



Bridge Bulletin



Editor: Mark Horton • Lay Out Editor: Duccio Geronimi

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HALF - TIME FOR THE PAIRS



'It was Exclusion Blackwood Mr. Rona'

At the half way point in the Men's Pairs Sweden's Peter Bertheau and Per-Ola Cullin have the lead, ahead of the United States John Hurd and Joel Wooldridge with China's Zhong Fu and Shi Miao third.

Sun Ming and Hongli Wang will be hoping to give China a Gold medal to celebrate as they top the Women's table. Then come two pairs with a French connection, Bénédicte Cronier and Sylvie Willard and Danièle Allouche, Vanessa Reess.

During yesterday's session a large group of young players

were given the opportunity to visit the Championships and they ensured a full house for the last VuGraph session of the day. Our front page photo features some of them with the President of the World Bridge Federation, Gianarrigo Rona.

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France vs United States (Women)	5



RESULTS

MEN SERIES

SESSION 1

1	HURD John - WOOLDRIDGE Joel	65.91
2	FU Zhong - MIAO Shi	64.55
3	CHUANCHENG Ju - ZHENGJUN Shi	58.64
-	BERTHEAU Peter - CULLIN Per-Ola	58.64
5	de WIJS Simon - MULLER Bauke	52.27
6	CHEEK Curtis - GRUE Joseph	51.36
7	SYLVAN Johan - WRANG Frederic	47.73
8	RUOYANG Lian - HAOJUN Shi	40.91
-	KATZ Ralph - WEINSTEIN Howard	40.91
10	NYSTROM Fredrik - UPMARK Johan	40.45
11	BRINK Sjoert - DRIJVER Bas	40.00
12	van PROOIJEN Ricco - VERHEES Louk	38.64

SESSION 2

1	BERTHEAU Peter - CULLIN Per-Ola	63.18
2	BRINK Sjoert - DRIJVER Bas	60.91
3	de WIJS Simon - MULLER Bauke	56.36
4	SYLVAN Johan - WRANG Frederic	54.55
5	FU Zhong - MIAO Shi	50.00
-	HURD John - WOOLDRIDGE Joel	50.00
7	RUOYANG Lian - HAOJUN Shi	49.09
8	KATZ Ralph - WEINSTEIN Howard	47.73
-	CHEEK Curtis - GRUE Joseph	47.73
10	CHUANCHENG Ju - ZHENGJUN Shi	43.18
11	van PROOIJEN Ricco - VERHEES Louk	39.09
12	NYSTROM Fredrik - UPMARK Johan	38.18

AFTER 2 SESSIONS

1	BERTHEAU Peter - CULLIN Per-Ola	60.91
2	HURD John - WOOLDRIDGE Joel	57.95
3	FU Zhong - MIAO Shi	57.27
4	de WIJS Simon - MULLER Bauke	54.32
5	SYLVAN Johan - WRANG Frederic	51.14
6	CHUANCHENG Ju - ZHENGJUN Shi	50.91
7	BRINK Sjoert - DRIJVER Bas	50.45
8	CHEEK Curtis - GRUE Joseph	49.55
9	RUOYANG Lian - HAOJUN Shi	45.00
10	KATZ Ralph - WEINSTEIN Howard	44.32
11	NYSTROM Fredrik - UPMARK Johan	39.32
12	van PROOIJEN Ricco - VERHEES Louk	38.86

WOMEN SERIES

SESSION 1

1	CRONIER Benedicte - WILLARD Sylvie	62.73
2	ALLOUCHE Daniele - REESS Vanessa	60.00
3	LEVITINA Irina - SANBORN Sharon	58.64
4	BROWN Fiona - STOCKDALE Susan	54.09
5	BROCK Sally - SMITH Nicola	53.18
6	LING Gu - YAN Lu	47.73
7	SUN Ming - HONGLI Wang	47.27
8	DHONDY Heather - SENIOR Nevena	45.91
9	EYTHORSDDOTTIR Disa - DEAS Lynn	44.09
10	D'OVIDIO Catherine - NEVE Joanna	43.64
11	LIPING Wang - WENFEI Wang	43.18
12	SEAMON-MOLSON Janice - SOKOLOW Tobi	39.55

SESSION 2

1	SUN Ming - HONGLI Wang	68.18
2	DHONDY Heather - SENIOR Nevena	62.27
3	CRONIER Benedicte - WILLARD Sylvie	54.09
4	D'OVIDIO Catherine - NEVE Joanna	50.91
-	ALLOUCHE Daniele - REESS Vanessa	50.91
6	SEAMON-MOLSON Janice - SOKOLOW Tobi	50.00
-	BROCK Sally - SMITH Nicola	50.00
8	LIPING Wang - WENFEI Wang	48.18
9	LEVITINA Irina - SANBORN Sharon	45.00
10	EYTHORSDDOTTIR Disa - DEAS Lynn	40.45
11	LING Gu - YAN Lu	40.00
-	BROWN Fiona - STOCKDALE Susan	40.00

