



HCL

42nd WORLD BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2015

CHENNAI, INDIA Sep 26th - Oct 10th

42nd Bermuda Bowl
20th Venice Cup | 8th d'Orsi Trophy
10th Transnational Open Teams

DAILY BULLETIN

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Issue No. 12

Thursday, 8th October 2015

HEARTBREAK IN CHENNAI



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WBFF officials no doubt were pleased at the huge turnout for Wednesday's Matchpoint Pairs, which attracted 229 pairs.

With one board to play on Wednesday, England was in the lead against Poland by 4.3 IMPs, poised to move into in the Bermuda Bowl final against Sweden, winners over USA 2. It was not to be, however, as the Poles came through with a 6-IMP gain to get to only the third all-European final in Bermuda Bowl history.

Venice Cup finalists are France and USA 2, and in the d'Orsi Trophy, it will be USA 1 against Sweden. Losing semifinalists in the three events will play off for the bronze medal, starting today.

Prize-giving

The Prize-giving Ceremony will be held in the **RAJENDRA HALL (Closed Room)** at precisely **19:30** on **Saturday, 10th October 2015**.

Would the captains of all teams please go to the "Victory Banquet Desk" (located at the Hospitality Desk) to collect the invitation cards for their teams.



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WITH YOU, RIGHT THROUGH

SCHEDULE

BB - VC - OT

Finals and Play-Offs

Sweden - Poland (10.5)
USA2 (3.3) - England

Finals and Play-Offs

France (1.67) - USA 2
Netherlands (5.67) - England

Finals and Play-Offs

USA 1 - Sweden (2.33)
USA 2(4.0) - Poland

Segment 1	11:00 - 13:20
Segment 2	14:30 - 16:50
Segment 3	17:20 - 19:40

Transnational

Quarter Finals

Segment 1	11:00 - 13:20
Segment 2	14:30 - 16:50
Segment 3	17:20 - 19:40

BBO and OURGAME SCHEDULE

*All matches from Bermuda Bowl,
Venice Cup and d'Orsi Trophy will be shown on BBO*

VuGraph 11:00

France v USA 2 (VC)

VuGraph 14:30

Sweden v Poland (BB)



Swiss Pair on Friday

The Friday's Pairs Tournament will be a Swiss Pairs (as scheduled).

The format will be a "Delayed Swiss" movement, eight rounds of six boards each, IMPs converted to VPs.

Here's the Time Schedule:

Morning Session

10.00	-	10.50
11.00	-	11.50
12.00	-	12.50
13.00	-	13.50

Afternoon Session

15.30	-	16.20
16.30	-	17.20
17.30	-	18.20
18.30	-	19.20

Anti Doping Tests

There will be Anti-Doping testing in both the Open and Women's categories.

All players including those "sitting out" from the Open and Women's Teams participating in the Knock Outs must be available for testing immediately following the end of the three sessions (i.e. at 13.20, 16.50 and 19.40) on Friday and at the end of all three sessions on Saturday.

A list of players who are selected for testing will be published on information sheets which will be on a notice boards outside the playing area. Players must not leave the area without checking these sheets.

Paolo Walter Gabriele & Jaap Stomphorst
WBF Medical and Prevention Commission



Quote Unquote

By Mark Horton

Do you recall Bob Hamman's remark that 'the best play badly and the rest are awful'?

What do you make of this deal from the second session of the Finals?

Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

With the exception of the French women, who played in 3♣, the entire field attempted 4♠ on the EW cards.

Everyone got a heart lead and winning with the ace meant that declarer was likely to play a spade at trick two, thereby avoiding the possible loss of two trump tricks.

After taking the ace of spades and a heart South inevitably switched to a diamond, leaving declarer to work out how to avoid the possible loss of two tricks in the minors.

Two declarers drew trumps and played two rounds of diamonds, hoping that if South won, one of the club honours would be well placed. Not today and they went down.

Everyone else went after the clubs, usually playing low to the jack (One rogue started by leading the jack of clubs.) subsequently getting rid of a losing diamond.

However, there is a stronger line in the club suit, which affords an 83.85% chance of scoring three tricks.

Declarer should start by cashing the ace; on the second round, you lead low towards the jack.

The bidding on this deal would have tended to eliminate the possibility that North had started with a singleton queen of clubs, but this combination is worth remembering!

Duplimates



The Duplimate dealing machines that will be taken back to Sweden after the Championships have already been pre-ordered. You can, however, buy a new (not used) Duplimate for Euro 2200 + shipping from Sweden till the end of the Championships. Please email bridge@jannersten.com

Venice Cup Semi-Final S2 & S3



England v France



By Brian Senior

Segment 2

France led their Venice Cup semi-final against England by 9 IMPs going into set two. England had pulled 1 IMP back to trail by 30-38 when this opportunity came along.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Brock</i>	<i>Willard</i>	<i>Smith</i>
–	Pass	Pass	2♥
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

For France, Joanna Zochowska opened 1♥ in third seat and Heather Dhondy overcalled 1♠. When Nevena Senior made an unassuming cuebid, showing a constructive raise to at least 2♠, Dhondy jumped to game. In the other room Nicola Smith, for England, could open a level higher, a constructive weak two in the range of 7-12, and Benedicte Cronier also overcalled. However, when Sylvie Willard also made a cuebid raise, Cronier did not feel that she had enough to spare for her two-level overcall to accept the game try and signed off in 3♠.

Sally Brock led a heart against 3♠. Cronier won the ace and led a low spade, the ace hopping up on her right. Smith returned the two of diamonds, Cronier winning, drawing trumps, and exiting with a heart. Back came a diamond so she won and exited again, this time in diamonds, to force the defence to open up clubs. As the cards lay, there was

no benefit to be gained from the endplay and the defence also came to a club trick; just made for +140.

Play followed exactly the same line at the other table, where Dhondy was in game, so she too made nine tricks and was down one for –50 and 5 IMPs to France, whose lead was 43-30.

The elimination line is 75% – succeeding if either club honour was in front of the ace-jack. I confess that I thought it was a close thing whether this was better or worse than playing on clubs for three tricks in the hope of setting up a discard for the diamond loser, with my feeling being that playing on clubs was marginally better. Well, I was right about playing on clubs being better than the elimination play, but the margin of its superiority was much more than I expected. My fellow editor, Mark Horton, put this suit combination through a piece of software and came up with a figure of over 83% for playing on clubs. The best line in isolation is to cash the ace of clubs in case of a bare queen with North, cross to the East hand and lead a low club towards the jack. If that loses to the queen with North, you next cash the king.

Obviously, that might be affected by the auction – here we know that South has the longer hearts but only a singleton spade – and on occasion declarer might view to take a third-round finesse against North, playing him for queen-ten to four.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
–	–	–	INT
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Brock	Willard	Smith
–	–	–	1♦
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Smith opened 1♦, unbalanced, and Cronier overcalled 2♣. When Willard cuebid, good club support or a general force, Cronier showed her six-five by jumping to 3♠ and Willard raised to game. Brock led the jack of diamonds. Cronier won the ace, cashed the queen of clubs and, knowing where most of the missing high cards were because of the opening bid, next led the jack of spades and ran it. She continued by simply drawing trumps and conceding a trick in each minor; +650.

Zochowska opened INT, 14-16, and Dhondy overcalled 2♦, spades and any other suit. Senior inquired and discovered that her partner held at least five clubs. She introduced her own suit now and Dhondy in turn bid the spades. Perhaps she intended that to show the fifth card, but Senior thought that she might have bid spades here simply because she could not bid no trump and didn't want to go past that game when no fit had been found. Senior rebid the hearts and Dhondy gave up before the apparent misfit took them even higher.

There was an inference to be drawn from East's auction in that an immediate 3♥ over 2♦ would have been natural and game-forcing, so perhaps the delayed heart bidding indicated a less robust suit, but it was all rather murky. My experience playing this Aspro convention is that it is generally fine for disturbing INT and getting to a playable partscore, but difficult to use on potential game hands if a fit is not found immediately.

In 4♥, Senior won the diamond lead and played the queen of clubs, overtaking to take a diamond discard on the second club. Next she ruffed a diamond and played the heart king, continuing to play hearts whenever she regained the lead in hope of splitting the suit or finding Qx or Jx with North. As the cards lay, there were four trump tricks to be lost, so the contract was down one for -100 and 13 IMPs to France. The lead was up to 56-30, and it had moved on to 62-31 as we reached this next deal.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	Reess	Senior	Zochowska
–	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Brock	Willard	Smith
–	Pass	Pass	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Cronier's INT opening got the hand played from the right hand for the French. Willard used Stayman then invited game in no trump and Cronier accepted. Brock led the two of clubs to the six, eight and nine. Cronier led a spade to dummy to play a heart towards her king. When the king held she played a second heart to the queen and ace, won the club return and, when hearts proved to be three-three, had ten tricks for +630.

