



14TH Red Bull WORLD BRIDGE SERIES

SANYA CHINA 10TH 25TH OCTOBER 2014

DAILY BULLETIN

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Issue No. 8

Saturday, 18th October 2014

WORTH THE WAIT - JUST 36 YEARS



Medalists in the Mixed Pairs A: Jacek Pszczola-Meike Wortel (silver), Jie Zhao-Kerri Sanborn (gold) and Nan Wang-Bangxiang Zhang (bronze). With them are Chen Zelan, a member of the WBF Executive Committee and WBF President Emeritus José Damiani.

In 1978, a player named Kerri Shuman, sitting opposite the legendary Barry Crane, ran away with the World Mixed Pairs, winning by roughly five boards at the World Championships in New Orleans.

Now Kerri Sanborn, she did it again in grand style with Jie "Jack" Zhao, posting a 68.89% final session to win the Red Bull Mixed Pairs A by a similar margin. Sanborn also has a silver medal in the Mixed Pairs playing with Bob Hamman. With the victory, Zhao became a World Grand Master.

Runners-up were Meike Wortel (Netherlands) and Jacek Pszczola (USA). The bronze medal went to the Chinese pair of Nan Wang and Bangxiang Zhang.

Watching bridge in Sanya

If you want to watch the bridge play during 14th Red Bull World Bridge Series, here's how you do it on OurGame:

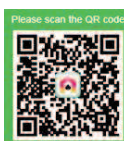
Main website: ourbridge.ourgame.com/

Jump website: ourbridge.ourgame.com/flash/loading.swf

Requirements: adobe flash plugin

Mobile download website and QR code:(IOS,android)

ourbridge.ourgame.com/index/download-en.html



Watch out for BBO and Ourgame broadcast

Today's Schedule

Open Teams

Qualification

9:30 - 10:30

10:50 - 11:50

12:10 - 13:10

14:10 - 15:10

15:30 - 16:30

16:50 - 17:50

18:10 - 19:10

19:30 - 20:30

Women's Teams

Round Robin

7 matches

Starting time 9:30

Sheraton

Senior Teams

Round Robin

7 matches

Starting time 9:30

Sheraton



REVISED SCHEDULE

Saturday 18th October

Open Teams Qualification

9.30 - 10.30
 10.50 - 11.50
 12.10 - 13.10
 14.10 - 15.10
 15.30 - 16.30
 16.50 - 17.50
 18.10 - 19.10
 19.30 - 20.30

Women & Senior Teams

See bottom of the page

Sunday 19th October

Open Teams Semifinal A&B

9.30 - 10.30
 10.50 - 11.50
 12.10 - 13.10
 14.10 - 15.10
 15.30 - 16.30
 16.50 - 17.50
 18.10 - 19.10
 19.30 - 20.30

Women & Senior Teams

See bottom of the page

Monday 20th October

Open Teams Round of 32

10.00 - 12.00
 12.20 - 14.20
 15.30 - 17.30

Open Teams Round of 16

18.10 - 20.10

Women & Senior Teams

See bottom of the page

Tuesday 21st October

Open Teams Round of 16

10.00 - 12.00
 12.20 - 14.20

Open Teams Round of 8

15.30 - 17.30
 17.50 - 19.50

Women & Senior Teams

To be decided

Open Pairs Qualification

10.00 - 11.30
 11.50 - 13.20
 14.30 - 16.00
 16.20 - 17.50
 18.10 - 19.40

Women & Senior Pairs

To be decided

Wednesday 22nd October

Open Teams Round of 8

10.00 - 12.00

Open Teams Semifinal

13.10 - 15.10
 15.30 - 17.30
 17.50 - 19.50

Women & Senior Teams

To be decided

Open Pairs Qualification

10.00 - 11.30
 11.50 - 13.20
 14.30 - 16.00
 16.20 - 17.50
 18.10 - 19.40

Women & Senior Pairs

To be decided

Thursday 23rd October

Open Teams Final

10.00 - 12.00
 12.20 - 14.20
 15.30 - 17.30
 17.50 - 19.50

Women & Senior Teams

To be decided

Open Pairs Semifinal A & B

10.00 - 11.30
 11.50 - 13.20
 14.30 - 16.00
 16.20 - 17.50
 18.10 - 19.40

Women & Senior Pairs

To be decided

Friday 24th October

Open Pairs Final A

10.00 - 11.30
 11.50 - 13.20
 14.30 - 16.00
 16.20 - 17.50
 18.10 - 20.20

Women & Senior Pairs

To be decided

Open Pairs Final B

10.00 - 11.30
 11.50 - 13.20
 14.30 - 16.00
 16.20 - 17.50
 18.10 - 19.40

Saturday 25th October

Open Pairs Final A

10.00 - 11.30
 11.50 - 13.20
 14.00 - 15.30
 15.50 - 17.20
 17.50 - 19.30

Women & Senior Pairs

To be decided

Notice for Seniors and Women's teams

22 teams are expected in the **Senior Teams.**

Every team will play a full round-robin:

21 matches of seven boards
 7 matches on Saturday beginning at **9:30a.m.** at the Sheraton
 7 matches on Sunday beginning at **9:30a.m.**
 7 matches on Monday beginning at **9:30a.m.**

The top eight in the round-robin will play in the knockout phase, beginning on Tuesday.

26 teams are expected in the **Women's Teams.**

Every team will play full round-robin:

25 matches of seven boards
 8 matches on Saturday beginning at **9:30a.m.** at the Sheraton
 9 matches on Sunday beginning at **9:30a.m.**
 8 matches on Monday beginning at **9:30a.m.**

The top eight in the round-robin will play in the knockout phase, beginning on Tuesday.

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Amendments to the General Conditions of Contest

Section 25 Screen Regulations

In section 25.1, the following sentence is added:
A player who removes one or more of his bidding cards from the tray in an apparent attempt to “pass” is indeed deemed to have “passed.”

At the end of 25.2 (c), the following sentence is added:
Therefore the tournament director cannot make enquiries on a player’s behalf on the other side of the screen during the auction or play.

Section 25.3 (g) is amended as follows:
Failure to do as (f) provides may persuade the Director it was the partner who drew attention to the break in tempo. If so he may well rule there was no perceived delay and thus no unauthorised information. A delay in passing the tray of up to 20 seconds is not normally regarded as significant. If the players have not been randomising the tempo of the auction as desired by section 25.1 paragraph 3, then a delay of less than 20 seconds may well be regarded as being significant.