AFTER 2 SESSIONS

1	CRONIER Benedicte - WILLARD Sylvie	58.41
2	SUN Ming - HONGLI Wang	57.73
3	ALLOUCHE Daniele - REESS Vanessa	55.45
4	DHONDY Heather - SENIOR Nevena	54.09
5	LEVITINA Irina - SANBORN Sharon	51.82
6	BROCK Sally - SMITH Nicola	51.59
7	D'OVIDIO Catherine - NEVE Joanna	47.27
8	BROWN Fiona - STOCKDALE Susan	47.05
9	LIPING Wang - WENFEI Wang	45.68
10	SEAMON-MOLSON Janice - SOKOLOW Tobi	44.77
11	LING Gu - YAN Lu	43.86
12	EYTHORSDDOTTIR Disa - DEAS Lynn	42.27

MEN SERIES Final 2/3



Netherlands

v

China



China started the second set of the final trailing 16.5-45 - not fatal, and certainly not yet time to press too hard.

Dealer East, N/S Vul

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees	Zhengjun	van Prooijen	Chuancheng
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the six of hearts and declarer won in dummy with the king, crossed to a diamond and played a club to the king. Ten tricks was his due and that is what he recorded, +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ruoyang	Drijver	Haojun	Brink
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Dbf	3NT	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♥*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

Who was at fault here? I think the blame must lay with West. Once North had doubled 3♠, East's immediate 3NT surely suggested he had no interest in slam, otherwise he might for example have passed, allowing to confirm a first round control in spade by redoubling.

South's spade lead left declarer with no chance, one down, -50 and 10 IMPs to the Netherlands.

Dealer South, Both Vul

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees	Zhengjun	van Prooijen	Chuancheng
1♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

- 1♣ Strong
- 2♦ Transfer
- 3♣ How many hearts?
- 3♥ 2
- 4♦ Last train

OK, I'm guessing a little bit, but whatever it was a good auction that explored the possibilities and stopped at a safe level. Declarer lost two trumps and a diamond, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ruoyang	Drijver	Haojun	Brink
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

North led the nine of clubs and declarer put in dummy's ten, and when it was covered by the jack he won with the king to run the queen of hearts. South took the king and played a club. With hearts failing to deliver declarer could take only eight tricks, -100 and 13 IMPs for the Netherlands.

The chance of scoring five heart tricks is a massive 84.78% so China was not blessed by the gods on the deal.

Dealer East, None Vul

♠ K J 3 ♥ 10 9 ♦ A 3 2 ♣ Q 10 8 7 3	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">N</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">W E</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;">S</div> </div>	♠ Q 10 7 ♥ Q J 6 5 ♦ 10 9 7 5 ♣ J 2	♠ 9 8 6 5 ♥ K 7 3 2 ♦ K Q J 6 4 ♣ —
	♠ A 4 2 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ 8 ♣ A K 9 6 5 4		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees	Zhengjun	van Prooijen	Chuancheng
Pass	1♠*	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♣

East led the five of hearts and declarer ducked West's nine, won the next heart in dummy and played on diamonds, West taking the second round and switching to the queen of clubs. When that held (declarer ditching a spade), he continued with a club to the jack and when that was also ducked East switched back to hearts. Declarer won, cashed the jack of diamonds, crossed to dummy with a spade, cashed a top club and exited with a spade. It was West who won with the king (he might have unblocked it), and he had to lead into the club tenace, one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ruoyang	Drijver	Haojun	Brink
Pass	1♥*	Pass	1♣*
Pass	3NT	Pass	3♣
Double	All Pass	Pass	Pass

1♣ 12-14 balanced/18-20 balanced/12+ unbalanced
 1♥ Natural, 4+diamonds possible

West's speculative double might have paid off, but East led the ten of diamonds and when West put up the ace declarer was home, +550 and another 12 IMPs for the Netherlands.

England's Fiona Brown had an unusual experience on the deal. She also played in 3NT doubled and when East led a club she won in dummy and played on diamonds. West ducked the first two rounds and won the third, whereupon declarer claimed nine tricks via one spade, two hearts, two clubs and four diamonds. Had she somehow forgotten about East's ten? Not at all, for she had been looking at ♠9865 ♥K732 ♦KQJ1064 ♣—. Yes, there were two diamond tens in this particular pack! (The rogue probably got left behind from a previous set.) It had to be removed from

declarer's hand and she was two down, -300.

