing her left-hand opponent open 1♥. Capobianco opened 1♥, rebid a two-way 2♣, and confirmed that 2♣ was natural and limited by next bidding 2♥, where she played on the five-zero fit. Capobianco won the diamond lead with the bare ace and led the six of spades to the jack and ace. She won the club return with her ace and led the nine of spades to the queen, cashed the king of spades, and took a diamond ruff before playing king and another club. Katarina Ekren exited with a spade, ruffed with the six and over-ruffed, and now Capobianco could exit with her last club and wait to be given a heart trick for her contract; +110 but 9 IMPs to Norway, who now led by 26-0.

Indrebo should have ducked the first spade, restricting declarer to one spade winner, while Ekren might also have done better when in with the third club by returning her low heart.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>E Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Indrebo</i>	<i>Capobianco</i>	<i>Ekren</i>
–	–	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Saegrov</i>	<i>V Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Plana</i>	<i>F Dalpozzo</i>
–	–	1♠	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Plana opened the East hand with 1♠ but soon saw her opponents bid to 3NT, against which Saegrov led the two of spades to dummy's jack. Had Plana

ducked this trick, she would have been in control and the contract would have been defeated, but she covered with the queen and Federica won the ace and immediately led the nine of hearts and, knowing where the ace must be for the opening bid, ran it. She had nine easy tricks now for +400.

Capobianco did not open the East hand but the same contract was quickly reached. Here, the lead was a diamond, won by dummy's jack. Ekren led a low heart off the dummy at trick two, losing to the ten. Eleonora returned the nine of clubs, which was ducked to East's queen, and back came the ten of diamonds. Ekren won that and led a heart to the queen and ace. Capobianco returned a spade, but it was too late. Ekren could win the spade and cash the heart winners before playing ace and another club to set up a second club winner and her ninth in all, for +400 and no swing.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>E Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Indrebo</i>	<i>Capobianco</i>	<i>Ekren</i>
–	1♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Saegrov</i>	<i>V Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Plana</i>	<i>F Dalpozzo</i>
–	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

Both N/S pairs sailed into the excellent slam.


Ekren started with a slightly agricultural jump to 3NT but was then more than happy to co-operate with a heart cuebid as her partner made a clear slam try, and that was sufficient to see Indrebo take control with RKCB.

Federica started more slowly with a 2♣ response, relayed with 2NT, then supported diamonds, and again the slam was soon reached.

Both declarers won the opening lead and drew trumps, playing to pitch one spade on the fourth club and one ruff; flat at +920.

Four out of eight N/Ss in the U26W series bid to 6♦, with one going down.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 2 ♥ J 9 2 ♦ K 7 6 ♣ J 10 9 7 6 4	♠ K J 10 9 7 ♥ K 7 ♦ A Q 5 2 ♣ A 3		♠ 4 3 ♥ Q 10 8 6 5 ♦ 9 4 3 ♣ K 8 5
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West	North	East	South
<i>E Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Indrebo</i>	<i>Capobianco</i>	<i>Ekren</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Saegrov</i>	<i>V Dalpozzo</i>	<i>Plana</i>	<i>F Dalpozzo</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Slam is very good on the N/S cards. If East has the king of clubs the contract is cold as no lead can establish a winner for the defence, while if West has the ♣K and East leads the suit, the slam still makes if the king of diamonds is onside.

Federica's 2♣ response was a game-forcing relay and 2NT showed 16+ with five spades and four diamonds. Three Clubs was not alerted but presumably a second relay, with 3NT showing 5-2-4-2 shape. Federica was near minimum and, despite the big spade support, saw no way forward which would not commit to slam. Not being willing to do so, she signed off in game.

Ekren started with a game-forcing spade raise. I don't have the meanings of 3♣ or 3♥, but 4NT was Key-card, 5♠ showed two plus the trump queen, and 5NT suggested Seven. With nothing more to show, Ekren signed off in 6♠.