Video Corner

now online



A Bridge Lesson by Barry Rigal
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4nywmCgERY>



Semifinals in the mixed Teams
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WiiXaalA1p8>



Salvo on the Top
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwxYS1uXIHs>



Find all the links on www.worldbridge.org

Notice to Mixed Pairs B finalists

Because of a misunderstanding, there has been a delay in the presentation of medals in the Mixed Pairs Final B to **Ronnie Barr-Eldad Ginossar, gold; Marie Eggeling-Thomas Gotard, silver, and Alison Wilson-Ricco van Prooijen, bronze.**

No smoking or drinking policy

Please be reminded that smoking and drinking is prohibited at any time and in any place during sessions. If you do, an automatic penalty of 2VPs plus 100US\$ will be applied.

Il Capo di Tutti Capi

Maurizio di Sacco

By David Stern

My life has been blessed by the opportunity I have been given by bridge to travel the world and meet so many interesting people and make so many amazing friends.

One of those good friends is the World Bridge Federation Championship Manager, Maurizio di Sacco whom I have known for around 10 years now.



Maurizio di Sacco

One of the things that surprises me is how we regularly meet our bridge friends and yet know so little about them and their lives and so I decided to introduce the participants in Sanya to the person who heads a team that makes the tournament so much fun to play in.

Maurizio, now 53 is a Pisano having lived all his life in Pisa in the beautiful Tuscany area of Italy (pop. 90,000). He is married to his lawyer wife Marcella, whom he met at the local bridge club and with whom he has two children in addition to his daughter from a previous relationship.

His early life includes professional volleyball (until he had ligament problems at age 21) as well studies of Physics at University, a course he abandoned in favour of bridge. He describes this as an interlude until he was able to establish himself as a bridge professional.

Despite having learned bridge “in just one night” at the age of 20, he had established himself as a bridge teacher in the local clubs in Pisa just four years later. By now he had made a decision to make the game of bridge that he describes as “incredible,” his lifetime pursuit. Lest one thinks that Maurizio turned to directing and organising bridge tournaments because his skills at the bridge table

were questionable, you should know that he holds an Italian Junior Pairs Championship (1986) beating one Fulvio Fantoni no less. He also has wins and placings in many Italian National Championships. These days, however, he rarely plays bridge but sees himself playing more during his retirement.

At 30, he became an Italian National Director and just four years later he was a fully accredited EBL International and WBF Tournament Director, a position he held for more than 10 years, eventually achieving the rank of Chief TD before becoming the EBL and WBF Championship Manager. He is currently employed jointly by these two organisations. He also cooperates with the CAC zone, as well as South America, as Chief TD, Organizer and TDs teacher.

During his thirty years as bridge professional he has accumulated an impressive list of job titles including:

- Member of the WBF Laws Committee, WBF Rules and Regulations Committee, WBF Championship Committee, WBF Tournament Director’s Committee, WBF Seniors Committee;

- Member of various EBL Committees;

- Director of the Italian Tournament Director Program
- WBF and EBL Championship Manager

His bridge play is infrequent, in large measure because he is away from home about 75% of the time and if you add his two annual holidays at Elba Island and skiing, there simply isn’t time to play. Pre-event site visits, usually two per Championship, in addition to the actual Championships themselves plus the few days before and afterwards certainly add up, he notes.

Asked about the challenges that are common in establishing a tournament his instant reply is that there are “many, many.” Although he speaks fluent Italian, English, Spanish and French, there are language challenges in places such as China and Indonesia. Once that hurdle is partially overcome, other issues to challenge him and his team include, but are not limited to:

- Internet/server/network problems, arrival and clearance of the equipment which is all stored by the WBF and EBL in a Milanese warehouse; working with locals to have them understand the issues which World and European Championships require above and beyond the normal Regional or National Championships, including security and the large number of duplicated boards required.

Maurizio gives a lot of credit for the success of Championships to the solid team he has built in areas such as scoring, directors, hospitality, technology and communications, bulletins, secretariat, Vugraph and the

many other facets of the tournaments all of whom are chosen by the WBF in consultation with Maurizio. He is rarely short of staff and is sometimes overstaffed where entries don't achieve expectation.

The key drivers for the choice of venue include playing space and light, additional space for offices, player comfort areas, catering, video and BBO facilities and capabilities, network, power, video display areas and capability and the ease with which boards can be delivered to the tables. The latter can be taken for granted but in some cases with 16-board matches there can be 2,000 or more boards put out before each match.

He recalls that his best organising experience was the World Championships at Veldhoven in the Netherlands because the local organisers had ample experience and understanding of what was required, the venue was ideal and the funding allowed the Championships the ability to showcase the best of bridge.

Without identifying the exact venue of his worst experience it was where the locals were not fully invested in the event and assumed that the WBF would organise everything and did not provide much in the way of voluntary helpers.

He hopes that the future Championships will be included in his best experiences. These include WBF, 2015 Chennai, 2016 Poland, 2017 Lyon and 2018 Orlando together with the 2015 European Championships in Tromsø, Norway.

So some things you may not know about Maurizio.

He is an accomplished cook, something to which I can attest, having tasted his prawn pasta and seafood lasagne which he cooked on two of his Australian visits;

He holds the title of friend of the Israeli Knesset and is an honorary Israeli Chief Tournament Director and honorary member of the IBF – he does speak a smattering of Hebrew, learned during the total of 27 times that he has directed their two major tournaments. His connection with Israeli bridge started when he competed in the 1996 Israeli Bridge Festival with no less than Pietro Forquet;

He is an accredited journalist, editing the Italian Championship Bulletins, and is a member of the Italian Association of Professional Journalists;

On the future of the game we all love, Maurizio is optimistic when he looks at the growth of the game in countries like France (130,000 registered players), Netherlands (110,000) Ireland (104,000). Regarding Ireland, he said the model there is most unusual, insofar as only 20,000 players compete in bridge club duplicates, the balance mainly playing in golf club social duplicates. He takes heart from a Junior Tournament in Tel Aviv last February, when 156 tables of players 16 and younger competed. Bridge growth in countries like Turkey and Indonesia also adds to his positive outlook for the game.

7.2 Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Mobile phones and electronic devices may not be taken into the playing area and toilets.