Two things are worth noting from this episode; first, always remember to count your cards; second, West ducked two rounds of diamonds. I recall Terence Reese writing that in this type of position the average defender is more likely to duck with ace to three than ace to four, and had declarer been playing with 13 cards she would have made the contract by playing a low diamond on the third round.

Dealer West, E/W Vul

♠ A K J 10 7 3 2 ♥ A J 8 5 ♦ Q ♣ 8	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">N</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">W E</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;">S</div> </div>	♠ 9 8 ♥ Q 4 2 ♦ J 6 4 2 ♣ A 9 5 2	♠ 5 ♥ 10 9 6 ♦ K 8 5 3 ♣ K Q J 4 3
		♠ Q 6 4 ♥ K 7 3 ♦ A 10 9 7 ♣ 10 7 6	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Verhees	Zhengjun	van Prooijen	Chuancheng
1♥	All Pass		

1♥ was 10-15 with a least four hearts and a possible canapé. East's options included responding 1♠ with 3+ spades (GF) or INT with less than 3 spades (GF) or 2♣, yet again game forcing. He could also bid 2♦ as some limit. Not impressed with any of these candidates, he responded as disaffected voters do by inscribing 'none of the above' on his scorecard and passed.



JU Chuancheng

North led the nine of spades and declarer won with the ace and slipped a club past North's ace. The three of diamonds saw South go up with the ace (that one did not get away) and he returned a club, ruffed by declarer, who now played on spades, cashing the king and playing the ten. North did not ruff but declarer did and he cashed the king of diamonds and ruffed a club. North ruffed the next spade with the queen of hearts and played a diamond. Declarer ruffed with the jack of hearts and still had the ace to come, +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ruoyang	Drijver	Haojun	Brink
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
4♣	All Pass		

North led the two of hearts and declarer took South's king with the ace and played a club. North took the ace and continued with the queen of hearts and a heart to dummy's ten, but South could not ruff and declarer pitched a diamond on a club and was home, +620 and 10 IMPs to China, who certainly needed them as they trailed 33.5-90.

It's very hard to defeat 4♠ - the defenders need to score a club, a diamond and two hearts, or one heart and a spade (if declarer does not finesse). The sure way to do this is if North leads a diamond (which might have been the choice at the other table if 4♠ had been reached after the 1♥ opening). South wins with the ace and switches to a heart. North wins and must now cash the ace of clubs and exit with a spade. Now declarer must lose a second heart. Wouldn't that be a hot defence?

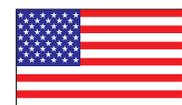
WOMEN SERIES **Final 3/3**



France

v

United States



France went into the last set of the final leading 68-39.

Dealer East, E/W Vul

♠ A 6 5 3 2	<table border="1" style="background-color: #006400; color: white; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 8 4
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ K 9	♥ 10 8 7 5										
♦ K 8 4 2	♦ 9 6 5										
♣ K 6	♣ Q J 10 9										
	♠ K Q J 9 7										
	♥ J 4 2										
	♦ A Q J 7										
	♣ 4										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Deas	Reess	Eythorsdottir	Allouche
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♦
All Pass		Pass	3NT

East led the jack of clubs.

It looks easy to make 3NT (or more) thanks to the position in hearts, but appearances are sometimes deceptive.

Declarer won with the ace and played the three of diamonds (the ten might be the better card to play) to the six, queen and two.

Then came the king and queen of spades, West taking the second round, cashing the king of clubs and switching to

the nine of hearts. Imaging the diamond king was onside declarer put up the ace and played the ten of diamonds to the jack. West pounced with the king and returned a diamond to dummy's ace. When she came in with the king of hearts she could cash the eight of diamonds.

A very fine effort by Lynn Deas.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Willard	Levitina	Cronier	Sanborn
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♥



Danièle ALLOUCHE

Here East led the queen of clubs and declarer ducked that and the next club, discarding a diamond from dummy. When West switched to a spade and East followed with the eight declarer overtook with dummy's king and played on spades, West winning the third round as declarer discarded a heart and a club. On West's spade exit declarer won in dummy, played a heart to the queen and a diamond to the jack and king. She could claim the rest, +400 and 10 IMPs to the USA, ahead 15-12 in the set.

Dealer South, Both Vul

<p>♠ A 10 4 ♥ J 2 ♦ K 7 ♣ A K 9 7 6 5</p>	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #004a00; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>♠ Q J 9 8 3 ♥ 5 4 ♦ J 6 4 3 ♣ 4 3</p>	<p>♠ 7 6 ♥ K Q 10 9 8 7 6 3 ♦ 9 5 ♣ 2</p> <p>♠ K 5 2 ♥ A ♦ A Q 10 8 2 ♣ Q J 10 8</p>
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Deas</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Allouche</i>
Pass	4♥	All Pass	1♦

East led the queen of spades and declarer played low from dummy, the trick being completed by the four and seven. When East continued with the jack of spades declarer covered with the king and West took the ace and returned the ten. Declarer ruffed and played a club to the queen and ace. Quick as a flash West returned the five of clubs, but declarer matched her for speed by discarding the five of diamonds.

