



Bridge Bulletin



Editor: Brian Senior • Lay Out Editor: Fotis Skoularikis

Issue No. 1

Saturday, 10 December 2011

DUTCH DELIGHT



A snapshot from the spectacular Opening Ceremony of the Sport Accord World Mind Games.”

The big story of Day One of the 2011 Sport Accord World Mind Games was the dominant performance of the Dutch Men’s team. The recently crowned Bermuda Bowl world champion won its three matches by 78-12, 92-0 and 84-8 to total 254 out of 276 VPs on the day. After only three matches Netherlands is already over a match clear of second-placed China, which has 145 VPs. USA is on 97 and Norway 54.

In the Women it is USA that heads the field after three solid wins. They too are virtually a match clear on 224 VPs, from France 133, Great Britain 120 and China 75.

It is still all to play for at the midpoint in the qualifying stage but, short of a dramatic collapse, it is likely that both leaders will make it to the final, leaving the rest of the field to fight it out to meet them there.

Contents	
Tournament Results	2
Norway vs Netherlands (Men)	3
China vs United States (Women)	5



RESULTS

MEN SERIES

ROUND 1

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	NETHERLANDS	NORWAY	52-18	78-12
2	UNITED STATES	CHINA	26-32	40-52

ROUND 2

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	CHINA	NETHERLANDS	7-68	0-92
2	NORWAY	UNITED STATES	30-35	41-51

ROUND 3

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	NETHERLANDS	UNITED STATES	68-30	84-8
2	CHINA	NORWAY	61-16	91-1

WOMEN SERIES

ROUND 1

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11	UNITED STATES	FRANCE	46-17	75-17
12	GREAT BRITAIN	CHINA	56-28	74-18

ROUND 2

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11	CHINA	UNITED STATES	21-70	0-92
12	FRANCE	GREAT BRITAIN	49-14	81-11

ROUND 3

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11	UNITED STATES	GREAT BRITAIN	25-14	57-35
12	CHINA	FRANCE	34-23	57-35

Rankings after 3 rounds

MEN SERIES

1	NETHERLANDS	254
2	CHINA	145
3	UNITED STATES	97
4	NORWAY	54

WOMEN SERIES

1	UNITED STATES	224
2	FRANCE	133
3	GREAT BRITAIN	120
4	CHINA	75

Other Sports in the Sport Accord World Mind Games

On the official website of the Sport Accord World Mind Games, <http://www.worldmindgames.net/en/>, you can also find information about the other sports participating in this event, along with photos and other relevant material.

MEN SERIES

Round I



Norway

v

Netherlands



The new Bermuda Bowl champions, Netherlands, had an excellent start to the Sport Accord World Mind Games when they dominated their opening match against Norway when they dominated their opening match against Norway almost from start to finish. Norway picked up 2 IMPs on the opening board but after that the Dutch picked up a string of swings including:

with the king of diamonds and now there will be a trump to lose.

Netherlands led by 41-8 after 14 boards and gained their one double-digit swing on the penultimate board of the set.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ 9 ♥ A K 10 8 ♦ A 8 7 4 2 ♣ Q 10 6</p>	<p>♠ K Q 6 4 3 2 ♥ 3 ♦ K 6 ♣ A K 5 4</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #336633; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div> <p>♠ J 10 7 5 ♥ J 9 7 4 ♦ 10 9 ♣ 9 8 7</p>	<p>♠ A 8 ♥ Q 6 5 2 ♦ Q J 5 3 ♣ J 3 2</p>
--	---	--

West	North	East	South
Rasmussen	Drijver	Malinowski	Brink
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	Dble	3♠
4♥	4♣	5♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
de Wijs	Tundal	Muller	Groetheim
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	Dble	3♠
4♥	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

The auctions were identical all the way up to the point where Artur Malinowski, seeing a double fit in the red suits, went on to 5♦ over 4♣, unsure which side could make what. In the other room, Bauke Muller made a forcing pass and Simon de Wijs judged to double, having already stretched to bid 4♥ at his previous turn.

In 4♣ doubled, Ulf Tundal had a loser in each suit for down one; 100 to the Netherlands. Against 5♦ doubled, Bas Drijver led out three rounds of clubs. Arild Rasmussen unblocked the queen on the second round so could win the third round in dummy. He needed diamonds two-two with the king onside but it was not to be; also one down for 200 to the Netherlands and 7 IMPs.