WBF General Conditions of Contest © 2014 Page 13

Any player, captain or coach bringing a mobile phone and or electronic device into the playing area and toilets will cause his team to be fined 2 VPs, (or 6 IMPs in a knockout match) or, in the case of pairs events, will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the matchpoints available on a board during the session, plus in all cases, a monetary fine, the amount of which will be announced to the participants before the start of the event. This penalty is mandatory. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

The Head Tournament Director may, at his discretion, prohibit a player from bringing other equipment into the playing area.



Anyone entering the playing area may be required to comply with procedures put in place by the WBF for the detection of such electronic equipment.

See also Section 27.2 for restrictions pertaining to spectators.

The Head Tournament Director will arrange for random checks of players, captains and coaches to ensure that there is compliance with these prohibitions. Refusal to submit to these checks will bar the individual concerned from entry to the playing area and toilet area, and from remaining there.

Refusal to submit to these checks will result in the individual being barred from the playing area and toilet area for the duration of the match or until such time as the Head Tournament Director, in consultation with the Championship Committee, shall decide.

The Duplimates used for the duplication here in Sanya are sold for Eur 1999.

For more information see

www.jannersten.com/newsletters/Sanya_specials.pdf

or Per Jannersten.

From safety to risky plays and actions

By Micke Melander

Thursday morning was kickoff for the Mixed Pairs semifinals in Sanya. Some new pairs has been added to those who already had survived the first cut in the qualification phase, so we would see much more risk-taking bridge then in the previous teams tournament. Suddenly it was all about tops and bottoms...

Let's have a look at a deal from the first segment to begin with.

Board 9. Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Senensky	Ellingsen	Shnier	Nielsen
	Pass	4♥	4♠
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

Let's say you lead the king of spades, partner follows with the six showing one or two spades, how to continue? Cashing the ace of spades seems obvious, so we at least get that trick.



Barry Senensky



Barbara Shnier

Should you return a diamond and try to get a ruff or should you return a club? Many returned a diamond to try getting a ruff. "I think it's wrong thinking," said Kristian Ellingsen, one of Norway's new star junior players. "A diamond trick will never disappear, only an eventual diamond ruff. But eventual club tricks might disappear on diamonds for sure. And we know that partner is marked with at least one ace, maybe both of them! Therefore a club should be returned."

Right he was. Still, his partner returned a diamond to try to get a ruff, letting declarer make her contract. But they weren't alone. Checking the frequencies, we could see that minus 650 occurred four times, minus 850 six times from 27 tables in play.

Here comes a hand from the second segment:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

king of spades and a heart to the ten. Ma now played back a spade to the ace and Wang returned a low diamond. Cronier ruffed, ruffed a spade in dummy and took a second diamond ruff. Three rounds of trumps followed and the queen of spades. Ma was down to the two-card ending holding the ace of diamonds and the queen of clubs.

Perhaps she was tired, discarding the queen of clubs instead of the diamond ace although declarer had already ruffed diamonds twice. Cronier scored his jack of clubs at the last trick, but plus 500 was a great score for East-West, giving the Chinese pair 50 matchpoints. As you can see, 3NT does not make against competent defense.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Asbi</i>	<i>Tobing</i>	<i>Bojoh</i>	<i>Tueje</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
2♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

When dummy arrived Tobing was probably sorry for not gambling making a business pass over his partner's take-out double. Two Diamonds doubled could easily have cost 800. Bojoh led the four of diamonds, Tobing called for the ace from dummy and continued with a low diamond towards the queen. West won with the king and could see partner discarding the three of hearts, showing something in the suit.

After fingering the jack of clubs and his low club, Asbi decided to follow his partner's signal and returned the queen of hearts, which held the trick. When the jack arrived next, declarer won with the ace. From there on it was a walk in the park, three rounds of trumps, heart ruff, queen of diamonds and pitching a club from dummy, cash out the clubs and ruff the third round in dummy, claiming 11 tricks and 32 of the possible 52 match points. Plus 800 would have been a clear top!

It's interesting to note that the two pairs, both from Indonesia, are neighbors at home and regular teammates. When they want to play together, they don't even have to drive to get to a game with their friends, much less fly all the way from Indonesia to Sanya for the pleasure.

Championship Diary - 1

Herman De Wael, who is here as a Director, gave a ruling during the Mixed Pairs Semi-Final B.

Aiyuè Ma and Cheng Wang, the pair who were ruled against, did not agree and asked for a review. This took place at the end of the day and no change to the ruling was made. Saddened, the pair left the building. They had booked a flight home that same evening, intending to cancel it if they had made the A-final.

Herman checked the standings and saw that they had finished seventh, less than one matchpoint off the qualifying sixth spot. But it transpired that one more ruling was pending, and when it was finally decided, another score change had to be made.

Ma and Wang were now fifth, and qualified for the A-final, but would they receive the news before flying off to the mainland?

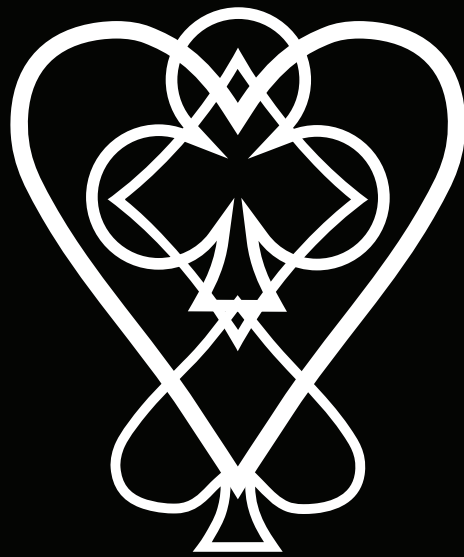
Luckily, one of the Chinese directors knew someone who knew someone, and they were told of their good fortune. They played the final on Thursday and Friday and finished in 47th position. 'It's wonderful to be allowed to play in such a great field' was their comment..