Dhondy opened 1♦, unbalanced, and followed up by showing her five-four distribution. I suppose Senior could have given false preference to 2♦, but it seemed normal enough to bid INT and now a club lead would have beaten 3NT. Indeed, even 2NT was a level too high, on a club lead, but Zochowska chose the ten of spades and now Senior had time to knock out the heart and come to nine tricks for +150 but 10 IMPs to France, who now led by 72-31.

Just when everything seemed to be going wrong for England, they gained a badly needed swing, and it was a big one.


Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ A 2		
	♥ Q 10 4		
	♦ Q 9 7 4 3		
	♣ J 10 8		
♠ K 7 5 4		♠ Q 10 9 6	
♥ A K J 7 3		♥ 9 8	
♦ A		♦ 6 5 2	
♣ 9 6 2		♣ A K Q 5	
	♠ J 8 3		
	♥ 6 5 2		
	♦ K J 10 8		
	♣ 7 4 3		
West	North	East	South
Dhondy	Reess	Senior	Zochowska
–	–	–	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Dble	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♠	All Pass

played a diamond up, intending to rely on a second trump finesse, and Vanessa Reess won that and returned the three of clubs to the jack. There was still a second spade to be lost, and that was down one for -50 and 10 IMPs to France, up by 88-46.

Minor swings in each direction moved the running score on to 91-49 at the midpoint in the set, when along came the next significant swing deal.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Draper</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
–	2♥	Pass	3♥
Dble	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Willard</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
–	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Dble	Pass	INT
2♦	Dble	Pass	Pass
3♦	Dble	3♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			


Reess could open 2♥ to show a weak hand with at least five-five in hearts and a minor and Zochowska raised preemptively to 3♥. When Draper made a take-out double, it looked natural for Brown to respond 3NT, where she played. Zochowska led the jack of hearts to dummy's bare king and Brown played on clubs. North's second suit was known to be diamonds so Zochowska won the first club and played ace and another diamond and that gave the defence five tricks in the suit for two down and -200.

Senior did not have the weak two-suiter in her armoury so passed as North and Willard opened 1♣. Senior doubled the 1♣ response to show the red suits and doubled again when Cronier cuebid 2♦ to ask for further information. Discovering that they held game values but no diamond stopper, the French E/W bid all the way to 5♣. Alas, this was just as hopeless as 3NT would have been, with three top diamond losers plus the ace of clubs, and Dhondy, looking at two aces and trump length facing a partner who had joined in the auction, doubled. That meant -500 after ace and another diamond lead, for 7 IMPs to

England; 56-91.

England picked up another small swing to close to 59-91 but then France gained points on this next deal.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Draper</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
INT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Willard</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Draper's 1♣ could have been a doubleton and the 1♦ response showed hearts. It is the English style to rebid INT, showing the hand-type and strength immediately, rather than showing the four-card spade suit, and that put Draper into an inferior partscore.

Reess led the ten of diamonds to the jack and king and Draper led a spade for the nine, jack and queen. She ducked the return of the queen of diamonds and Zochowska switched to a low club. Now Draper erred, carelessly playing low so that Reess could force one of dummy's honours – playing the nine from hand would have earned Draper three club winners. Reess won the next spade and led a club through, Draper ducking the ten. Alive to the danger of being endplayed to lead hearts, Zochowska cashed the king of spades before returning a club to declarer's ace. When Draper now took the heart finesse Zochowska won and had the thirteenth club for the setting trick; -50.

Cronier opened 1♦ and rebid 1♠ so the four-four fit was found. Willard's raise to 3♠ put her partner a level higher than was ideal. Senior led the six of clubs to the queen, king and ace and Cronier ran the jack of hearts to the king, won the diamond return and led the two of spades to the nine, ten and queen. Back came a second diamond. Cronier won and played a second spade to Senior's ace. She played back a club but it was too late. Cronier won the jack and cashed the ace and queen of hearts for a club discard and could crossruff, losing only the king of spades; nine tricks for +140 and 5 IMPs to France. The lead increased once more to 96-59.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 5 2 ♥ 5 2 ♦ A K Q 8 6 5 ♣ Q 10 9	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4CAF50; 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	♠ K 10 4 ♥ Q 7 ♦ J 10 3 2 ♣ K J 5 4	♠ Q 3 ♥ K J 10 9 4 3 ♦ 7 ♣ A 8 6 2
N						
W E						
S						
♠ A J 9 8 7 6 ♥ A 8 6 ♦ 9 4 ♣ 7 3						

West	North	East	South
Draper	Reess	Brown	Zochowska
–	–	Pass	1♠
2♥	3♦	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
–	–	Pass	2♠
3♥	3♠	4♥	All Pass

There was a lot of bidding going on at our first table, where Brown tried 3NT when, despite her 10 HCP, she might have suspected that Draper was bidding because of a long suit more than on high-card strength. After all, there had been a one-level opening on her left and a freely bid 3♦ on her right. Perhaps a double or even a quiet 3♥ would have been better advised?

Zochowska led the nine of diamonds. Reess won the queen and cashed the king before switching to the nine of clubs. Brown rose with the king and played on hearts while retaining a club entry to the dummy. Zochowska waited until the third round to take his heart ace and returned a club. Brown ducked to the queen and Reess cashed the ace



Catherine Draper, England

of diamonds then led a spade to the ace; down two for –300. It could have been so much worse, of course, had Reess either ducked the first trick, down three, or won it and switched to a spade, down four!

Dhondy opened with a weak two bid – the fact that Zochowska judged the hand to be too good for a weak two, a 3-6-2-2 nine-count, says a lot about the way in which weak two bids have become devalued over the years – and Cronier overcalled. When Senior competed with 3♠, Willard could see a likely single spade stopper but, unlike the other table, had no reason to suspect a lack of all-round values. She raised to 4♥ and that ended the auction.

Senior led the king of diamonds then continued with a hopeful diamond queen. No, Cronier ruffed that and played on trumps and there were just the major-suit aces to be lost; ten tricks for +420 and 12 IMPs to France, leading by 108-60.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ 10 6 3 ♥ K 10 2 ♦ A 10 7 4 2 ♣ 6 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4CAF50; 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	♠ J 8 4 2 ♥ A 9 ♦ K Q 6 5 ♣ J 7 5	♠ K 7 ♥ Q 8 7 4 ♦ 9 3 ♣ A 9 8 4 3
N						
W E						
S						
♠ A Q 9 5 ♥ J 6 5 3 ♦ J 8 ♣ K Q 10						

West	North	East	South
Draper	Reess	Brown	Zochowska
–	–	–	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
–	–	–	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	INT
All Pass			

Both Souths opened 1♣ and again we saw the difference in style on balanced minimum openings where England rebid INT to show the hand-type while France showed the hearts. That led to the same contract being played from different sides of the table.

Reess played INT from the North hand and Brown went for the dynamic lead of the ace of hearts. Dynamic, but unsuccessful. She continued with the nine of hearts round to declarer's ten and Reess led the ten of spades, running it when Brown played low, and losing to the king. She won the heart return and led a spade to the nine, picking up three spade tricks then playing the king of clubs from the dummy. Draper won that and cashed her queen of hearts

bur Reess had eight tricks now for +120.

Playing from South, Dhondy received the rather more challenging lead of a low club to the jack and queen. She led a heart to the ten and ace, and back came the seven of clubs to the ten and ace. Cronier played a third club to clear the suit and Dhondy crossed to the king of hearts to lead a spade to her queen, losing to the king. Cronier cashed the clubs then exited with a diamond. Dhondy won the ace and led the ten of spades to the jack and ace. She cashed the spade nine but that was all; six tricks for down one and -100, giving 6 IMPs to France. They led by 114-60.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Draper</i>	<i>Reess</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Zochowska</i>
1♥	1♠	2♥	3♥
4♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Willard</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
1♥	1♠	2♥	3♣
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Both Norths overcalled 1♠ and both Easts raised to 2♥. Now Zochowska cuebid to show a constructive spade raise while Dhondy preferred to introduce the clubs. When the respective Wests went on to 4♥, Zochowska was willing to defend as she had already clearly shown her spade support, while Dhondy came again with 4♠, doubled in pass-out seat by Willard.

Four Hearts can be defeated if North leads anything other than a spade, but why should North look to any suit other than the one his partner had supported to the three level? Reess duly led a spade round to Draper's tenace and declarer won the queen then played the king of hearts, losing just one heart and two diamonds for a straightforward +620.

England were booked for a useful pick-up on the board, its size to be decided by how Senior got on in 4♠ doubled. The lead was the two of hearts, showing an odd number which was almost certain to mean the suit was seven-three. Senior won the ace and led a low spade up, intending to put in the ten. Cronier took a long time to play low so Senior changed her mind and put up the king because the ace was obviously marked on her right. She continued with a heart ruff followed by a club to the king and ace. Willard returned a diamond, so Senior called for the queen. Now she played the jack of spades and Cronier won the queen then played back a diamond to dummy's ace. When Cronier was able to ruff the next club, declarer was left with no further entry to the club winners and had to concede two diamonds at the end for down two and -300. That meant 8 IMPs to England, but it could have been more. They trailed by 68-114 overnight. There were another 48 boards to play the next day.