At least the Norwegians played it in diamonds. Five Hearts on a spade lead or switch is an extra one down as declarer can be forced to ruff a spade when North gets in

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ 10 8 4 ♥ 4 ♦ K J ♣ Q 10 8 6 5 3 2</p>	<p>♠ A J 9 5 2 ♥ A K Q 2 ♦ 8 5 3 ♣ 7</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #336633; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div> <p>♠ 3 ♥ J 10 9 7 ♦ Q 9 7 2 ♣ A K 9 4</p>	<p>♠ K Q 7 6 ♥ 8 6 5 3 ♦ A 10 6 4 ♣ J</p>
--	--	---

West	North	East	South
Rasmussen	Drijver	Malinowski	Brink
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
de Wijs	Tundal	Muller	Groetheim
–	–	–	Pass
3♣	Dble	All Pass	

I don't have details of Rasmussen's system to hand but I find not pre-empting with the West cards very odd. Drijver/Brink now had an uncontested auction to 4♥ when Rasmussen continued to pass at his next turn. At the other table, de Wijs did pre-empt, Tundal made a take-out double and Glen Groetheim left it in.

So, just because I don't like something doesn't make it wrong – witness the fact that Rasmussen is playing in this top-level invitational event and I am only writing about it. So whose style was right today?

Tundal led the ace of hearts against 3♣ doubled. Groetheim dropped the jack and Tundal switched to the eight of diamonds, which ran around to the jack. De Wijs cashed the king of diamonds then led a club to the jack and king. Groetheim switched to his singleton spade and collected his ruff then returned a heart. De Wijs ruffed and just had to knock out the ace of clubs for one down; –100.

Malinowski led his club against 4♥. Drijver won the ace and pitched the eight of diamonds on the club king, Malinowski surprising him by ruffing. Malinowski underled in di-

amonds to Rasmussen's jack and back came the ten of clubs, on which Drijver pitched his last diamond. He ruffed the next club high and played ace of spades and ruffed a spade with the heart seven, ruffed a diamond with the two, and had a high crossruff for the remainder; ten tricks for +620 and 11 IMPs to Netherlands.

That put the Dutch ahead by 52-8 and another 2 IMPs would have given them a maximum. However, the last board finally saw some good news for the Norwegians.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rasmussen	Drijver	Malinowski	Brink
Pass	1♦	1♠	Dble
3♠	Dble	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
de Wijs	Tundal	Muller	Groetheim
Pass	1♣	1♠	2♦
3♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Drijver opened 1♦ then doubled the pre-emptive spade raise. When Brink could show a fifth heart, Drijver showed the spade control but then passed when Brink signed-off. There was just a heart to lose, Brink ruffing the spade lead, crossing to hand with the club queen to take a second ruff, then ditching his last spade on the king of diamonds; +480.

Tundal opened with a strong club and Groetheim transferred to hearts. When de Wijs also made a pre-emptive raise, Tundal took the bull by the horns and jumped to 5NT, asking Groetheim to pick a slam. Six Clubs was the obvious choice and that contract was a comfortable make, Tundal ruffing the spade lead, drawing trumps and establishing the hearts; +920 and 10 IMPs to Norway, who needed them.

The final score was 52-18 IMPs to Netherlands, converting to 80-12 VPs.

The 2011 Sport Accord World Mind Games

The bridge section of the 2011 Sport Accord World Mind Games consists of three separate events in each series, Teams, Pairs and Individual. In the Teams, there are four invited national teams of six in each series, and they play a double round robin of 16-board matches over two days to qualify to a 48-board final and third/fourth place play-off.

In the Men Series, the four teams are:

- **China** – Jie Li & Jing Liu, Haojun Shi & Ruoyi Lian, Xu Hou & Miao Shi
- **Netherlands** – Simon de Wijs & Bauke Muller, Sjoert Brink & Bas Drijver, Ricco van Prooijen & Louk Verhees
- **Norway** – Ulf Tundal & Glen Groetheim, Artur Malinowski & Arild Rasmussen, Thomas Charlsen & Thor Erik Hoftaniska
- **USA** – David Berkowitz & Alan Sontag, Michael Rosenberg & Chris Willenken, Brad Moss & Fred Gitelman

And in the Ladies:

- **China** – Ling Gu & Yan Lu, Ming Sun & Hongli Wang, Yanhui Sun & Xuefeng Feng
- **France** – Catherine D'Ovidio & Veronique Bessis, Sylvie Willard & Benedicte Cronier, Daniele Gaviard & Joanna Neve
- **Great Britain** – Fiona Brown & Susan Stockdale, Sally Brock & Nicola Smith, Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
- **USA** – Janice Seamon-Molson & Tobi Sokolow, Beth Palmer & Lyn Deas, Kerri Sanborn & Irina Levitina

The Victory Point scale used for this tournament is not the standard WBF scale. Instead, an exact tie is 46-46 and each IMP won or lost is worth 1 VP up to a maximum of 46, giving a maximum win of 92-0. Losing by more than 46 does not cost any minus VPs.