Mary Ma and Frank Wang with Herman De Wael (middle)

JUNE 27TH - JULY 11TH

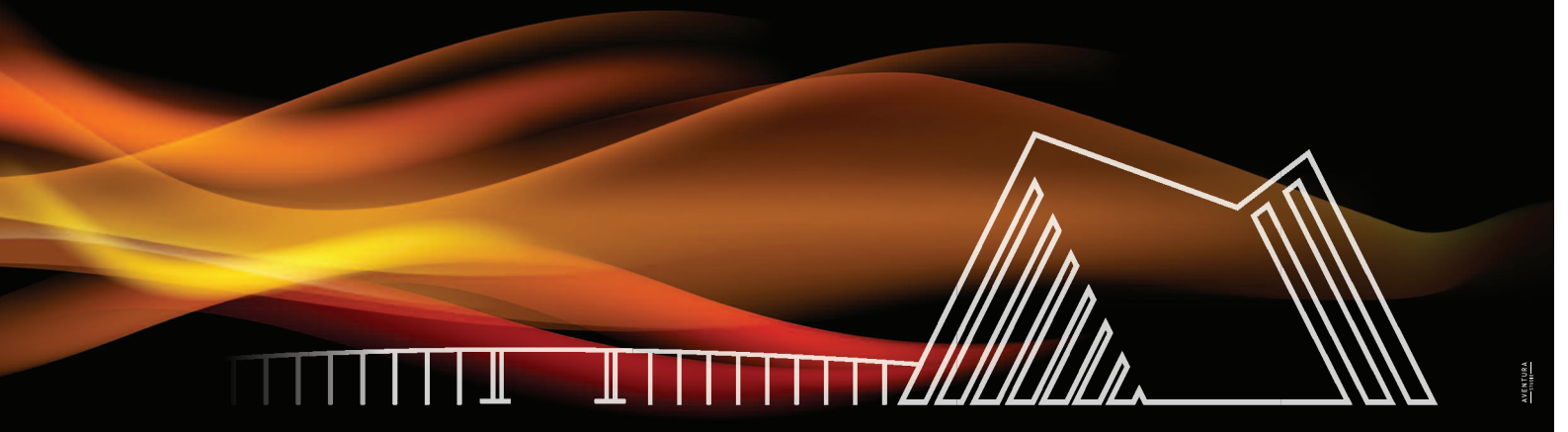
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House of Cards

By Mark Horton

House of Cards is a 1990 British political thriller television drama serial by the BBC, set after the end of Margaret Thatcher's tenure as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. The two subsequent episodes were To Play the King and The Final Cut, all three titles having obvious links to bridge.

Based on the three books written by Michael Dobbs, the series proved so popular that the author had to rewrite all three to bring them into line with the television series.

The drama introduced and popularised the phrase: 'You might very well think that; I couldn't possibly comment.' It was used by the main character, Francis Urquhart whenever he could not be seen to agree with a question, with the emphasis on either the 'I' or the 'possibly' depending on the situation. The phrase was even quoted in the House of Commons following the series.

Urquhart's policy is to eliminate anyone who stands in the way of his political ambitions and he is utterly ruthless in that regard.

You might argue that to succeed in one of the toughest of the bridge disciplines, match pointed pairs, one must be totally ruthless.

Here are a few deals from Session 6 of the Red Bull World Series Mixed Pairs Championship:

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Weinstein	Larsson	Bjerkan
		Pass	1♣
Dble	Pass	1♠	2♣
Pass	Pass	2♦	Pass
Pass	3♣	3♦	All Pass

When West doubled, East made a typical match point orientated response and then introduced her diamonds on the next round.

Micke Melander was watching at the table and his report will give all the byplay.

I'll confine my observations to dealing with the inevitable question, 'Why didn't West bid Three Spades over Three

Diamonds?'

Well, you might very well think that; I couldn't possibly comment.

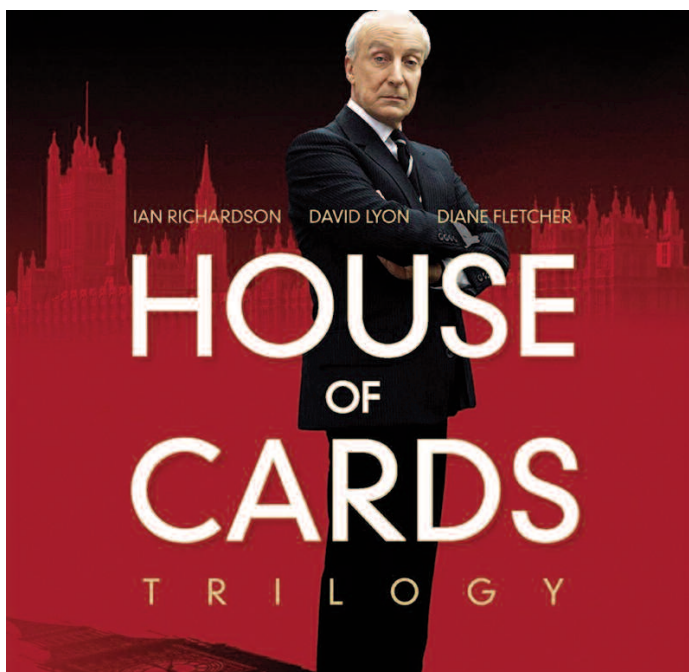
Declarer was not tested in the play, recording +130 collecting 32 of the 52 match points that were available.

If West had bid Three Spades I suspect East would have made it by winning the club lead, playing a diamond, cashing the ace of spades and ducking a spade to South's jack. Two pairs recorded +140 for 45/07 matchpoints.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Senensky	Gan	Shnier	He
			1♥
Pass	3♦*	Dble	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			





Victoria Gromova

Only five pairs failed to bid a slam on this deal. When West led the queen of spades the trick that earned was worth 33/19 for EW.

I can't help but feel that it was poetic justice, for if South had opened One Club then North would have responded One Heart, leaving East to guess which ace to lead against a slam.

Allowing the overtrick would have changed things completely, giving NS 37/15.

Two pairs recorded +1770 (7♥ doubled).

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Senensky	Gan	Shnier	He
Pass	1♣	1♦	Dble*
2♦	Pass	3♦	All Pass

East's initial overcall was impeccable, but on the next round the preemptive raise put EW too high. Declarer lost six tricks, and -200 was duplicated only once, leaving EW with a solitary match point.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Gromov	Pszczola	Gromova	Wortel
2♥	Pass	1♥	INT
All Pass	Dble*	Pass	2NT
Dble Takeout			

West led the jack of hearts and declarer won with the queen and played on diamonds, East winning the third round with the ace. The heart return was ducked to West's jack and declarer won the next heart, crossed to dummy with a diamond and played a spade. The appearance of East's queen meant that nine tricks were in the bag, +150, which was worth 36/16.

If South had jumped to 3NT (all the people I consulted selected that bid, expecting partner to have a little more for his double) she would have improved her side's score to 47/5.