Senior would have made her contract easily had she stuck to her original intention to lead to the ten at trick two. She could still have succeeded at the point where she played the jack of spades, had she instead played the queen of clubs. West ruffs and returns a diamond to dummy's ace but declarer simply plays another club winner and West is powerless. As a side issue, would you even play a spade at trick two, or is it better to play on clubs immediately?

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The Man who would be King (BB SF2&3)



England v Poland



By Mark Horton

John Huston's «The Man Who Would Be King» is swashbuckling adventure, pure and simple, from the hand of a master. It's unabashed and thrilling and fun. The movie invites comparison with the great action films like "Gunga Din" and "Mutiny on the Bounty", and with Huston's own classic "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre": We get strong characterizations, we get excitement, we even get to laugh every once in a while.

Huston's casting of Michael Caine and Sean Connery is exactly right. They work together so well, they interact so easily and with such camaraderie, that watching them is a pleasure.

The movie proceeds with impossible coincidences, untold riches, romances and betrayals, heroic last words and - best of all - some genuinely witty scenes between Connery and Caine, and when it's over we haven't learned a single thing worth knowing and there's not even a moral, to speak of, but we've had fun.

Success at bridge requires a perfect partnership and when you are following a match you may experience many different emotions. You may not learn anything of value but if the deals are exciting you may sometimes have a lot of fun.

Join me now as we take a look at the second and third sessions of one of the Bermuda Bowl semifinals.

Poland led 41-25 and immediately increased their advantage:



Tony Forrester, England

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gold	Kalita	Bakhshi	Nowosadzki
	1♣	Pass	1♦
1♥	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

When East rejected INT in favour of 2♦ the auction was out of control. With his hearts perfectly poised North did not hesitate to pull the trigger.

South led the six of spades and declarer won with dummy's jack, played a diamond to the ace and a diamond to the ten. After cashing his winners declarer was out of ammunition, two down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Robson	Gawrys	Forrester
	1♣*	Pass	Pass
1♥	2♣	Dble*	4♣
Dble	All Pass		
1♣	5+♣ or 4414 short ♦ (<17) 11-14 balanced or 18-19 balanced		

Forrester could not respond 1♦ as it would have been a transfer to hearts and bidding 2♣ would have promised a game forcing hand with five diamonds.

No doubt readers of The Times (where Andrew Robson writes a daily column on bridge) will soon be enlightened as to the rationale behind his rebid.

East led the jack of hearts and declarer won with the queen and played the seven of spades, West winning with the ten and switching to the nine of clubs for the ten, jack and king. Declarer played a heart to the ten and exited with a spade, West taking the queen and returning the king, East winning with the ace and exiting with a club. Declarer won in hand and played a diamond and East went up with the ace and played another club. Declarer won in hand and played the established spade, ruffed by East and overruffed

in dummy. Declarer ruffed a diamond, cashed the ace of hearts and gave up a heart for two down, -300 and 12 IMPs to Poland.

Board 28. Dealer West. EW Vul.

<p>♠ K J ♥ A K J 8 5 ♦ A 8 7 4 ♣ J 9</p>	<p>♠ Q 10 9 8 6 ♥ Q 6 4 3 ♦ J 9 5 ♣ 5</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">N W E S</div> </div>	<p>♠ 5 3 2 ♥ 10 2 ♦ K Q 2 ♣ A 8 7 3 2</p>
	<p>♠ A 7 4 ♥ 9 7 ♦ 10 6 3 ♣ K Q 10 6 4</p>	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gold	Kalita	Bakhshi	Nowosadzki
1♥	Pass	1♠*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
1♠	0-4 spades		
2♣	Diamonds		

North led the ten of spades and South won with the ace and returned the four, declarer winning with the king as North innocently followed with the six of spades.

Declarer crossed to hand with a diamond and played a heart to the jack. North took the queen and cashed his spades for one down, +50.

Double dummy fans will have spotted that declarer can make 3NT once North has failed to retain the six of spades - after cashing four diamonds and the ace of clubs declarer exits with a spade to endplay North.



Michal Nowosadzki, Poland

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Robson	Gawrys	Forrester
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the king of clubs and declarer won and played a heart to the jack. North ducked that, but declarer continued with three more rounds of the suit and exited with the jack of diamonds. Declarer won with the king, cashed the queen of diamonds and played a spade to the king - that led to ten tricks, +430 and 10 IMPs to Poland who led 70-32.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

<p>♠ A K 6 3 ♥ K 3 ♦ Q 10 9 4 3 ♣ A 9</p>	<p>♠ 7 2 ♥ 7 6 2 ♦ A 7 5 2 ♣ K 7 4 2</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">N W E S</div> </div>	<p>♠ Q J 5 ♥ Q J 8 5 4 ♦ J 6 ♣ J 10 6</p>
	<p>♠ 10 9 8 4 ♥ A 10 9 ♦ K 8 ♣ Q 8 5 3</p>	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gold	Kalita	Bakhshi	Nowosadzki
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The old adage of 'leading fourth best of your longest and strongest' works here - as long as South wins and switches to a club. But North correctly (in my view) led a club. When declarer put up the jack South withheld his queen and declarer played on hearts, the 3-3 break giving him an overtrick, +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Robson	Gawrys	Forrester
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

North led the seven of spades and declarer won with dummy's queen and played a heart to the king and a heart to the queen and ace. South switched to the king of diamonds and three rounds of the suit allowed South to score his ten of hearts, but declarer had the rest, +140 but 10 welcome IMPs to England.

Poland took the set 29-23 to lead 70-48.

Now let's move on to the last set of the day:

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ 10 7 6 2 ♥ A K ♦ K Q 9 7 4 ♣ Q 4	♠ 8 5 ♥ J 8 3 ♦ A 10 8 6 2 ♣ K 10 3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ K Q 3 ♥ 9 7 5 4 ♦ J 5 ♣ J 7 6 5	♠ A J 9 4 ♥ Q 10 6 2 ♦ 3 ♣ A 9 8 2
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Kalita	Robson	Nowosadzki
		1♣	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
1♣	5+♣ or 4414 short ♦ (<17) 11-14 balanced or 18-19 balanced		
2♣	Game forcing, 5+ diamonds		

North led the eight of hearts for the two, four and ace. Declarer played the king of diamonds and North took the ace and switched to the three of clubs. Declarer went up with dummy's ace, played a heart to the king, cashed the queen of diamonds and ruffed a diamond with the nine of spades. South overruffed, cashed a club and waited for his second trump trick, one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Gold	Gawrys	Bakhshi
		1♣*	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass
1♣	12-14 PC, balanced or 4-4-1-4 distribution or 15+ PC, natural; or 18+PC, any		
2♦	5+♦ four in major possible		

North led the three of hearts and declarer won, unblocked the hearts and played the queen of diamonds. North took the ace and switched to the three of clubs and declarer elected to let it run to his queen after which he was in clover. He cashed a diamond pitching a club, crossed to the ace of clubs, cashed the queen of hearts and the ace of spades and played a second spade, claiming +620 and 10 IMPs to Poland.

Having unblocked the hearts, as the cards lie declarer can also get home by rising with the ace of clubs and then pitching a club on the queen of hearts.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

♠ A Q 6 5 ♥ A K 9 5 ♦ 7 5 ♣ 9 6 5	♠ 2 ♥ 7 3 2 ♦ Q 9 8 6 4 3 ♣ Q 10 4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 9 8 7 3 ♥ J 10 6 4 ♦ 10 2 ♣ J 3 2	♠ K J 10 4 ♥ Q 8 ♦ A K J ♣ A K 8 7
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Kalita	Robson	Nowosadzki
		2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♠*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
6♥*	Pass	7♠	All Pass
3♣	Stayman		
4♥	Slam try for spades		
4NT	RKCB		
5♠	2 + ♠Q		
6♥	♥K no minor king		

I was following the match on BBO, but as is often the case I was momentarily distracted. Having seen East open 2NT and West respond 3♣ I discovered that a power cut had somehow removed the auction.

By the time I discovered this, play had already started in session four, so there was no way to ask the players. However, Roland Wald had been commentating on the match and as he was also covering it he was able to enlighten me.