As the cards lay, 13 tricks were easy, so +710 for Valentina, but +1460 for Indrebo, and 13 IMPs to Norway. That completed an excellent match for the Norwegians, who won by 39-2 IMPs, converting to 18.41-1.59 VPs. That saw Norway move to the top of the rankings, while Italy slipped to fourth.

Again, four out of eight bid the cold slam.




Jos Jacobs, OPEN TEAMS U26, ROUND 2

POLAND vs ENGLAND


Once again, the Bulletin Staff managed to do impartiality a favour by selecting me as their reporter for the Poland v England match in the U26 Open Teams. Already, on the opening board, this turned out to be an advantage as this is what happened in the Open Room.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Panchagnula</i>	<i>J Patreuha</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>P Patreuha</i>
–	1♠	2♥	2♠
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥	Dble	All Pass	

Yes, there are layouts that would allow E/W to make 4♥, but this one did not belong to that category. What was more serious: North could see in his cards that 4♥ was quite unlikely to succeed and thus acted accordingly. Down no less than three, and doubled, too; Poland +500 to start with.

In the replay, the English were quickly in game once South launched a fit bid.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jasinski</i>	<i>Wieczorek</i>	<i>Kopka</i>	<i>Bucknell</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♣
	4♠	All Pass	

East might have defeated the contract out of hand by leading a low trump but his actual choice of a club proved more than good enough, as there was no way for declarer to get rid of his many losers, even though the diamonds were behaving as kindly as at all possible: Qxx inside. One down, Poland another +50

and 11 IMPs to start with.

On the next board, it was bingo again for the scorers.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Panchagnula</i>	<i>J Patreuha</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>P Patreuha</i>
–	–	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

This time, the English auction started off in an enterprising way but, once West became aware of partner's singleton club, he lost his interest and rightly so, as it turned out, when South led the ♦Q. One overtrick, so England +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jasinski</i>	<i>Wieczorek</i>	<i>Kopka</i>	<i>Bucknell</i>
–	–	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♥	All Pass		


The Polish auction was less sophisticated, as you can see. East gave no extra information away by his immediate jump to 4♥ and West had little option but to launch the modern version of the Old Black. When East showed two key-cards and the trump queen, E/W were committed to the slam and thus it was up to South to find the killing diamond lead. When he tried the safe enough ♠10 instead, the English



eventually had to write down -980. Not that slam was a particularly good contract. With his abundance of losers, declarer not only had to avoid the diamond lead but also to take the immediate club finesse in the end. Ruffing out the clubs was no longer an option once South belatedly continued the $\diamond Q$ after winning the trump ace. Poland thus collected 11 more IMPs.

The next two boards gave Poland one more IMP but then came another double-figure case.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ 2 ♥ A K J 10 6 ♦ J 8 6 ♣ A Q J 5</p>		<p>♠ J 9 6 4 3 ♥ 7 3 ♦ K Q 2 ♣ 10 6 2</p>	<p>♠ Q 10 8 7 5 ♥ 5 ♦ A 9 7 3 ♣ 9 7 4</p> <p>♠ A K ♥ Q 9 8 4 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ K 8 3</p>
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Panchagnula</i>	<i>J Patreuha</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>P Patreuha</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Dble	Pass	2♦	All Pass

With West's double explained as "minors," North could quietly await developments. When 2♦ ran to North he had nothing more to say, though he could hardly be aware of the fact that a 3-3 fit had been reached. Anyway, the contract was not a success. One down, Poland +50.

In the other room, North panicked when West doubled on his passed hand. She thus fell into the hands of East who had the last word about spade contracts at his table.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jasinski</i>	<i>Wieczorek</i>	<i>Kopka</i>	<i>Bucknell</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Dble	2♠	Dble	All Pass

There was no way to avoid down three when East led a low trump. Poland another +800 and 13 more IMPs.