WOMEN SERIES

Round 2



China

v

United States



The host nation, China had lost their opening match by 28 IMPs against Great Britain while USA had been rather more successful, defeating reigning Venice Cup champions, France by 29 IMPs. While both teams were looking for a win, these results made it a little more pressing for the Chinese.

USA had the first half of the match all to themselves, scoring 43 IMPs without reply. The Chinese were not without their chances, witness:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Deas	M. Sun	Palmer	Wang
–	INT	Pass	Pass
2♣	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Feng	Sokolow	Y. Sun	Molson
–	1♦	1♠	2♦
Dble	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Ming Sun's weak no trump made sure that her opponents would not contemplate game. Lyn Deas balanced with 2♣, clubs and another suit, and Beth Palmer left her to play there. Deas lost a heart, a diamond and a club; +130.

Tobi Sokolow opened 1♦ and Yanhui Sun made an off-centre 1♠ overcall. When Janice Seamon-Molson raised diamonds, Xuefeng Feng made a competitive double, hoping for a club or heart fit. In practice, Sun showed her extra values and balanced hand by bidding 2NT and Feng guessed to raise to game.

A spade lead ensures the defeat of 3NT as, indeed, does a diamond lead to the ace followed by a spade switch, but the overcall ensured that neither Molson nor Sokolow was close to finding that defence. Instead, Molson led the obvious jack of diamonds and Sokolow allowed that to run to Sun's king. Sun passed the jack of hearts to Sokolow's king.

She played diamonds from the top now and Molson unblocked to leave her partner with a safe spade exit after the fourth diamond. Meanwhile, Sun had pitched a spade from hand and two hearts from dummy. That did not give up on making the contract without picking up the clubs if hearts behaved, of course, as even four heart winners would have meant only eight in total. However, Sun was very sloppy after winning the spade switch. She simple played king then jack of clubs and put up the ace when Molson showed out. That meant down three for –150 and 7 IMPs to USA.

But suppose that declarer cashes the two heart winners before touching clubs – when Sokolow shows up with only two hearts she is marked with three or more clubs and the club play is no longer a guess. Sokolow must be either 4-2-4-3 or 3-2-4-4 for the 1♦ opening. It should, therefore, have been 7 IMPs to China and not to USA.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Deas	M. Sun	Palmer	Wang
–	–	2♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Feng	Sokolow	Y. Sun	Molson
–	–	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Dble
3♠	4♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Both Easts opened with a multi 2♦, showing a weak two bid in a major.

Deas responded 3♥, pass or correct, in an attempt to make life difficult for her opponents. When Palmer corrected to 3♠, nobody had anything to add. There was little to the play in 3♠ after Hongli Wang's trump lead, Palmer losing two diamonds, a club and a heart; +140.

Feng responded with a 2NT enquiry and 3♥ showed spades. Molson doubled to show hearts but the message may not have got across as Sokolow introduced diamonds. Molson corrected herself to 4♥, ending the auction, and found that she had done something very good for her side as the contract proved to be unbeatable. After the inevitable lead of a top spade and a club switch, Molson could ruff a spade in dummy, losing just a spade, heart and a club; +420 and 11 IMPs to USA.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K J 9 8 3 ♥ 7 3 ♦ J 4 3 2 ♣ 10 2	<table border="1" style="width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 5 4 2 ♥ A 10 9 8 ♦ 10 8 7 5 ♣ 9 8	♠ Q 10 6 ♥ K 6 ♦ A K Q 9 6 ♣ Q J 7
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ A 7 ♥ Q J 5 4 2 ♦ – ♣ A K 6 5 4 3												

West	North	East	South
<i>Deas</i>	<i>M. Sun</i>	<i>Palmer</i>	<i>Wang</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Feng</i>	<i>Sokolow</i>	<i>Y. Sun</i>	<i>Molson</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Sun opened with a Precision Club, 16+, then showed her balanced hand-type with her rebid. Perhaps she might have bid 4♣ over 3♥ and the slam might have been reached. When, in practice, she bid no trump for a second time then gave simple preference to 5♣ at her next turn, Wang called it a day; +420.