South led the nine of spades and, as you might imagine this particular declarer took some time to play the hand, eventually, having ruffed a heart, cashed the top clubs and a top diamond and drawn trumps, taken the diamond finesse for a majestic +2210.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Gold	Gawrys	Bakhshi
		2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
4♦*	Pass	4♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		
2NT	(19)20-21(22) balanced (semibalanced)		
3♣	Puppet Stayman		
4♦	Both majors, slammish		

Here declarer ruffed a heart to get up to twelve tricks, +1430 and

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

♠ 6 5 ♥ 9 7 6 4 3 ♦ K Q 10 6 5 ♣ 9	<div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K Q 9 ♥ A Q 8 5 ♦ 9 8 3 ♣ J 10 4	♠ 10 7 3 2 ♥ J 10 2 ♦ A 2 ♣ A 8 5 3
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Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 5 2 ♥ 5 2 ♦ A K Q 8 6 5 ♣ Q 10 9	<div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K 10 4 ♥ Q 7 ♦ J 10 3 2 ♣ K J 5 4	♠ A J 9 8 7 6 ♥ A 8 6 ♦ 9 4 ♣ 7 3
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Kalita	Robson	Nowosadzki
	2♥*	Pass	3♥
Dble	Pass	3NT	All Pass
2♥ 5/5+♥ and other, 54 poss. with m NV			

South led the jack of hearts and North followed with the nine as declarer won perforce with dummy's king. The king of clubs took the next trick and declarer, who could hardly imagine that he could score three more tricks in hearts, played a spade to the king followed by the ten of clubs. When South with held his ace declarer claimed his contract without bothering to play off the hearts, +600. (My advice - never claim!)

Charge those points to South, who should surely have taken the ace of clubs and tried the ace of diamonds and a diamond.

Mind you, it would have been impressive if declarer had cashed out after South had ducked the first club - how would North have felt then about his play of the nine of hearts?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Gold	Gawrys	Bakhshi
	2♥*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♥	All Pass	
2♥ 5♥/4+m weak NV			

3♦ Invitational in hearts

East started with three rounds of spades and declarer ruffed and played three rounds of diamonds, pitching a spade from dummy. he had chances of escaping for one down at this point by either playing a diamond or crossing to the ace of clubs and ruffing a club first, but he played a trump and West won with the king and switched to the king of clubs. Declarer took dummy's ace and played the ten of hearts, but East won and forced declarer with a club, ensuring three down, -150, still 10 IMPs for England.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Kalita	Robson	Nowosadzki
		Pass	2♦*
2♥	2♠	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
All Pass			
2♦ 6+♥/♠ 5-11HCP			

East led the queen of hearts and declarer won with dummy's ace and ducked a spade to East's ten. When the four of spades was returned declarer won with dummy's ace and went after the diamonds, cashing three winners pitching a heart and then played a fourth diamond, ruffing East's jack and exited with a spade. The defenders still had a heart and two clubs to come, one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Gold	Gawrys	Bakhshi
		Pass	Pass
1♥	2♦	Dble*	2♠
3♥	Pass	3NT	Dble
All Pass			

If West was trying to show a weak hand when he bid 3♥ the message was not received by East.

South led the nine of diamonds and North won with the queen and switched to the five of spades, covered by the ten, jack and queen. Declarer cashed the ace of clubs, played a club to the jack, cashed two more clubs ending in dummy and played the king of hearts. South won with the ace and played a diamond and after taking two diamonds North played a spade giving South the last four tricks, four down, -800 and 13 IMPs to England.

By taking the set 40-29 England had closed to within 11 IMPs.

Brilliant Opportunity

By Mark Horton

For the superstitious, this was deal number 13 of the second session of the Finals:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ A 4 3 ♥ A K 6 4 2 ♦ K 7 ♣ K 10 2	<div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 10px; 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>	♠ K 5 ♥ 9 8 5 ♦ A Q 6 5 4 3 2 ♣ 3	♠ J 10 9 7 6 ♥ 10 3 ♦ 9 ♣ Q J 9 6 5
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zwerling	Rosenberg	Tolliver	Zia
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

South led the jack of spades and declarer won in hand with the ace, drew trumps, South pitching two clubs, and played the three of clubs. Zia put up the queen and declarer made the natural but fatal play of covering with the king. North took the ace and returned the two of spades and there was no way for declarer to arrive at more than eleven tricks.

The winning play is to duck the queen of clubs.

If South returns a spade declarer takes dummy's ace, ruffs a spade and plays trumps, discarding hearts from dummy. The penultimate one sees North, down to ♥QJ7 ♣A8 caught in a trump squeeze.

6♦ was attempted at only one other table:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Upmark	Wooldridge	Nystrom
	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass
2♦	5-10 usually a six card suit		
2♥	Forcing		
4♣	Splinter		

An auction to admire.

South led the nine of spades and declarer went wrong immediately by going up with dummy's ace. He drew

trumps, South pitching a club and a spade and after a fourth trump, South and North throwing clubs, he played his club.

South covered with the jack and declarer ducked.

Now it was essential that South play a heart, removing a vital entry from the dummy. When he played a second spade declarer won with the king, cashed a diamond pitching a spade and then played another diamond, reducing dummy to ♥AK ♣K10.

North, down to ♥QJ7 ♣A8 was caught.

Pitching a heart allows declarer to cash the ace king and return to hand with a club ruff to cash a heart, while parting with a club allows the ace of clubs to be ruffed out and there is an entry to dummy to cash it.

The most beautiful variation in 6♦ arises when South leads a club honour. If declarer covers, North wins and plays a club (as good as anything). Declarer ruffs and plays five rounds of trumps to reach this ending:

♠ A 4 3 ♥ A K ♦ — ♣ 10	<div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 10px; 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>	♠ K 5 ♥ 9 8 5 ♦ 4 ♣ —	♠ Q 8 2 ♥ Q J 7 ♦ — ♣ — ♠ J 10 9 ♥ 10 ♦ — ♣ J 9
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Declarer crosses to the ace of hearts and cashes the king, South discarding a club. Declarer returns to hand with the king of spades to reach this ending:

♠ A 4 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ 10	<div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 10px; 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>	♠ 5 ♥ 5 ♦ 4 ♣ — ♠ J 10 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ J	♠ Q 8 ♥ Q ♦ — ♣ —
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When the last trump is played South must part with a spade.

Having done its work the ten of clubs goes from dummy and North must also throw a spade, allowing declarer to scoop up the last two tricks with the ace and four of spades.

Venice Cup SF 4



England v France



By Brian Senior

France slept well on a 46-IMP lead but, with 48 boards still to play, there was plenty of work left to do if they were to take their place in the final of the Venice Cup. However, the second day started very well from a French point of view.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
–	Pass	Pass	INT
2♣	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
–	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Vanessa Reess passed the North hand, so Joanna Zochowska opened INT, 14-16, as South, and Sally Brock overcalled 2♣, majors, but the intervention was brushed aside by Reess who simply raised to 3NT. Brock did the natural thing, leading her stronger major. The jack of hearts was won in dummy with the king. Zochowska crossed to hand with a top spade to lead the eight of diamonds, beginning a careful unblocking procedure, to the queen, king and ace. The five of hearts return was covered by the six and seven, but now Brock could not continue hearts so tried a spade. Zochowska won the queen and led a diamond to the nine and her ten, then switched her attention to clubs, leading the king from hand. Brock won the ace and returned a spade. Zochowska won and played the seven of diamonds to Smith's jack and had the rest; nine tricks for +400.

Nevena Senior opened the North hand with 1♣ then rebid INT, 11-14, and was raised to game. With East on

lead things were rather different. Sylvie Willard led the seven of clubs to the king and ace and Benedicte Cronier returned the club eight. Senior won that but, with no option but to play on diamonds if she wanted to come close to nine tricks, Willard got in twice to set up then cash the clubs and the contract was down two for -100 and 11 IMPs to France, extending the lead to 125-68.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
–	–	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
–	–	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Behind in the match, Smith went for an aggressive 3♦ preempt and Brock responded 3♥, non-forcing for this pair when not vulnerable. That bought the contract and Reess led the ace of diamonds followed by the ace of hearts then back to the king of diamonds. Brock ruffed and cashed the king of hearts, getting the bad news. She switched her attention to spades now, playing the king, which held the trick as Reess unblocked the jack. A second spade went to the nine and ten and Zochowska continued with the ace of spades. Brock could make only her hearts so was down three for -150.

Dhondy could open 2♥ to show a weak hand with both majors, at least five-five. Senior asked, heard that her partner was minimum with no diamond void, and signed off in 3♠, only to find herself raised to game as Dhondy liked her sixth spade. Willard led her singleton heart to declarer's ace. Senior played ace of clubs then ruffed one to get to dummy to ruff a heart. That was over-ruffed and back came a diamond. Senior won, ruffed another club and

ruffed a heart with her last trump, this time over-ruffed with the queen. Willard returned her last trump so declarer was stranded in dummy and had to lose a trump and two hearts for down two; -200 and 8 IMPs to France, 133-68.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
-	-	-	1♣
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
-	-	-	INT
2♦	Dble	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Zochowska opened 1♣ and Brock overcalled 2♥, which looks normal to me. That was passed back to Zochowska who doubled, and Reess was delighted to leave it in. Reess led the five of spades to the jack and queen and Zochowska cashed the king of clubs then continued with the jack, ruffed. Brock led a diamond to then ten, king and ace and back came a heart. Brock put in the queen, losing to the king, and Reess returned the four of spades to the king and ace. Zochowska played the nine of hearts in an attempt to reduce the number of small trumps declarer could make by ruffing. Brock won the jack and led her low spade to dummy's nine, Reess discarding her remaining diamond. A club ruff was followed by a diamond but Reess could ruff that and Brock just made her ace and eight of trumps so was down two for -500.