Suppose West had exited with a heart at trick three?

Declarer wins, ruffs a spade and runs all her trumps to reach a three card ending. If West comes down to a singleton club she will be thrown in with it, and if she blanks the king of diamonds declarer will be able to drop it.

To be sure of defeating 4♠ East must switch to a diamond at trick two. The combination of West's overcall and North's jump to game makes me think this is not as difficult as it appears.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Willard</i>	<i>Levitina</i>	<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Sanborn</i>
2♣	4♥	All Pass	1♦

Here East led the four of clubs and West won with the ace and returned the two of hearts to dummy's ace. Declarer played the jack of clubs, covered and ruffed, drew trumps and played a diamond to the queen and king. West

could take the ace of spades but declarer had the rest, +420 and no swing.

Dealer East, Both Vul

<p>♠ 10 7 ♥ 9 7 6 4 3 ♦ 7 6 3 ♣ J 10 6</p>	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #004a00; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>♠ 8 3 ♥ K 8 5 2 ♦ K J 10 9 ♣ Q 9 5</p> <p>♠ Q 6 5 4 ♥ Q ♦ A Q 4 ♣ A 8 7 3 2</p>	<p>♠ A K J 9 2 ♥ A J 10 ♦ 8 5 2 ♣ K 4</p>
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Deas</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Allouche</i>
Pass	INT	1♣	1♠
All Pass		Pass	3NT

East led the three of clubs and declarer put up dummy's king (West following with the jack) and played a diamond to the nine and queen. East returned the two of clubs to West's ten and declarer's queen. With East poised to cash three clubs and a diamond declarer knew she had to score her tricks in the majors. She played a spade to the jack and when that held she cashed the ace. What to make of West's ten? When declarer cashed the king of spades she could only come to eight tricks, -100.

At the point where declarer cashed the king of spades it would have cost nothing to come to hand with the king of hearts. The appearance of the queen allows declarer to cash two more tricks in the suit ending in dummy. East can



Vanessa REES

discard a diamond on the second heart but must throw a club on the next one. Then declarer will surely exit with a diamond to eventually force a lead into dummy's ♠K9.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Willard</i>	<i>Levitina</i>	<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Sanborn</i>
		1♣	DbI
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

With rather less at stake, East led the three of clubs for the king and jack and declarer played a diamond to the nine and queen (it is sometimes a shot to win with the ace in this situation). When East exited with the queen of hearts declarer won with dummy's ace and played on diamonds, East taking the third round and playing ace of clubs and a club. Declarer won and played a spade to the jack, +180. That gave the USA 7 IMPs, still in with a chance.

Dealer South, None Vul

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



♠ A 7 3
♥ 9 5
♦ Q 10 7
♣ Q 7 5 4 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Deas</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Allouche</i>
			Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

When East led the five of spades declarer went up with dummy's ace and played a diamond. West pounced on that with the ace and returned the jack of spades to East's king, but that was the last trick for the defence, +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Willard</i>	<i>Levitina</i>	<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Sanborn</i>
			Pass
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
DbI	2♥	3♦	DbI
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

4♠ Cue bid

East led the six of diamonds and West put up the ace and switched to the jack of spades. That was the essential move, killing the spade entry to dummy and declarer had to go one down, -50 and 11 IMPs to France - almost certainly a match winner.

If West returns a club at trick two declarer goes up with the ace, crosses to the nine of hearts to pitch a club on the queen of diamonds and then plays all her trumps. On the last of these, East, down to ♠K9 ♣K will be looking at dummy's ♠A7 ♣Q and have to discard a spade. Then declarer pitches the club king and scores two spade tricks with the ace and queen.

Dealer East, None Vul

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



♠ —
♥ K Q J 9 8 6 5 4 2
♦ A 6 3
♣ 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Deas</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Allouche</i>
		1♠	4♥
4♠	DbI	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Willard</i>	<i>Levitina</i>	<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Sanborn</i>
		1♠	4♥
4♠	DbI	All Pass	

After these identical auctions both Souths led the king of hearts and North ruffed with the four of spades and switched to the king of diamonds. When that held the top spades ensured +100.

I confess it would not have occurred to me to pass partner's double - might it not risk a double game swing at the end of a match you think might be close?

The set was tied at 23-23 so it was France who won this well played match, 91-62.