The scorers were kept busy on the next board as well.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ A 10 3 ♥ K Q 6 ♦ A 4 ♣ K Q J 8 3</p>		<p>♠ 9 6 4 2 ♥ — ♦ K Q 8 6 3 2 ♣ 6 4 2</p>	<p>♠ J 7 ♥ A J 10 8 7 5 ♦ 10 5 ♣ 10 9 7</p> <p>♠ K Q 8 5 ♥ 9 4 3 2 ♦ J 9 7 ♣ A 5</p>
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Panchagnula</i>	<i>J Patreuha</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>P Patreuha</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♣	2♥	3♣	3♦
3NT	All Pass		

East's 3♣ showed diamonds so the normal enough 3NT was easily reached by E/W. Had North led a heart, the contract would have gone the normal enough two down but, when North led the $\diamond 10$ instead, declarer had all the time in the world to dislodge the $\clubsuit A$ and make his contract with two overtricks. England +660.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jasinski</i>	<i>Wieczorek</i>	<i>Kopka</i>	<i>Bucknell</i>
–	–	Pass	1NT
Dble	Rdbl	2♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

When South could open a 10-13 NT at the other table, the pattern of the auction changed dramatically. North showed the existence of a one-suiter but, more important, she simply led it when 3NT by West became the final contract. Down two, England +200 and 13 much needed IMPs back to them.

This board happened to be the last of the more spectacular boards in the match. Not very much happened on the remainder, though the connoisseur would definitely not agree to this. Below are a few examples of the reason why.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Panchagnula</i>	<i>J Patreuha</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>P Patreuha</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♠	Dble
2♥	Dble	2♠	All Pass

South's double on his passed hand was quite aggressive but proved very effective when North could double West's transfer raise and thus establish hearts as the suit to lead against spade contracts. Declarer won the ♣K lead and immediately conceded a club to South. He went on to ruff the heart return, ruff his losing club in dummy but then, rather than continuing trumps, first cashed two rounds of diamonds before leading the ♠Q from dummy. North won and tried another heart, which fatally shortened declarer. One down, Poland +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jasinski</i>	<i>Wieczorek</i>	<i>Kopka</i>	<i>Bucknell</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, N/S stayed quiet during the auction, and thus South led the ♣K rather than the ♥K against the same 2♠ contract. This enabled declarer to win the ♣A and immediately concede

a club. When South returned yet another club, dummy could ruff and continue the ♠9, thus solving the trump suit problem. Two overtricks, Poland another +170, and good for 7 IMPs. They were leading 43-13 at this point.

The score had gone up to 50-21 over the next nine boards and here are the final two boards.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Panchagnula</i>	<i>J Patreuha</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>P Patreuha</i>
–	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	2♠	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	All Pass

After this scrambling auction, declarer found an amusing way to make his contract after all. The defence led and continued spades. Had declarer ruffed, the success of the contract would have depended upon finding the hearts 3-3. So to avoid this problem, declarer discarded a diamond from hand on the second spade. When spades were continued, declarer shed another diamond, and now the defence could cash the ♦A and continue the suit. This meant that declarer had to ruff this and...rely on the heart break after all. Just made, England +140


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jasinski</i>	<i>Wieczorek</i>	<i>Kopka</i>	<i>Bucknell</i>
–	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	3♠	Dble	Pass
4♦	All Pass		

The loss of clubs as a suitable denomination to play in, many decades ago, meant that the Poles had little chance to get a plus score once North decided to raise spades up to the three-level. Four Diamonds was simply asking too much, no matter what the defence would do. England another +50 and 5 IMPs to them.

And the last board:

Board 18. Dealer East/NS

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

East's 10-13 NT opening bid should have backfired when East thought he had to act once more. However, when North did not find the heart lead, but tried a club instead, declarer quickly seized his chance. He won South's queen with his ace, cashed the ♠A and played three rounds of diamonds. When they survived, he could discard a heart loser and just restrict his losses to two more trumps and only one heart. Just made, England +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jasinski</i>	<i>Wieczorek</i>	<i>Kopka</i>	<i>Bucknell</i>
–	–	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Panchagnula</i>	<i>J Patreuha</i>	<i>Clark</i>	<i>P Patreuha</i>
–	–	1NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♥	3♠	All Pass

In the Closed Room, East opened a Polish Club but quickly signed off when West made a trial bid. Even 3♠ proved to be already too high when North led a heart...England another +50 and 5 more IMPs to them. The final result thus became 50-31 IMPs, or 14.58-5.42 VP, to Poland.