Dhondy opened INT, 15-17, and Cronier overcalled 2♦, one major. Senior doubled, take-out of diamonds, and Dhondy jumped to 3♠ to show her maximum, Senior converting to 3NT. Cronier led the eight of diamonds to the queen and ace, hopped up with the ace on Dhondy's heart play, and continued with her second diamond. Willard won the king and played back a diamond to declarer's jack. Dhondy cashed four clubs and the king of hearts then, as Cronier had discarded hearts, exited with a heart to force a spade lead into the ace-queen. Dhondy had her contract

but no more; +400 but 3 IMPs to France, whose lead was beginning to look ominous from an English point of view at 136-68.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
1♣	Pass	3♦	3♠
3NT	Pass	5♦	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
INT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♦	All Pass

Cronier opened INT, 15-17, and Willard jumped to 3♣, transfer to diamonds. She passed Cronier's completion of the transfer but, when Dhondy balanced with 3♠, competed to 4♦, where she played. Senior led the three of spades to the queen and ace and Cronier took a second top spade to get rid of dummy's heart losers. There was one loser in each minor; +150.

Brock opened 1♣, two-plus cards, and Smith responded 3♦, pre-emptive. When Brock converted that to 3NT, Smith



Bénédicte Cronier, France

judged to jump to the diamond game. as the cards lie, 3NT cannot be defeated, though it is perhaps somewhat fortunate, while 5♦ should be beaten, suggesting that Smith's decision was a losing one.

Zochowska cashed the ace of hearts – a good start for the defence as on a different lead the hearts might have gone away on the top spades as in the other room – then switched to the king of clubs. Smith won the ace while following with the four from hand. She continued by cashing the ace and king of spades and discarding the nine and jack of clubs from hand, keeping the three concealed. Next she played the queen of diamonds. Reess ducked that but had to win the next diamond. Completely taken in by declarer's club plays, she did not cash the setting trick but instead returned a spade. Smith ruffed and ran the diamonds. With North guarding the clubs and South the spades, it was a classic double squeeze ending in which neither defender would be able to keep two hearts, making dummy's ♥7 the game-going trick. But Smith didn't spot it and threw the heart away and was done down for -50 and 5 IMPs to France when it could have been 6 IMPs to England. France led by 141-75 at the midpoint in the fourth set.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
–	–	–	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♦	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
–	–	–	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Rdbl	3♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Zochowska's 2♦ opening was weak in an unspecified major or strong and balanced. Two Hearts was pass or correct and, when Brock made a balancing double and Smith responded 3♦, Reess was not prepared to be pushed to the three level so chose to defend. After a club lead there were nine tricks for +110.

Dhondy's 2♦ opening was either weak in hearts or strong in a minor and 2♥ was again pass or correct. However, Senior showed more respect for her partner's weak two bids and competed, first with a redouble then by bidding 3♥ over 3♦. Dhondy had a very suitable hand for Senior and, after the lead of the ten of spades to dummy's queen had been ducked by Cronier, declarer lost one trick in each suit; +140 and 6 IMPs to England, who needed them; 81-141.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
–	Pass	1♣	Dble
1♦	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
–	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Willard did not open the East hand. Though it contains a good five-card suit and usefully placed tens and nines, E/W are vulnerable and that kind of opening is not her style. Left to themselves, Senior/Dhondy saw no reason to go beyond the two level and there and made ten tricks for +170.

Smith opened the East hand with 1♣, possibly only two cards and Zochowska doubled. Brock transferred to hearts and Reess jumped to 2♠. Brock could have left her opponents to play in their partscore but didn't expect them to have missed a good game and did have second five-card suit to offer. She competed with 3♣ and Reess took the push to 3♠. Now Zochowska re-evaluated her hand and went on to game.

A diamond lead allows the defence to take the first three tricks with the spade king to come, but who would find that? Smith led a heart which Reess won in hand with the queen. She played ace and another spade, Smith winning the king and getting off play with her third trump. It all depended on the ten of diamonds and, with East likely to have the length after West's actions in the bidding, Reess

started them with a low card to the jack and king. On regaining the lead, she led the six of diamonds to the eight and, when that forced the ace, had her game for +620 and 10 IMPs to France. They led by 151-81.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
–	–	–	Pass
Pass INT	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Reess opened INT, 14-16, and played there for two down and –200 – we do not have the play record.

Senior was playing a 15-17 no trump so opened 1♣ then raised the 1♠ response to 2♠. Cronier led the six of hearts, run to the king, and Willard switched to a diamond, also run to the king. Dhondy won the diamond continuation with the ace and led a spade to the ten and king. Back came



Nevena Senior, England

a third diamond, so she ruffed and led a club to the nine and king, won the heart return and drew trumps ending in hand. Finally, she led a club towards the queen and had eight tricks for +110 and 7 IMPs to England; 88-151.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
1♦	Dble	Rdbl	1♠
2♦	4♠	Dble	
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
1♦	Dble	1♥	1♠
2♦	4♠	Dble	All Pass

Both Easts redoubled to show strength and both Wests rebid their diamonds to show a poor hand. However, that did not discourage either Smith or Willard, both of whom doubled the opposing game.

Cronier led the king of diamonds. Dhondy won dummy's ace and led a low spade off the table, Willard going in with the queen. She played back a diamond to force dummy to ruff but that did Dhondy no harm at all. She took the ruff, threw her last diamond on the ace of hearts, and played the king of clubs. There were two more trumps to lose plus the club ace, and that was down one for –100.

Brock too led the king of diamonds to dummy's ace but Zochowska followed a different line of play. She cashed the top hearts to dispose of her remaining diamonds, ruffed a heart and played a club up. Brock went in with the ace and declarer did not unblock the king. Brock returned the queen of diamonds, seeing that the ruff and discard could hardly do any harm. Zochowska ruffed in hand after discarding a heart from the dummy, crossed to the king of clubs and ruffed another heart. Brock over-ruffed with the bare jack and returned a club. Zochowska won in hand and ruffed a club low. Smith over-ruffed, exited with her last diamond and collected two more spades at the end for down two; –300 and 5 IMPs to England.

The final two boards had helped a little, but England trailed by 93-151 with 32 boards to play and needed to find some form and good fortune very quickly.

Closing the gap (OT SF4)



USA 1 – USA 2



By Brent Manley

After the first day of play in their d'Orsi Trophy match, USA 1 (Reese Milner, Hemant Lal, Mark Lair, Bob Hamman, Michael Rosenberg and Zia Mahmood) had a lead of 53.5 IMPs over USA 2 (Jeff Aker, Doug Simson, Jerry and Dennis Clerkin, Marc Zwerling and Mark Tolliver).

In the first set of the day on Wednesday, a series of swing-oriented boards helped USA 2 climb back into the match. USA 1 struck first.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 9 8 7 5 3 ♥ J 10 8 7 3 ♦ Q ♣ A 8	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 10 ♥ Q 5 ♦ A J 9 ♣ 9 7 6 5 4 2	♠ Q 6 4 ♥ K 4 ♦ K 6 5 4 3 ♣ Q J 10 ♠ A K 2 ♥ A 9 6 2 ♦ 10 8 7 2 ♣ K 3
---	--	---	--

West	North	East	South
Zwerling	Rosenberg	Tolliver	Zia
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Zwerling led the ♥10 (Rusinow) to dummy's king, Tolliver contributing the queen. Zia played a spade to his ace and the ♦8 from hand: queen, king, ace. The ♥5 went to the 6 and 7, but Zia now held a tenace position in hearts, so Zwerling had to find another suit to play on. He got out with a spade, taken in dummy with the queen. Zia played a diamond from dummy and was soon claiming plus 400. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Lair	Aker	Hamman	Simson
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
All Pass	INT	Pass	3NT

Hamman started with his second-highest club, declarer playing the king from dummy. Lair won with the ace and continued the suit. Aker won in hand, played a spade to the ace and continued with a diamond: queen, king, ace. Hamman cleared the club suit and won the next trick with

the ♦J to cash his club winners for one down and 10 IMPs to USA 1.

This one was painful for USA 1.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ K 3 ♥ K Q J 9 6 4 ♦ J ♣ K 10 7 5	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 7 ♥ A ♦ A K 6 5 2 ♣ A 8 6 3 2 ♠ A 10 8 5 4 2 ♥ 10 8 7 5 3 ♦ 8 ♣ Q	♠ Q 9 6 ♥ 2 ♦ Q 10 9 7 4 3 ♣ J 9 4
---	--	--	---

West	North	East	South
Zwerling	Rosenberg	Tolliver	Zia
3♥	4NT	Pass	Pass
All Pass		Pass	5♣

Rosenberg had the right distribution for his leap to 4NT, leaving his partner to decide which of his singletons he wanted to play in at the five level. He picked the one with an honor and was no doubt relieved to see that neither opponent pulled out the red card.