Xinli Gan and Xinmei He

ITALIA team

By Francesca Canali

The Italian Bridge Federation announced the Trials this year. The winners, Team Angelini, formed the Italian National Team for the last European Teams Championships; the runners-up, Team Gerli, travel, accommodation and entry fees for the World Bridge Series Open Teams. That's how six "next door" players were transformed into six "Blue Team" players.

As everybody knows, under the name "ITALIA" some of the best champions ever have played. The members of the ITALIA team here may not be bridge shining stars but are no less brilliant.



Francesco Murgia, Matteo Baldi, Gianni Patelli, Pierfrancesco Parolaro, Nicola Del Buono, Aldo Gerli

Aldo Gerli

34 years old, Padova, Nicola Del Buono's partner

It's tough to say what was Aldo's best conquest this year. And if it seems impossible to you that winning the Blue Team's shirt and the travel to a tropical island is not enough, you are definitely going to change your mind: in June Aldo became father of his first born, Alessandro.



Aldo graduated in law and is now finishing his apprenticeship in a notarial company. Bridge wise there was a problem for him:

"In order to be able to attend the Trials, I had to tell my notary that I was sick at home. Once I won, I was very worried: the news would have been published on the Internet, Facebook and so on, and my notary would have discovered my lie! Anyway I did not care, I was too happy!"

And the right attitude (?) definitely helped him:

"Some days later I had a job interview in another notarial company. The new notary told me: You conquered a place in the National team? You are definitely a winner. In the new office I am happier from all points of view."

Nicola Del Buono

46 years old, Milan, Aldo Gerli's partner



"Nicola Del Buono? That's impossible, he stopped playing many years ago."

That's what bridge players in their fifties said when they asked me who was Aldo going to play with; even if Nicola's name was in black and white in the list of the teams that had registered for the Trials, everybody was incredulous.

After partnering Benito "the living legend" Garozzo for some years, Nicola retired from Bridge competitions. The reason? "I became father of two children. Both my wife and I have important working positions. Making babies is a matter of two persons and responsibilities must be shared as well."

The experience with Benito was very important for Nicola. Obviously from a technical point of view, "with Benito I discovered a new world, he taught me about the philosophy of Bridge," but also from the human side

“Benito is pure passion. I remember about a match we played versus Balicki-Zmudzinski, who in my opinion are among the strongest players in the world. We won by a wide margin. Benito was so happy that despite being over 70 he was so excited that he kept jumping like a boy for the joy.”

“Nicola Del Buono? Who, the super-cool one?” I swear that I also heard about this comment, but let’s not deepen the issue in order not to bother... The captain of the ITALIA team. In fact, the npc will be Nicola’s wife, Valeria. “That was Aldo’s idea. After all, as a notary, he takes decisions about everything and everybody!”

Matteo Baldi

38 years old, Turin, Francesco Murgia’s partner



Computer scientist and very fond about sport, especially surfing (he has been practicing it for about 20 years now) and climbing. But, in these times, probably Matteo Baldi’s most extreme activity is working as an entrepreneur in the Eurozone. His father is Gianni Baldi, the professor (“il professore”), who puts his program knowledge at the service of bridge since the Eighties.

Benito Garozzo was instrumental also in Matteo’s case: “At 19, I wanted to start surfing, so I decided to go with my father in Bali, because he had to help the WBF in the world junior championships. At first I indeed tried surfing, but that was not easy. After some days I was very aching and tired, so I decided to have some rest in the rama theatre. There I met Benito, who was coaching the Italian junior National Team. He had the patience to teach me about Bridge. With such a teacher who wouldn’t have fallen in love with the game?”

Matteo’s company is dealing with IT and formation, and is very important in his area. Matteo’s biggest satisfaction is that their customers are very satisfied, but forget about the shark-entrepreneur’s cliché: one step aside from Sanya’s ticket, during the Semifinal of the Trials, with very few IMPs between the two teams, Matteo’s opponent did a revoke, which would have been the trick to defeat his contract. Without hesitation Matteo told him to change his card.

Pierfrancesco Parolaro

61 years old, Lecco, Gianni Patelli’s partner

What I definitely like best about this team is that all six are rightly very proud of themselves, even if they are aware of their limits. “Are you asking if we deserved this success? Yes we did, because we played better than almost all the other teams. We played at our best, and I also dare

to say that we all were humble and determined” said

Pierfrancesco, adding that a little extra support may have helped:

“When we bid a slam with two diamonds losers and our opponents did not cash them, I started to believe that maybe we had a supporter up above.”

The business manager for a mineral company started playing bridge at the bar during his high school years. Now he claims to be “very excited and extremely proud to represent my Country”. A little contradiction, but only apparent: “I don’t agree with Trials, because I think that in Italy there are only very few players gifted with excellent Bridge skills and able to provide top level play.”

Francesco Murgia

58 years old, Turin, Matteo Baldi’s partner

“I think that for Mr. Francesco life is nothing but the boring obstacle between him and the green felt.”

This is what Francesco Murgia’s business partner writes in his book’s chapter dedicated to him. In Turin, the two of them run a disc shop, that is also a benchmark for independent music in Italy.

The author of the book, Maurizio Blatto, is not a bridge player. He adds: “Listening to Francesco’s bridge conversations at the phone is a strange experience. The lexicon is somewhat between Russian submarines’ secret codes and porn subtexts. Some examples: ‘the small one shows appreciation, the high one resists.’ ‘I made a very hard one’ ‘I opened with mildew’”.

For Francesco, who is thus very fond of music, the soundtrack of this Championship is “China Girl” by David Bowie”.

Gianni Patelli

65 years old, from Brescia, Pierfrancesco Parolaro’s partner

Winning the travel, the accomodation and the entry fee was good for Gianni of course, but what was best for him was defeating team Cesati in the Trials’ semifinal. “In an interview they claimed that they would easily defeat us. Here we are,” Gianni winks. The business agent is very fond of Kenya.



Eye of the tiger

By Micke Melander

Almost all of us have probably at some point over the years seen some of the Rocky movies, which were first released in 1976. In these movies the boxer Rocky Balboa always seemed to find the power to get up again to make a comeback and win, even though he was counted out to nine in the ring.

In 1982 Rocky III arrived in the movie theaters with the theme song "Eye of the Tiger", produced by the American rock band "Survivor". Peter Bertheau and Jessica Larsson were counted out to nine, and risked not making the A-final in the Mixed pairs unless they had an extraordinary finish to secure their final place in the last qualification round. They could thus easily be put into the shoes of Rocky.