It It It



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RESULTS - OPEN UNDER 26

ROUND 1

			IMPs		VPs	
1	IRELAND	ESTONIA	0	66	0.00	20.00
2	FRANCE	TURKIYE	39	21	14.39	5.61
3	POLAND	GERMANY	37	48	7.11	12.89
4	SCOTLAND	SWEDEN	14	115	0.00	20.00
5	ISRAEL	NETHERLANDS	45	18	16.00	4.00
6	LATVIA	BULGARIA	45	47	9.42	10.58
7	ITALY	NORWAY	61	10	18.98	1.02
8	CROATIA	ENGLAND	48	19	16.31	3.69
9	HUNGARY	GREECE	26	34	6.83	12.17

RANKING AFTER R. 2

1		ESTONIA	37.31
2		SWEDEN	35.32
3		ITALY	33.37
4		CROATIA	30.09
5		FRANCE	27.05
6		GREECE	24.59
7		ISRAEL	23.34
8		POLAND	21.69
9		HUNGARY	21.22
10		GERMANY	17.57
11		NORWAY	17.48
12		BULGARIA	16.80
13		LATVIA	12.11
14		NETHERLANDS	11.58
15		TURKIYE	11.22
16		ENGLAND	9.11
17		SCOTLAND	5.61
18		IRELAND	3.54

ROUND 2

			IMPs		VPs	
1	IRELAND	NORWAY	25	55	3.54	16.46
2	BULGARIA	CROATIA	36	51	6.22	13.78
3	GREECE	NETHERLANDS	43	34	12.42	7.58
4	HUNGARY	SCOTLAND	40	22	14.39	5.61
5	POLAND	ENGLAND	50	31	14.58	5.42
6	TURKIYE	ITALY	39	57	5.61	14.39
7	ESTONIA	LATVIA	62	26	17.31	2.69
8	ISRAEL	FRANCE	23	33	7.34	12.66
9	GERMANY	SWEDEN	25	48	4.68	15.32

RESULTS - OPEN UNDER 21

ROUND 1

			IMPs		VPs	
11	ISRAEL	DENMARK	62	30	17.71	2.29
12	NORWAY	GREECE	70	13	20.00	0.00
13	IRELAND	HUNGARY	24	28	8.62	11.38
14	FRANCE	ENGLAND	47	0	19.54	0.46
15	ITALY	POLAND	5	34	2.76	17.24
16	TURKIYE	GERMANY	35	16	14.37	4.63
17	SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS	37	31	12.01	7.99

RANKING AFTER R. 4

1		ISRAEL	74.05
2		NETHERLANDS	61.11
3		SWEDEN	53.73
4		POLAND	50.66
5		NORWAY	46.69
6		FRANCE	45.33
7		HUNGARY	36.31
8		DENMARK	34.46
9		TURKIYE	33.36
10		IRELAND	27.54
11		ITALY	24.96
12		GERMANY	24.57
13		GREECE	22.77
14		ENGLAND	22.06

ROUND 2

			IMPs		VPs	
11	ISRAEL	HUNGARY	62	7	20.00	0.00
12	FRANCE	NORWAY	55	16	18.66	1.34
13	DENMARK	POLAND	27	23	11.38	8.62
14	GERMANY	GREECE	2	42	1.22	18.78
15	IRELAND	NETHERLANDS	16	51	1.86	18.14
16	ENGLAND	SWEDEN	27	11	14.70	5.30
17	ITALY	TURKIYE	62	10	20.00	0.00

ROUND 3

			IMPs		VPs	
11	ISRAEL	ITALY	50	10	18.78	1.22
12	ENGLAND	TURKIYE	17	42	3.45	16.55
13	SWEDEN	IRELAND	45	15	17.40	2.60
14	GREECE	NETHERLANDS	8	51	0.17	18.43
15	GERMANY	DENMARK	29	19	13.18	6.82
16	POLAND	NORWAY	33	37	8.62	11.38
17	FRANCE	HUNGARY	13	54	1.10	18.90