Zwerling led the ♥Q to dummy's singleton ace. Zia played a club to his queen and West's king. That was followed by the ♥J, ruffed in dummy and overruffed by Tolliver. There was just no way for Zia to come close to 11 tricks on the misfit and he finished four down for minus 400.



Mark Tolliver, USA2

West <i>Lair</i>	North <i>Aker</i>	East <i>Hamman</i> 3♦	South <i>Simson</i> All Pass
----------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------------------	---

Hamman's aggressive opening kept N/S out of trouble. He finished one down for minus 50, good for 10 IMPs to USA 2. The score was 141-87. USA 2 picked up another 7 IMPs on the next deal.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West <i>Zwerling</i>	North <i>Rosenberg</i>	East <i>Tolliver</i>	South <i>Zia</i>
			INT
Dbl*	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Zwerling's double indicated a one-suited hand or clubs and spades in a good hand.

With his good six-card heart suit, Zwerling was happy to convert his partner's balancing double to penalty.

Zwerling started with the ♣8 to Zia's queen. He played the ♣K, Zwerling ruffing. A spade went to Tolliver's king and Zia's ace. He followed with a low heart to West's ace and another spade went to the jack and queen. Zia ruffed a spade, played the ♣A, ruffed. Zia won the ace when Zwerling exited with a diamond to his partner's queen. A fourth round of clubs was ruffed and Zia was able to claim one down for minus 100. At the other table, it was Lair and Hamman who got into trouble.

West <i>Lair</i>	North <i>Aker</i>	East <i>Hamman</i>	South <i>Simson</i>
			1♣
1♥	Pass	2♦	Dbl
All Pass			

Simson's lead of the ♣K went to Aker's ace and he switched to a trump at trick two: queen, ace, 6. Another diamond went to the 10 and king. Hamman exited with a diamond to Simson's jack. Simson cashed two clubs and put Hamman back in hand with a fourth club. It appears that Hamman was due to lose two more tricks, but the play record says he went one down for minus 200. That was 7 IMPs to USA 2.

USA 1 got the 7 IMPs back on board 20 when Zwerling and Tolliver bid to 5♦, which proved to be two tricks too

high, resulting in minus 200 while their teammates bought the contract at 3♥, finishing one down for minus 100.

USA 2 score 10 IMPs on board 21 when Zwerling managed nine tricks in 3NT while Lair finished one trick short.

Another 10-IMP swing went to the trailing team on board 22.

Board 22. Dealer East. E-W Vul.

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

West <i>Zwerling</i>	North <i>Rosenberg</i>	East <i>Tolliver</i>	South <i>Zia</i>
			INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Zwerling led the ♠7 to Tolliver's ace. A spade was returned to the 10 and queen, and Zia took the losing heart finesse. Zwerling cleared the spade suit, and when Zia played a spade to dummy's 10, Tolliver took the ♣J and cashed the ♠9. The ♣A two tricks later was the setting trick.

West <i>Lair</i>	North <i>Aker</i>	East <i>Hamman</i>	South <i>Simson</i>
			1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	



Zia Mahmood, USA1

Lair also led a spade, but when Hamman took the ace, he switched to the ♥10: jack, king, 2. The heart return went to Simson's 7, and he followed with a low club to dummy's 10. Hamman won and returned a spade, but it was too late to set up a trick in that suit. Simson lost only two clubs, one spade and one heart for plus 400.

The score was 149-114 when USA 2 scored another double-digit swing.

Board 26 Dealer East, All Vul.

♠ J 7 ♥ 5 4 3 2 ♦ J 7 2 ♣ 8 7 6 2	<table border="1" style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; 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 9 8 4 ♥ Q 9 8 7 6 ♦ K 9 5 ♣ 5
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A 6 5 3 2 ♥ A K 10 ♦ Q 10 ♣ A 10 4										
	♠ Q 10 ♥ J ♦ A 8 6 4 3 ♣ K Q J 9 3										

West	North	East	South
Zwerling	Rosenberg	Tolliver	Zia
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2♠

2♥ Fourth-suit forcing to game.

Tolliver's low heart lead was won by the singleton jack. Rosenberg played a low diamond to the 10 at trick two, and when Tolliver won the king, Rosenberg had the rest of the tricks for plus 690. Aker and Simson did much better in the bidding at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Lair	Aker	Hamman	Simson
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	4♥

2♥ Fourth-suit forcing to game.

The low heart lead went to dummy's ace, followed by a heart ruff and a low diamond to the 10 and king. Simson discarded a spade when Hamman returned a heart. The 4-1 trump split did not bother declarer, who scored up plus 1370 for a 12-IMP gain.

USA 1 picked up 4 IMPs on the next board, which was followed by two pushes. The score was 158-129 for USA 1 when the final board of the set was put on the table.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ J ♥ 9 7 6 ♦ K Q J 7 4 3 ♣ A 10 4	<table border="1" style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; 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 5 4 3 ♥ A K 10 8 5 2 ♦ A ♣ K 9
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 9 8 7 6 2 ♥ — ♦ 9 6 5 ♣ Q J 8 7 5	♠ A Q 10 ♥ Q J 4 3 ♦ 10 8 2 ♣ 5 3 2									

West	North	East	South
Zwerling	Rosenberg	Tolliver	Zia
1♦	Dbl	1♠	2♠
3♦	4♠	All Pass	

Zwerling led the ♦Q, taken in dummy. Zia called for a low spade at trick two, and Tolliver won the queen. He played a club to his partner's ace, and dummy was forced with the ♦J. Zia cashed the top hearts, pitching diamonds, cashed the ♣K and ruffed a heart before leading a trump from hand, conceding one down for minus 50.

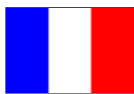
At the other table, Aker and Simson ended up in slam missing the AQJ10 of trumps, and Hamman had something to say about it.

West	North	East	South
Lair	Aker	Hamman	Simson
1♦	Dbl	INT	2♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	Dbl	All Pass

If Simson's 5♠ was asking about the quality of his partner's trumps, Aker might have envisioned his partner's holding and passed, but they were overboard at the four level. It was easy for Hamman to double when they got to six. Lair led the ♦K to dummy's ace. The top hearts were cashed for diamond pitches, and Simson ruffed a heart to hand and played a spade up. There was no way to avoid minus 500, good for 10 IMPs to USA 2, whose lead had shrunk from 53.5 IMPs to 39 with two sets to play.



Strong Polish Comeback (BB Q4)



France v Poland



By Micke Melander

Halfway through the quarterfinals, France (one of the substitute teams in these championships) had gotten themselves a small lead over Poland with 127-102. Many more IMPs were to change hands in a very interesting fourth segment.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 9 7 5 ♥ A 9 8 ♦ K 7 6 ♣ 10 9 3 2	<table border="1" style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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 2 ♥ 10 4 2 ♦ A Q 10 4 ♣ K Q J 6 ♠ A K Q 10 8 4 3 ♥ Q 7 3 ♦ 9 ♣ 7 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>
Pass	1♦	1♠	Dble*
Pass	INT	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♠	4♣
Pass	4♦	All Pass	

At first glance it looks like Five Diamonds stands a chance because the queen of hearts is in the right place. However, since declarer can't touch the frozen heart suit without having two losers it becomes impossible. The defence start by cashing their trick in spades.

Kalita got two rounds of spades and he ruffed the second, finessed in diamonds and pulled trumps. He then played a heart to the jack and had his ten tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>de Tessieres</i>
Pass	1♦	4♠	5♦
All Pass			

Mazurkiewicz also led the ace of spades, and for reasons only he knows about, he decided to shift to the seven of hearts at trick two, a fatal mistake since declarer took the finesse. When Jassem covered with the eight declarer could win with the ten and make his contract when the king of

diamonds was onside.
10 IMPs more to France.

Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ A J 10 6 4 ♥ 9 6 ♦ 10 8 5 ♣ Q J 8	<table border="1" style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		♠ 2 ♥ A 7 4 ♦ A K J 6 4 2 ♣ K 9 5 ♠ K 5 3 ♥ Q J 10 8 5 ♦ 7 ♣ A 6 3 2 ♠ Q 9 8 7 ♥ K 3 2 ♦ Q 9 3 ♣ 10 7 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>
1♠	1♦	1♥	Dble*
4♠	3♦	3♠	3NT
	Dble	All Pass	

More IMPs could easily have been shared on this board. 3NT with eight top tricks looked like an interesting contract where the defence couldn't afford to make a single mistake. Volcker took a phantom save when bidding Four Spades, a contract that was very close to actually making.