Sokolow judged her hand to be too strong for a 15-17 no trump and opened 1♦ instead. Molson's 2♣ was natural and game-forcing so Sokolow could afford to go slowly, emphasising the diamonds. When Molson next introduced her second suit, Sokolow showed club support rather than her all-round balanced hand-type and now they were off to the races. Molson showed the fifth heart and, in the process, the sixth club. Sokolow marked time with 4♣ and, on catching the spade cuebid which she needed, asked for key cards. The response showed three key cards plus a void and Sokolow thought for a while then bid the small slam; +920 and 11 IMPs to USA. Nicely done.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 8 7 3 ♥ 7 ♦ 10 9 5 3 ♣ A K J 9 4	<table border="1" style="width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q 6 2 ♥ J 8 6 4 2 ♦ Q 4 ♣ 8 6	♠ A ♥ A K 10 9 5 3 ♦ A K J 2 ♣ 10 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ J 10 9 5 4 ♥ Q ♦ 8 7 6 ♣ Q 7 5 3												

West	North	East	South
<i>Deas</i>	<i>M. Sun</i>	<i>Palmer</i>	<i>Wang</i>
–	–	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Feng</i>	<i>Sokolow</i>	<i>Y. Sun</i>	<i>Molson</i>
–	–	1♣	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Both Easts opened with a strong club. For China, Feng made a natural positive response of 2♣, followed up with 2NT, then raised to the heart game. All very simple and well controlled. After a spade lead, Sun cashed the top hearts then a top diamond, crossed to a club and led a diamond up. When the queen appeared, she won and played the ten of hearts, losing to the jack plus one slow heart trick; +650.



Hongli Wang, China

As the cards lie, you would make 6♦, but I didn't expect anyone to bid a slam. I was wrong, though the Americans did not find the diamond fit. The 1♥ response was 8-11 with any shape except five or more spades and 2♣ was a relay. From here, I don't have the meaning of the auction, I'm afraid and, seeing the outcome, I wonder if I would have received the same explanation from both players? Whatever the meaning of the bidding, the slam was poor but playable, until the five-one heart split came to light. Palmer won the spade lead and cashed the top hearts. She continued by taking and repeating the club finesse then threw a diamond on the club king while Sun did the same. Sun ruffed the next club and was over-ruffed but there were two inescapable trump losers; down one for -100 and 13 IMPs to China.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Deas	M. Sun	Palmer	Wang
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Feng	Sokolow	Y. Sun	Molson
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

It is hardly a crime to pass the North cards, second-in-hand and at adverse vulnerability, and that is what Sun chose to do. Wang opened in fourth seat and passed the 1♥ response, ending the auction.

Sokolow opened the North hand and the heart fit quickly came to light. 2NT enquired and 3♥ showed a minimum with four-card support and, now that she knew there was an eight-card fit, Molson went on to game.

Short of a bad split elsewhere, game is just on the club finesse. When it won, Molson had +620 and Sun +170. More importantly, USA had 10 IMPs. Had the finesse been offside, 4♥ would have been one down and China would have gained 6 IMPs, of course, but it looks normal in the modern world to bid to game, even though a four-one trump split would also see its defeat.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Deas	M. Sun	Palmer	Wang
Pass	1♠	2♥	Dble
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Feng	Sokolow	Y. Sun	Molson
Pass	1♠	2♥	Dble
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass
5♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Deas raised Palmer's overcall pre-emptively to game, and when that ran around to Wang she doubled for a second time. I would have thought that this was a clear take-out double, merely showing extra values and, with a shapely hand lacking in defence, Sun had a clear 5♣ bid. She didn't see it that way. She passed and Wang's spade lead meant that the club loser could be pitched from dummy for the overtrick; +990.

Feng only raised to 3♥ and Sokolow, looking at an 11-count, did not bid freely despite her five-five shape. And neither did Molson double again when Sun went on to the vulnerable game. However, Sokolow now backed in with 5♣, which is an excellent save, of course, going only one down. USA was in line for a big pick-up and it looked to be even bigger when Sun left it around to Feng and she misjudged by taking the push to 5♥.

Misjudged, did I say. Well, if Molson had cashed the ace of clubs the contract would have been defeated, and I would have thought that was the indicated lead – how often will the club lead cost a trick on this auction? Still, the spade lead could also be seen to be a tad unfortunate – unless you are Chinese! Sun had the same eleven tricks as in the other room. That was worth +850, still 4 IMPs to USA, but it could have been so much more.

USA didn't require those extra IMPs, however. They won the match by the maximum anyway; 70-21 IMPs, 92-0 VPs.

In the other match, France put up a strong performance against Great Britain, winning by 49-14 IMPs, 81-11 VPs, to move into second place behind the Americans.