After the first day of the final Bertheau-Larsson had slowly climbed the ladder to go to sleep just 0.19% behind the leading Chinese pair Wang-Zhang and being second with more than 2.5% down to third place.

Friday morning offered the following show when they played Weinstein-Bjerkan.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ Q 3 ♥ A Q 8 7 ♦ 4 ♣ A K 10 9 7 5	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; 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 10 4 ♥ K 9 3 ♦ A K 10 9 6 3 ♣ J
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A K 8 2 ♥ 10 6 4 2 ♦ — ♣ Q 6 4 3 2										
	♠ 9 7 6 5 ♥ J 5 ♦ Q J 8 7 5 2 ♣ 8										

West	North	East	South
	<i>Bertheau</i>		<i>Larsson</i>
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
4♣	Dble	4♦	Dble
All Pass			

Knowing their position, Peter Bertheau made a real tiger double over 3NT, aware that not much was going to be well placed for declarer who had shown hearts and clubs, exactly the suits Rocky, (sorry Peter!), had behind him. However he only had no spot cards, and if West had dared to trust partner's pass and just follow that line he would have had an easy nine or even ten tricks in that game. West fled to Four Clubs which Bertheau again doubled, not knowing that also this would have been an easy contract to declare with more or less ten cold tricks, since Bertheau's clubs were so poor. East appeared on the scene with another diamond bid, and now they were in deep water. Four Diamonds doubled was passed out, and eventually went two down for a fantastic score of 113.92 of the 118 match points. This secured the Swedish Pair their spot in the final of the Mixed Pairs.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ Q 8 ♥ 9 6 ♦ K J 3 2 ♣ A 10 8 7 6	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; 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		♠ A K 9 6 ♥ A K 5 4 3 ♦ A 8 7 ♣ 9
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 7 5 4 2 ♥ J 10 ♦ 10 6 5 ♣ Q J 4 2										
	♠ J 10 3 ♥ Q 8 7 2 ♦ Q 9 4 ♣ K 5 3										

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Bjerkan</i>
INT	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
		3NT	All Pass



Cheri Bjerkan

Two Clubs was Gazilli style and Two Diamonds forcing to game if partner was strong. Then Two Spades showed that Larsson held a 16+ hand with at least 4-5 in the majors. In 3NT Weinstein led the two of clubs which went to the nine, king and Bertheau's ace. After studying his declaring problem for a while he produced the six of clubs on the table and at the same time putting his head down under the screen saying "just to say good morning" with a giggling smile to Howard Weinstein.

Weinstein eventually ducked, Bertheau set up his long suit and could claim eleven tricks when the jack-ten of spades fell under the ace-king-queen to set up the nine of spades as the last trick for declarer.

460 scored 34 of the 52 match points for E-W

Board 2. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

♠ A 6 2 ♥ K 10 9 5 ♦ A Q 9 8 ♣ 7 5	<table style="border: 2px solid green; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q 9 7 3 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ 6 5 3 ♣ 9 8 3	♠ K 10 5 4 ♥ 6 2 ♦ J 10 7 4 2 ♣ A 4 ♠ J 8 ♥ Q J 7 3 ♦ K ♣ K Q J 10 6 2
N						
W E						
S						

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Weinstein	Larsson	Bjerkman
		Pass	1♣
Dble	Pass	1♠	2♣
Pass	Pass	2♦	Pass
Pass	3♣	3♦	All Pass

Bjerkman led the king of clubs, ducked by Larsson. Another club followed, and declarer now won in hand to fire out the jack of diamonds, which went to the king, ace and the three from North. Another diamond followed to the ten on which South discarded a club. Larsson now played a heart to dummy's nine and when South followed low she had managed to play hearts with only one loser! Ten tricks after losing a trick to a club, a heart and a spade paid the Swedes 32 of the 52 match points this time.



14TH Red Bull
WORLD BRIDGE SERIES

Championship Diary - 2

Mr Knut Brinchmann, the General Secretary of the Norwegian Federation visited the 14th Red Bull World Bridge Series in Sanya to present Tromsø, the site of next year's European Open Championship (27 June to 11 July 2015). He told us that he has agreed with the Federations of Denmark, England, France, Germany, Poland and Sweden to conduct a draw at the end of their National Championships. The winners will receive a return flight ticket to Tromsø.

When one staff member mentioned they had been suffering a certain amount of intestinal discomfort during the night a wag suggested that we try and slip an intentional mistake past the proof readers by using the title *Championship Diarrhea*.

On hearing that he had again been overlooked by the IBPA's Annual Awards Committee one of the Editors consoled himself with the thought that at least he had now equalled the record held by the late Peter O'Toole who holds the record for receiving the most Oscar nominations (8) without ever winning one.

We can recommend Changyu, Cabernet Sauvignon Dry Red Wine (the vintage appears to be in Chinese) which should be available in any of the local supermarkets.

Running scores in the Mixed Pairs Final were not available on our computers, although they were displayed on the monitors on the floor below our office. No problem then, as the Editor completed his 51st marathon by running up and down the stairs to collect them after each pair of boards.

Beware the tricky Opening Lead

By Barry Rigal

We are not at the end, not even at the beginning of the end, but perhaps at the end of the beginning. With 30 deals to go and Bertheau-Larsson tied up with Zhao-Sanborn, I went to watch an outside chance for a medal, Auken-Welland. They did not disappoint, and one of the hands saw them at their most dangerous best.



Andrej Gromov

Board 1. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Welland</i>		<i>Auken</i>
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

At most tables North made the natural lead of his top diamond and declarer could win and draw trumps, then lead a second diamond up. A heart loser would inevitably depart on the minor-suit winners in dummy.

Welland as North had different ideas, selecting as his opening salvo (well he would, wouldn't he?) the obvious ♦4. Auken won her nine, and continued diamonds to Welland's king and dummy's ace. Now when declarer led a club to the queen, Welland won and returned a club. Declarer rose

with the king and drew trumps then had a choice between the double-finesse in hearts (no joy there) or trying to establish a discard for the hearts by running the jack of diamonds from dummy to pin the ten. No luck there either, and though West could have emerged with two overtricks on some good guesswork, one can hardly blame him for finishing with ten tricks and a round zero.