Frédéric Volcker, France

Kalita led the two of spades (best for the defence) that went to the three, eight and declarer's jack. A heart to the queen and South's king followed. Nowosadzki saw the dangerous hearts in dummy and realised that he had to attack declarer's entries, returning a club that went to the queen, king and ace. Declarer continued with the jack of hearts, and North won with the ace and exited with the nine of clubs setting up a club winner for the defence.

Declarer, who was down as he had already lost two tricks and had a diamond and a club loser to come, tried the ten of diamonds. North went up with the jack, but South overtook with the queen and cashed the ten of clubs. South played a diamond, declarer ruffed, cashed the ten of hearts and pitched his last diamond. When declarer ruffed a heart, played a spade to the king and ruffed another heart, he was able to pick up South trumps for just one down.



Thomas Bessis, France

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jassem	Lhuissier	Mazurkiewicz	de Tessieres
	1♦	1♥	Dble*
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

The board was a push when Lhuissier found the play of a club to the nine to make Three Diamonds after a heart had been led to the ace and declarer had pulled three rounds of trumps!



Godefroy de Tessières, France

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Volcker	Kalita	Bessis	Nowosadzki
		INT	2♦*
3NT	All Pass		

In this room Nowosadzki led the ace of spades and continued with the six that went to Bessis's king. Declarer then cashed the ace of hearts and played a club. When South had to play the ace of clubs the eventual problem declarer might have had was over, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jassem	Lhuissier	Mazurkiewicz	de Tessieres
		INT	2♦*
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

De Tessieres doubled with his 15 HCPs behind the strong hand. When partner had nothing of value to contribute it wasn't the right thing to do.

De Tessieres led a low spade, which didn't help much, declarer winning with the ten and playing a club, game over, nine tricks to Poland and 4 IMPs.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
			All Pass

Volcker played like a god for France in 3NT. As long as Kalita didn't start with a small club or diamond declarer would have a chance, if reading everything right... Kalita eventually led a low club.

Declarer was now making his contract if he played low from dummy, but he tried the jack, which South happily covered with the queen which lost to declarer's ace. At this point declarer was two down if he didn't get any help from the defence.

When he played the ten of diamonds, North won with the king to exit with another low club allowing dummy's seven to win the trick! One might wonder why Kalita didn't exit with the nine of clubs just to be safe if partner didn't have the king or ten...

Volcker didn't miss the chance to play a heart towards his hand, South went up with the ace and returned a spade. Declarer rose with the king and played his last diamond, throwing North in again. His spade exit went to declarer's ace. Volcker then cashed his two remaining clubs arriving at the following position with four cards to play:

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

Volcker cashed the queen of spades and threw South in with the next spade, forcing him to lead a heart. Very nicely done, and yes Kalita still had his nine of clubs.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>de Tessieres</i>
Dble	2♠	Pass	2♥*
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♦	All Pass

South led a spade and declarer won in dummy with the ace and tried a diamond. The board was quickly over when North rose with the ace of diamonds and returned a heart to South's ace. One down as they also had to score the king of diamonds.

12 IMPs was the reward for the French team.

Board 28. Dealer West. N-S Vul.

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

Open and Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>de Tessieres</i>
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Kalita led a killing trump against Volcker.

Dummy was allowed to win with the eight and declarer immediately tried a diamond to the king and ace. Kalita was merciless when he continued the attack in trumps. Declarer tried another round of diamonds but Kalita went up with the jack and pulled dummy's last trump after which there was no way for declarer to get more than the eight top tricks he had started with for two down.

Lhuissier led a spade. Declarer won with the king and played a diamond to the king. North won with the ace to return a trump. Jassem won in hand, played a spade to the ace and called for the nine of diamonds. South decided that this should be covered with the ten and when declarer played low North saw no reason to overtake it with the jack...

South didn't find the underlead of the ace and king of clubs to get partner in to play another trump and declarer could ruff his last two diamonds in dummy and make his ten tricks for 11 IMPs to Poland.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠ K J 2										
	♥ A J 7 6 4 2										
	♦ 5										
	♣ Q 6 2										
♠ A 9 7	<table border="1" style="background-color: #4F81BD; 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		♠ 10 6 5
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ Q	♥ K 10 8 5										
♦ K Q 9 8 7 2	♦ A 3										
♣ A K 8		♣ 10 7 5 3									
	♠ Q 8 4 3										
	♥ 9 3										
	♦ J 10 6 4										
	♣ J 9 4										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	INT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Nowosadzki led the nine of hearts. Kalita went up with the ace and shifted to the killing jack of spades at trick two. The defence continued the attack in spades when declarer ducked and could sit and wait for diamonds to be played in order to collect the tricks they needed defeat the contract. Very well done Kalita!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>de Tessieres</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣*	1♥	1♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		



Nicolas Lhuissier, France

Lhuissier led the six of hearts allowing declarer to win with the singleton queen when he had no problem setting up his diamonds to record nine tricks.

Another 10 IMPs to Poland who also got 13 on the board before when the French team bid a slam which wasn't making.

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

	♠ J 7 6										
	♥ 10 6 5 3										
	♦ 7 2										
	♣ A Q 7 4										
♠ K 2	<table border="1" style="background-color: #4F81BD; 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		♠ A 10 9 8 4 3
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ K Q J 7 4	♥ A 8										
♦ A K 8 4	♦ 10 3										
♣ 10 3		♣ J 8 5									
	♠ Q 5										
	♥ 9 2										
	♦ Q J 9 6 5										
	♣ K 9 6 2										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Dble
Rdbl	All Pass		
2♣	Godzilla (Swedish for Gazzilli)		
2♦	8+		

There was simply no way for the defence to get more than three diamonds and two clubs. Eight tricks was +560. Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>	<i>de Tessieres</i>
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

4 IMPs for France when the Polish team bid their game and took their ten tricks for +420.

The strong Polish comeback on boards 28-30 where they scored 34 IMPs meant they won the set 40-33. The race was on!

Transnational Teams - Day Two

By T.C. Pant

The World Transnational Open Teams produced several interesting deals on the second day. The first comes from the match between Zimmermann and Germany.

The deal of the day was surely board 4 of round seven. The unknown declarer (East) was a member of the German team.

Round 7, Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	2NT*	3♠
Pass	4♠	4NT*	Pass
5♣*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
7♥*	Pass	7NT	All Pass

A few E/W pairs bid 7♥ and managed all 13 tricks by taking the right view in clubs. Three pairs bid 7NT and made it.

At table 1, where Zimmermann played against Germany, Zimmermann's E/W pair bid and made 7♥. The German E/W got to 7NT as shown.

South led the ♠K and declarer won with the ace, played the ♥Q and ♥J and then three more rounds of hearts. He now played the ♣K and ♣Q noting the club distribution. Next he entered dummy with ♣A. With the lead in dummy, this was the four-card end position:

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

When the last heart was led from dummy, North was forced to discard a diamond or East's ♣5 would be good. Declarer discarded the ♣5 and now it was the turn of South to feel the pressure. If South pitched the ♠K, dummy's 10 would be good, so he had to let go of a diamond. Declarer then played the ♦J to the ace. The ♦K picked up the last two diamonds, making the ♦8 good for the 13th trick.

Round 7, Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

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

Those who played in 6NT had an easy 12 tricks. However, there were those who played in 6♣. Unluckily, the adverse club break meant they were one down.

Round 7, Board 10. Dealer E. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
		INT	All Pass

Those who are fond of opening INT with a 5-3-3-2 hand

had a problem on this deal. The INT opening was passed out and on a diamond lead from South, 11 tricks were made.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
		1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Those who opened 1♥ with the East hand were raised to three via 3♦ (mixed raise) or 3♥, showing four-card support and 7-9 HCPs. That was enough for East to bid 4♥, which on a diamond lead made 12 tricks.

Round 9, Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♥	3♠	4♥	4♠
5♥	5♠	Dble	All Pass

It was one of those freakish boards the dealing machine generates occasionally. North opened 3♦, which was passed to West. If we swap the ♥A with ♥2 of East, West would have passed the pre-emptive 3♦. That was not to be and once West bid 3♥, N/S reached 5♠ and East doubled. Declarer did not drop the ♠K or he would have had an overtrick.

(With a five card major and a void 3♦ was questionable. Editors)

Round 9, Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
INT*	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass
	INT	11-14	

There were a few who comfortably played in 3NT making 10 tricks.

In 4♥ North led the top spades and then a low spade. Careful play was required now to make the contract. If you ruff with the jack, South has two options: overruff with the ♥K or discard a diamond. If South ruffs with the ♥K, when declarer plays hearts, the fall of the ♥10 allows a finesse against South's ♥9 to make the contract.

If South pitches a diamond and declarer then cashes the ace of hearts it is necessary to run the eight on the next round.

Round 10, Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

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

After a weak 2♠ by West and 4♠ by East, South did well to bid 4NT, asking partner to choose a minor suit. He cuebid diamonds and spades to reach the club slam. Some pairs bid the slam in hearts.