ROUND 4

			IMPs		VPs	
11	ISRAEL	TURKIYE	56	25	17.56	2.44
12	ITALY	SWEDEN	4	46	0.98	19.02
13	NETHERLANDS	ENGLAND	38	13	16.55	3.45
14	IRELAND	GERMANY	34	19	14.46	5.54
15	POLAND	GREECE	32	9	16.18	3.82
16	FRANCE	DENMARK	12	25	6.03	13.97
17	HUNGARY	NORWAY	14	27	6.03	13.97

RESULTS - WOMEN UNDER 26

ROUND 1

		IMPs		VPs	
21	POLAND	NETHERLANDS	23	29	7.99 12.01
22	ITALY	DENMARK	43	11	17.71 2.29
23	HUNGARY	NORWAY	13	55	0.98 19.02
24	ENGLAND	FRANCE	44	19	16.55 3.45

ROUND 2

		IMPs		VPs	
21	POLAND	ENGLAND	61	12	19.74 0.26
22	NORWAY	FRANCE	17	28	6.55 13.45
23	DENMARK	HUNGARY	28	22	12.01 7.99
24	ITALY	NETHERLANDS	16	12	11.38 8.62

ROUND 3

		IMPs		VPs	
21	POLAND	FRANCE	27	21	12.01 7.99
22	ENGLAND	HUNGARY	15	34	4.63 15.37
23	NORWAY	ITALY	39	2	18.41 1.59
24	NETHERLANDS	DENMARK	41	18	16.18 3.82

RANKING AFTER R. 3

1	 NORWAY	43.98
2	 POLAND	39.74
3	 NETHERLANDS	36.81
4	 ITALY	30.68
5	 FRANCE	24.89
6	 HUNGARY	24.34
7	 ENGLAND	21.44
8	 DENMARK	18.12

RESULTS - OPEN UNDER 16

ROUND 1

		IMPs		VPs	
31	HUNGARY	ESTONIA	52	7	19.34 0.66
32	FRANCE	ENGLAND	27	35	7.39 12.61
33	NORWAY	CZECH REPUBLIC	12	49	1.59 18.41
34	GREECE	CROATIA	81	8	20.00 -1.00
35	DENMARK	BULGARIA	47	7	18.99 1.01
36	NETHERLANDS	GERMANY	56	12	19.24 0.76
37	TURKIYE	POLAND	22	29	7.69 12.31
38	ISRAEL	Bye	0	0	12 0.00

ROUND 2

		IMPs		VPs	
31	NETHERLANDS	BULGARIA	41	22	15.37 4.63
32	CZECH REPUBLIC	DENMARK	48	18	17.40 2.60
33	ENGLAND	GERMANY	43	26	14.93 5.07
34	ISRAEL	TURKIYE	33	10	16.18 3.82
35	HUNGARY	FRANCE	28	19	12.90 7.10
36	NORWAY	ESTONIA	36	30	12.01 7.99
37	POLAND	GREECE	59	13	18.84 -0.04
38	CROATIA	Bye	0	0	12 0.00

ROUND 3

		IMPs		VPs	
31	GERMANY	TURKIYE	36	35	10.36 9.64
32	GREECE	FRANCE	47	24	16.18 3.82
33	BULGARIA	ISRAEL	11	64	0.00 20.00
34	NETHERLANDS	ENGLAND	10	29	4.63 15.37
35	CZECH REPUBLIC	POLAND	24	30	7.99 12.01
36	ESTONIA	CROATIA	104	1	20.00 0.00
37	DENMARK	HUNGARY	28	43	5.54 14.46
38	NORWAY	Bye	0	0	12 0.00