The Gromovs were still in contention, but this board saw a missed opportunity for them

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Chagas</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Pain</i>	<i>Gromova</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
1♠	Pass	INT	All Pass

Victoria Gromova stole her opponents best fit but the nebulous diamond stopped her from finding her side's best spot. She led a diamond to the queen and king, and Leda Pain drove out the heart ace, North discarding an encouraging diamond at trick three. Now the defenders cashed out the diamonds, declarer discarding two spades from dummy and a club from hand. When Gromova shifted to a low spade rather than the jack or nine, Pain seized her chance by ducking. Gromov won the ten and shifted to a club, but Pain finessed, rose with the ♠A on the spade return, then cashed her winners for a show-up squeeze on North for +90. While absolute par here is 3♦x down one for 100 to E/W +90 was a very respectable score.

Championship cards

The cards played at the championships are sold for EUR 100/200 decks.

Note that orders must be placed during the championships while delivery will be from Europe AFTER the event.

Please see (or email) per@jannersten.com to order or get more info.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
	Welland		Auken
		1♠	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4♠*
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

4♣ Last train

When West stayed out of the bidding Welland made what was initially a game try, and Auken cooperated with a last-train 4♣ call. Now after a 4♥ cuebid Auken could bid 4♠ and Welland jumped to slam. +920 was virtually all the marbles.

IBPA General Meeting and awards



Monday morning, 20th October.

In the WBF Meeting Room (directions below) at the MGM Grand

AGM starts 9 a.m. All members please be prompt

Awards at 9.30 a.m. to 9.50 a.m.

All free to play at 10 a.m.

Meeting finishes by 10.30 a.m. Those on the press trip leave at 10.45 a.m.

Directions to WBF meeting room

From the MGM Grand Playing Area go past Registration (on your left) and "comfy chairs" (on your right) up the escalator towards Reception but at the top turn RIGHT past the shops, Breakfast Room (Haitang Restaurant), circular table presentation, through the double doors to the office area. The offices are Press Room, Bulletin Room, WBF Secretary's room, and then round the corner to the left is the WBF Meeting Room.

World Championship Book 2014

The official book of these championships will be available around April next year. With analysis from our regular team of writers – John Carruthers, Barry Rigal, Brian Senior and Geo Tislevoll, it will again be in the full colour format first used for the 2013 edition and will comprise at least 336 large pages. There will be a full results listing, many photographs, and all the best of the action.

On publication, the official retail price will be US\$35-00. For the same price, you can pre-order while at these championships and have the book sent to you post free as soon as it is available.

In previous years the discount for buying at the championships has been greater. I should explain that the reason why I can no longer afford to be quite so generous is that it now costs something like US\$14 to send a single copy from England to anywhere else in the world (surface mail).

You can place your pre-order with Jan Swaan in the Press Room one floor up from the playing area in the MGM Grand. You may pay:

US\$35-00, 200 Chinese Yuan, £20-00 British pounds, or 25 Euros.



Bumps in the road

By Brent Manley

In the Mixed Pairs Final A, Peter Bertheau and Jessica Larsson of Sweden started the day just barely out of first place. By the end of the day's second session, they were at the top, thanks to their final round, against Zia Mahmood and Marion Michielsen.

A few missteps in the third of five sessions dropped the Swedes back to second behind Kerri Sanborn and Jie Zhao, but they were still in contention along with several other pairs with two rounds to go (20 boards).

This was the round against Zia and Michielsen.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ 9 7 ♥ A K Q 8 ♦ A 8 6 3 ♣ Q 8 7</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ J 8 6 ♥ 10 6 4 ♦ K 5 4 ♣ K 10 9 3</p>	<p>♠ A K 3 2 ♥ 9 ♦ J 9 7 2 ♣ A J 6 5</p>
<p>♠ Q 10 5 4 ♥ J 7 5 3 2 ♦ Q 10 ♣ 4 2</p>			
<p>West Zia</p> <p>INT 2♥</p>	<p>North Bertheau</p> <p>Pass Pass</p>	<p>East Michielsen</p> <p>2♣ 3NT</p>	<p>South Larsson</p> <p>Pass Pass All Pass</p>

Bertheau avoided the club lead that would have made 10 tricks for Zia trivial, but he didn't find the spade lead, which would have held declarer to nine tricks. Fortunately for the Swedes, Zia didn't realize that after Bertheau led the ♥4, covered by the 9, jack and ace, that he now had four heart tricks.

At trick two, Zia led a low diamond, ducking to Larsson's 10 when Bertheau layed low. She thought for a time and returned a heart. Zia won and played a club to the ace, eschewing the finesse, and played a diamond up, taking Larsson's queen with the ace and played a third round of the suit. Zia won the spade exit with the ace and played a club to the queen.

Zia ended up with two spades, three hearts, two clubs and two diamonds for plus 600. Not giving up the overtrick helped the Swedes to an 82.69% score. The next board, the last of the set, was even better for them.



Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

<p>♠ 5 4 ♥ A K 10 ♦ A Q 8 7 ♣ Q 8 6 5</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ K J 7 3 2 ♥ J 8 6 ♦ K J ♣ A K 9</p>	<p>♠ A 9 8 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ 9 6 5 4 ♣ J 10 7</p>
		<p>♠ Q 10 6 ♥ Q 9 7 5 ♦ 10 3 2 ♣ 4 3 2</p>	
<p>West Zia</p> <p>INT Rdbl</p>	<p>North Bertheau</p> <p>Dble All Pass</p>	<p>East Michielsen</p> <p>Pass</p>	<p>South Larsson</p> <p>Pass</p>

Bertheau's double showed strength. Zia meant his redouble as asking for help. Michielsen knew her side had at least half of the high-card points, so she reasonably thought her hand might be good enough to help her partner to seven tricks. If Zia rather than Bertheau had held the ♥J, Zia would have scored up INT redoubled instead of going down.

Larsson showed what a good partner she is by holding two honors in spades, the suit Bertheau led against the redoubled contract. North-South could not be prevented from taking seven tricks for plus 400 and 94.23% of the matchpoints.

Things started well for the Swedes in the third set of 10 boards. They scored 84.62% on the first board for making 10 tricks in 4♠ and about average on the second board. Round two did not bring good news for Bertheau and Larsson.

Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North <i>Bertheau</i>	East	South <i>Larsson</i>
		Pass	
1♦	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Had Larsson pulled the double to 2♥ or 2♠, North-South would have had a chance for a plus. Despite the bad trump split, declarer was not troubled to make 2♦ doubled with an overtrick. The opening heart lead went to the king and ace. Declarer played his singleton spade at trick two. Bertheau went in with the ♠A, cashed the ♥Q and played a third heart. Declarer ruffed and played the ♣K, taken by Bertheau with the ace. He continued with a spade to dummy's king, declarer discarding a club. He then ruffed a club, reducing Larsson to all trumps. She ruffed her spade from dummy and undertruffed when declarer ruffed a club with dummy's queen. Declarer gave up a club at the end but had an overtrick for plus 380 and nearly 89% of the matchpoints.

This board from the next round was also a disappointment.

Board 29. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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



West	North <i>Bertheau</i>	East	South <i>Larsson</i>
1♠	1♣	1♦	1♥
Dble	2♥	Pass	Pass
All Pass	Pass	2♠	3♥

Bertheau started with the ♦A and continued with the ♦Q when Larsson signaled encouragement. At trick three, Bertheau shifted to the ♣10. Declarer played low and Larsson again signaled encouragement with the 3. Declarer played a spade to dummy's ace and ran the ♥10. Bertheau took the ♥K and continued with his second club, taking the ruff when Larsson won the ace and returned the suit. Plus 100 gave them 71.15% on the board.

They scored a near top on the final board when the opponents played in 5♦ undoubled for plus 440 (Bertheau led his partner's suit and a club trick went away) when other pairs were in slam or were doubled in lower diamond contracts.

It was a good finish for a disappointing 48.62% session.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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



West	North <i>Bertheau</i>	East	South <i>Larsson</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Dbel	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

Did redouble show the ♥A? Should it? Perhaps Bertheau should have bid 6♠ himself. It seems logical that Larsson's pass of the double of 5♥ indicated some further interest in slam but a problem in hearts. In any case, the wires appeared to have been crossed and the slam was missed.

Larsson claimed after winning the heart opening lead, conceding a heart. Plus 480 was worth only 13.46%.

The boards weren't all bad. Bertheau and Larsson earned a good score for their accurate defense on the following deal.



Jessica Larsson



MIXED PAIRS FINAL A



Rank	Pair	Country	%
1	SANBORN Kerri	ZHAO Jie	USA - CHN 60.45
2	PSZCZOLA Jacek	WORTEL Meike	USA - NED 56.58
3	WANG Nan	ZHANG Bangxiang	CHN - CHN 56.51
4	BERTHEAU Peter	LARSSON Jessica	SWE - SWE 55.93
5	AUKEN Sabine	WELLAND Roy	GER - GER 55.11
6	GROMOV Andrey	GROMOVA Victoria	RUS - RUS 55.09
7	CRONIER Philippe	WILLARD Sylvie	FRA - FRA 55.04
8	CHEEK Curtis	DEAS Lynn	USA - USA 54.11
9	BILDE Dennis	MADSEN Christina Lund	DEN - DEN 53.81
10	KOWALSKI Apolinary	MISZEWSKA Ewa	POL - POL 53.66
11	DUBININ Alexander	PONOMAREVA Tatiana	RUS - RUS 53.14
12	BERTHEAU Kathrine	UPMARK Johan	SWE - SWE 52.93
13	STANSBY JoAnna	STANSBY Lew	USA - USA 52.77
14	BERKOWITZ David	BERKOWITZ Dana	USA - USA 52.69
15	GUNEV Rossen	POPOVA Desi	BUL - BUL 52.56
16	CICHOCKI Mirosław	HOCHER Danuta	POL - POL 52.12
17	GEORGE Julius Anthonius	SUMAMPOUW Conny	INA - INA 51.41
18	BROCK Sally	MYERS Barry	ENG - ENG 51.35
19	SHAN Xingxing	WU Zhen	CHN - CHN 51.18
20	CALLAGHAN Brian	DUCKWORTH Christine	ENG - ENG 51.02
21	BJERKAN Cheri	WEINSTEIN Howard	USA - USA 50.99
22	NG Kelvin	TAN Gemma	SIN - PHI 50.84
23	WANG Liping	GUI Shen Yue	CHN - CHN 50.69
24	LEI Li	YAO Jiangtao	CHN - CHN 50.47
25	YOU Suhua	GAO Peicheng	CHN - CHN 50.10
26	ZHAO Jian	WANG Hongli	CHN - CHN 49.99
27	HE Xinmei	GAN Xinli	CHN - CHN 49.94
28	ELLINGSEN Kristian	NILSEN Louise	NOR - NOR 49.91
29	ARONOV Victor	ZOBU Ahu	BUL - TUR 49.90
30	LIU Yi Qian	WANG Weimin	CHN - CHN 49.76
31	KORBEL Daniel	SHI Sylvia	CAN - USA 49.75
32	ROMANOWSKI Jerzy	ROSSARD Martine	FRA - FRA 49.50
33	MAHMOOD Zia	MICHIELSEN Marion	USA - NED 49.27
34	ASBI Taufik Gautama	BOJOH Lusje Olha	INA - INA 49.12
35	SINCLAIR Anita	ZORLU Nafiz	ENG - TUR 48.77
36	MCGARRY Dennis	MCGARRY Linda	USA - USA 48.50
37	LI Hui	BI Shuguang	CHN - CHN 48.38
38	KISSINGER John	KISSINGER Susan	USA - USA 47.79
39	ZHANG Yulan	YIN Men Liang	CHN - CHN 47.51
40	TAO Shiyong	ZHAO Yan	CHN - CHN 47.19
41	BLOOM Valerie	EBER Neville	RSA - RSA 47.13
42	NEHMERT Pony Beate	YUEN Michael	GER - CAN 46.76
43	GAN Lin	CHEN Yunlong	CHN - CHN 46.58
44	LIU Jing	WANG Jian-Jian	CHN - USA 46.46
45	GILLIS Simon	HARDING Marianne	ENG - NOR 45.62
46	SEHENSKY Barry	SHNIER Barbara	CAN - CAN 45.28
47	MA Aiyue	WANG Cheng	CHN - CHN 45.25
48	CHUA Gang	SEET Choon Cheng	SIN - SIN 45.12
49	LIU Shu	SHEN Yu Xiong	CHN - CHN 44.88
50	IMAKURA Tadashi	ITO Midori	JPN - JPN 44.87
51	TIAN Wei	SHI Bin	CHN - CHN 44.81
52	CHAGAS Gabriel	PAIN Leda	BRA - BRA 44.81
53	GANZER Craig	PICUS Sue	USA - USA 43.82
54	TOBING Robert Parasian	TUEJE Julita Grace	INA - INA 42.46