Pairs playing for Argentina, Zimmermann, Canada, Constillation (India), Andromeda (India), Agresar (India), Dr. Sanghi (India), Grand (India) and Group Popular (India) bid the grand slam in hearts. The Chennai Aces (India) were the only team to bid the grand slam in clubs.



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34th Annual Jordan International Bridge Festival
And the Seventh Pan Arab Inter Club

In coordination with the

Arab Bridge League

November 4th – 8th 2015 At

Bristol Hotel- Amman



PROGRAM OF EVENTS:

Wednesday, November 4th

Pan Arab Inter Club – 10:30 am

Reception 06:00 pm

Open Pairs, Session (1) 07:00 pm

Thursday, November 5th

Pan Arab Inter Club – 10:30 am

Open Pairs, Session (2) 05:30 pm

Friday, November 6th

Pan Arab Inter Club – 10:30 am

Open Pairs, Session (3) 05:30 pm

Saturday, November 7th

Pan Arab Inter Club – 10:30 am

Mixed Pairs, Session (1) 05:30 pm

Sunday, November 8th

Pan Arab Inter Club – 10:30 am

Mixed Pairs, Session (2) 04:30 pm

Gala Dinner 09:00 pm

(*) Pan Arab Inter- club's time schedule is subject to modification by The Organizing Committee according to number of participants.

PRIZES

OPEN PAIRS **Guest (US\$)** **Jordanian (JD)**

1st Pair 2000 1000

2nd Pair 1200 600

3rd Pair 800 400

4th Pair 600 300

5th Pair 500 250

6th Pair 400 200

7th Pair 300 150

8th, 9th Pairs 200 100

Best Ladies Pair 150 80

Best Mixed Pair 150 80

Best Improvement 150 80

MIXED PAIRS **Guest(US\$)** **Jordanian (JD)**

1st Pair 1200 500

2nd Pair 800 300

3rd Pair 600 250

4th Pair 500 200

5th Pair 400 150

6th Pair 300 100

7th Pair 200 100

Best Improvement 100 50

ENTRY FEES

Event	Guest (US\$)	Jordanian (JD)
Open Pairs	120	40
Mixed Pair	60	25
Pan Arab	400 PER TEAM	

ACCOMMODATION:

Single or Double room 145 US.\$

Bed and breakfast, all taxes inclusive.



RESERVATION

Jordan Bridge Federation

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RESULTS

Bermuda Bowl SF

Team	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot	5	Tot	6	Total
SWEDEN	0.0	56.0	56.0	36.0	92.0	50.0	142.0	21.0	163.0	38.0	201.0	47.0	248.0
USA2	12.7	60.0	72.7	20.0	92.7	33.0	125.7	33.0	158.7	54.0	212.7	29.0	241.7
POLAND	0.0	41.0	41.0	29.0	70.0	29.0	99.0	38.0	137.0	45.0	182.0	25.0	207.0
ENGLAND	4.3	21.0	25.3	23.0	48.3	40.0	88.3	37.0	125.3	38.0	163.3	42.0	205.3

Venice Cup SF

Team	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot	5	Tot	6	Total
FRANCE	6.0	28.0	34.0	43.0	77.0	37.0	114.0	37.0	151.0	29.0	180.0	31.0	211.0
ENGLAND	0.0	25.0	25.0	21.0	46.0	22.0	68.0	25.0	93.0	52.0	145.0	41.0	186.0
USA2	7.2	32.0	39.2	32.0	71.2	39.0	110.2	50.0	160.2	27.0	187.2	24.0	211.2
NETHERLANDS	0.0	36.0	36.0	27.0	63.0	18.0	81.0	18.0	99.0	42.0	141.0	16.0	157.0

d'Orsi Trophy SF

Team	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot	5	Tot	6	Total
USA1	4.5	35.0	39.5	20.0	59.5	71.0	130.5	38.0	168.5	28.0	196.5	20.0	216.5
USA2	0.0	29.0	29.0	21.0	50.0	27.0	77.0	52.0	129.0	28.0	157.0	12.0	169.0
SWEDEN	0.7	37.0	37.7	24.0	61.7	32.0	93.7	37.0	130.7	22.0	152.7	37.0	189.7
POLAND	0.0	16.0	16.0	30.0	46.0	32.0	78.0	35.0	113.0	28.0	141.0	20.0	161.0

World Championship Book 2015

The official book of these championships will be available around April next year. It will cover all the best of the action from all the different championships, including a full listing of participants and results and many photographs, and will be in full colour throughout. The writers are Brian Senior, Barry Rigal, John Carruthers and GeO Tislevoll.

On publication, the official retail price will be

US\$35-00 or £22-00 (plus postage from some retailers). If you pre-order and pay in Chennai the special price is US\$30-00 or 2000 Rupees, post free, and the books will be sent out as soon as I have them. To order, see Jan Swaan in the Press Room on the ground floor.

Readers who are not present in Chennai can share in this special offer by emailing me at:

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I will need your full postal address and we can arrange payment via Paypal.

Brian Senior

Transnational Open Teams

Round of 16

	Segment 1	Segment 2	Segment 3	Total	
BURAS	43	60	39	142	BURAS
ENGLAND SENIORS	17	31	13	61	
CHINA HENGYUANXIANG	65	35	11	111	ASKGAARD
ASKGAARD	14	43	59	116	
BULGARIA SENIORS	26	46	22	94	BRASIL
BRASIL	53	76	18	147	
BULGARIA OPEN	54	37	35	126	BULGARIA OPEN
INDONESIA SENIOR	55	25	16	96	
NETHERLANDS	39	28	17	84	FORMIDABLES
FORMIDABLES	37	20	45	102	
YBM	21	24	30	75	YBM
Canada	19	34	21	74	
GERMANY	25	47	46	118	GERMANY
AUSTRALIA	14	32	32	78	
ZIMMERMANN	47	49	69	165	ZIMMERMANN
CHINA RED	43	32	42	117	

Thank You

The Polish Venice Cup team thanks the Carlo Bossi Parfumes for its support in participation at this championships.



RESULTS MP PAIRS

- 1 FURUTA K. - CHEN D.
- 2 DAS B. - MUKHERJEE P.
3. MALHOTRA A. - JALAN H.
- 4 MAJUMDERS S. - KAMAL N
- 5 IMAKURA T. - YAMADA K.



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PHASE 1: SWISS QUALIFICATION, FRIDAY 5 - SUNDAY 7
PHASE 2: KNOCK OUT MONDAY 8 - THURSDAY 11

CONSOLATION EVENT FMB BOARD A MATCH TROPHY

MONDAY 8 - THURSDAY 11

ENTRY FEES

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FMB BAM TROPHY ONLY: 500 EUROS

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Congress

(Apr 15th – Apr 24th, 2016 Beijing, China
Beijing Ditan Gymnasium)



Events and Schedule

Open Teams, Ladies Teams, Senior Teams, Junior Teams, Youngsters Teams, Girls teams	Apr 20-24
Open Pairs, Ladies Pairs, Senior Pairs, Youth Pairs	Apr 18-19
Mixed Pairs	Apr 19
Individual	Apr 17
CCBA Open Teams	Apr 16-19
IMP Pairs	Apr 20-21
Swiss Teams	Apr 22-23
Pairs event in every evening	Apr 16-24

Entry Fees

Event	Entry Fee	Event	Entry Fee
1. Open Teams	US\$1000	7. Open Pairs	RMB800
2. Ladies Teams	US\$1000	8. Ladies Pairs	RMB600
3. Senior Teams	US\$600	9. Senior Pairs	RMB600
4. Junior Teams	US\$400	10. Youth Pairs	RMB400
5. Youngsters Teams	US\$200	11. Mixed Pairs	RMB600
6. Girls teams	US\$400	12. Individual	RMB300
Players who are not from China Mainland having registered in the team events as well as players from China Mainland having registered in CCBA Open Teams can participate in the Pair events of the same category of the team event and individual event without paying entry fees.			
13. CCBA Open Teams	RMB3000	15. Swiss Teams	RMB800
14. IMP Pairs	RMB400	16. Pairs event in every evening	RMB400

Prize:

Total prize: RMB 500,000 and above

CCBA Open Teams, Open Pairs, Ladies Pairs, Senior Pairs, Youth Pairs, Mixed Pairs, IMP Pairs, Individual, Swiss Teams: The prize money will be RMB 300,000 and above in total.

Pairs event in every evening: in addition to RMB 20,000 as the prize money, 70% entry fee will be reward to the top 1/3 pairs.

Hotel



Hainan Hotel 4 Stars

(Headquarter hotel, 2 minutes to the venue by walking)



Sheraton Beijing Dong Cheng Hotel 5 Stars

(14 minutes to the venue by walking)

Contact person:

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For more information please

go to: www.zgqpw.com.cn

(The website is under construction)