ROUND 4

		IMPs		VPs	
31	ESTONIA	POLAND	1	43	0.98 19.02
32	ISRAEL	CZECH REPUBLIC	7	33	3.27 16.73
33	FRANCE	CROATIA	83	6	20.00 0.00
34	NORWAY	DENMARK	39	36	11.05 8.95
35	GERMANY	GREECE	45	36	12.90 7.10
36	BULGARIA	TURKIYE	35	41	6.99 12.01
37	HUNGARY	NETHERLANDS	28	10	15.15 4.85
38	ENGLAND	Bye	0	0	12 0.00

RANKING AFTER R. 4


1	 POLAND	62.18
2	 HUNGARY	61.85
3	 CZECH REPUBLIC	60.53
4	 ENGLAND	54.91
5	 ISRAEL	51.45
6	 NETHERLANDS	44.09
7	 GREECE	43.24
8	 FRANCE	38.31
9	 NORWAY	36.65
10	 DENMARK	36.08
11	 TURKIYE	33.16
12	 ESTONIA	29.63
13	 GERMANY	29.09
14	 BULGARIA	12.63
15	 CROATIA	11.00

RESULTS - OPEN UNDER 31

ROUND 1

		IMPs		VPs	
41	GERMANY	BULGARIA	16	52	1.72 18.28
42	SPAIN	SCOTLAND	20	24	8.62 11.38
43	PORTUGAL	LATVIA	19	34	5.54 14.46
44	HUNGARY	POLAND	45	15	17.40 2.60
45	NETHERLANDS	ROMANIA	31	17	14.22 3.78
46	CROATIA	SERBIA	30	27	11.05 8.95
47	BELGIUM	ISRAEL	39	12	16.91 3.09
48	FRANCE	TURKIYE	31	11	15.58 4.42

RANKING AFTER R. 4

1		NETHERLANDS	69.89
2		HUNGARY	64.21
3		FRANCE	54.44
4		TURKIYE	53.66
5		ISRAEL	45.76
6		BULGARIA	43.91
7		PORTUGAL	38.93
8		POLAND	38.10
9		SCOTLAND	35.32
10		ROMANIA	34.98
11		CROATIA	32.45
12		SERBIA	31.17
13		LATVIA	30.34
14		SPAIN	29.19
15		BELGIUM	24.98
16		GERMANY	9.67

ROUND 2

		IMPs		VPs	
41	GERMANY	ISRAEL	12	63	0.08 19.92
42	TURKIYE	CROATIA	70	29	18.90 1.10
43	FRANCE	ROMANIA	23	22	10.36 9.64
44	BELGIUM	HUNGARY	18	58	1.22 18.78
45	PORTUGAL	SERBIA	44	23	15.79 4.21
46	NETHERLANDS	SPAIN	54	11	19.13 0.87
47	BULGARIA	POLAND	24	26	9.29 10.71
48	SCOTLAND	LATVIA	31	25	12.01 7.99

ROUND 3

		IMPs		VPs	
41	GERMANY	SERBIA	27	52	3.45 16.55
42	NETHERLANDS	BELGIUM	44	10	18.00 2.00
43	POLAND	FRANCE	26	27	9.64 10.36
44	LATVIA	TURKIYE	22	35	6.03 13.97
45	ISRAEL	SCOTLAND	38	33	11.70 8.30
46	BULGARIA	CROATIA	37	45	7.39 12.61
47	ROMANIA	SPAIN	33	25	12.61 7.39
48	HUNGARY	PORTUGAL	39	28	13.45 6.55

ROUND 4

		IMPs		VPs	
41	GERMANY	HUNGARY	19	39	4.42 14.58
42	ROMANIA	PORTUGAL	20	23	8.95 11.05
43	CROATIA	SPAIN	17	24	7.69 12.31
44	ISRAEL	BULGARIA	28	25	11.05 8.95
45	SCOTLAND	TURKIYE	21	45	3.63 16.37
46	FRANCE	LATVIA	53	18	18.14 1.86
47	POLAND	BELGIUM	23	5	15.15 4.85
48	NETHERLANDS	SERBIA	47	9	18.54 1.46

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