Zakrzesewski has best record in Vivendi Rosenblum

The Polish team, Zakrzesewski has 215 VPs out of a possible 250 to lead Jan Westerhof's Dutch team by 36 VPs in Group D. Next biggest score is the 207 of Gabriel Chagas of Brazil. That gives them a lead of 21 VPs over Marino in Group E.

Two-thirds of the way through the group stage, the cream is gradually making its way to the top of the various groups but there are still some heavyweight teams with a lot of work to do. Maas of the Netherlands lies only seventh in Group B behind leaders, Calderwood (GBR) and Svoboda (CZR) with four to qualify; Sussel of France lies ninth in Group E; Bramley (USA) is seventh in Group F.

The group leaders are as follows:

- A - Yalcin, Switzerland, 202;
- B - Calderwood, Great Britain, 180;
- S - Walvick, USA, 181;
- C - Nilsson, Sweden, 204;
- D - Zakrzesewski, Poland, 215;
- W - Svoboda, Czech Republic, 170;
- E - Chagas, Brazil, 207;
- F - Westra, Netherlands, 189.5;
- P - Westerhof, Netherlands, 179.3;
- G - Angelini, Italy, 195;
- H - Rocafor, France, 192;
- I - Robinson, USA, 198;
- J - Calderwood, Great Britain, 191;
- K - Cronier, France, 191;
- L - Beauvillain, France, 174;
- M - Bitran, France, 189;
- N - Izisel, France, 195;
- O - Dufour, France, 187;
- R - Ross, USA, 197;
- S - Hackett, Great Britain, 195;
- T - Guarnieri, France, 195.

Erhart still has best record in Louis Vuitton McConnell Teams

Marina Erhart’s Austrian squad still leads Group Z of the McConnell Teams with 160 VPs, three ahead of Karen Allison of USA with 157. The qualification in this event is the top eight teams from each group so there are few top teams in danger of not making the cut.

Other group leaders are:

- W - Modica, Italy, 156;
- X - Morse, USA, 151;
- Y - McGowan, Great Britain, 149.5;
- Blouquit, France, 146.5;
- Wood, USA, 146;
- Munson, USA, 146.5;
- Soledar, USA, 146.5.

Late arrivals

Yesterday an unexpectedly large number of late arrivals were given out - and NOT just for the first match of the day!

The Conditions of Contest are clear and rightfully severe. Besides the discourtesy to the opponents, the loss of playing time to discuss systems, the play of difficult hands, etc., late arrivals are destructive to the orderly progress of the game.

Events of the impressive size of the Rosenblum and McConnell Championships cannot effectively take place without attention to the schedule.

The alternative to penalties is to do what the railroads do - they leave on time and YOU miss the train! Completely!

William Schoder
Chief Tournament Director

Italy Wins Lipton Ice Tea Junior Teams

The first stage of the Junior Triathlon ended yesterday with a win for Italy in the Junior Teams. The INTONTI team (Intonti, Marino, Pagani, Medusei) lost their last match against a French team by 14-16 VPs, but that was just sufficient to hold off MADSEN (Denmark), who finished with a maximum but were just too far behind. Another Italian team, GUARIGLIA, won their last match by 16-14 when they needed 24 VPs to overtake their compatriots. INTONTI finished 2 VPs ahead of MADSEN with GUARIGLIA a further 5 VPs behind the Danes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP A</th>
<th>GROUP B</th>
<th>GROUP C</th>
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<td>FRANCOIS INC 94</td>
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### LOUIS VUITTON McCONNELL CUP

**Round-Robin Standings after 8 rounds**

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<td>1. MC GOWAN GBR</td>
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<td>4. FRANKEN NLD</td>
<td>4. TRUCCOTT USA</td>
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<td>8. ZUR ALBU ISR</td>
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<td>13. BIRR DEU</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. CHORUS NLD</td>
<td>14. BOLIER FRA</td>
<td>14. GOTE SWE</td>
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#### WBF Congress

**The World Bridge Federation Congress**

The meeting will be held in the Eurotop Auditorium (fifth floor) on **Wednesday, 26 August, at 9:30 a.m.**

All countries are urged to send a delegate. A cocktail-buffet will be served to delegates at lunch time.

#### European Seniors Committee and Delegates Meeting

Please note that this meeting is to be held 15 minutes after the end of play on Wednesday 26 August. The room in which this meeting is to be held is the SEPTENTRION ROOM on the 5th floor.

The agenda:
- Roll Call
- Chairman’s Introduction
- General senior activities within the framework of the European Bridge League
- The 5th European Senior Pairs Championship in Poland in March 1999
- The European Senior Teams Championship, June 1999, Malta
- Discussion on ideas to promote senior bridge in Europe
- Plans for Bermuda Bowl type tournament among senior teams
- Miscellaneous
Convention cards

The regulations for the World Championship stated that all players should register their convention cards for all events upon their arrival in Lille. These regulations were put in place:
1. To ensure that only correctly completed convention cards would be in use.
2. To ensure that no pairs would use unauthorised methods.
3. To ensure that players would be aware of their responsibilities with regard to full disclosure.
4. To encourage players to use the WBF CCE in order to complete their cards and to assess the popularity of the CCE.

It was never intended that the Systems Desk should provide a photocopying service when cards are registered. It is the responsibility of the individual pairs to ensure that they bring sufficient copies of their cards to enable them to register one copy and to provide copies to their opponents at the table.

It has now been decided, because of the size of the field, that there will be no registration of systems for pair events.

However, players are reminded that no Brown Sticker conventions are permitted in any event other than the knockout stages of the Rosenblum and McConnell Teams. Further, players are responsible for full disclosure of their system and methods on their cards. Pairs failing to comply with these regulations face severe penalties.

John Wignall

Double dummy problem

Pietro Bernasconi has come up with another of his famous double dummy problems. Bernasconi is the man who set up the problems that caused 34 experts so many headaches in the Jean Besse Foundation Par Contest, sponsored by Compaq Computers, a couple of days ago.

As he handed us this problem, Bernasconi said, "I want Michael Rosenberg to present me with the solution." Rosenberg was the winner of the $35,000 first prize in the Par Contest. The hand:

North:
- K 8
- K 7 6 5 4
- K J 9 5
- 6 5

South:
- Q 7
- Q 6
- A J 9 3 2
- J 10 8
- A 4 3 2

The contract is 4♥, and the opening lead is the ♥K. Make 4♥ against the best possible defence. You may submit your solutions to the Daily Bulletin office on the seventh floor.

John Wignall

French justify 4♥ calls

by Peter Gill (Australia)

Board 20 of Session One of the J.M.Weston Mixed Pairs final has already been written up twice, but my French opponent, whose name I did not see, justified his 4♥ bid with splendid play.

Board 20. All Vul. Dealer West.

North
- K 10 8
- K 4
- A K 8 7 4
- Q 6 2

South
- Q 5
- 9 7 4 3
- J 10 5
- K J 9 7 3

East still had to discard and had just been criss-cross squeezed - a nasty punishment for an inferior choice of opening lead. +1460 was worth 226 matchpoints; the other declarers in hearts made only twelve tricks.

More French card-play skills were exhibited on Board 14 from the second qualifying session, when again my French opponent justified a 4♥ bid with splendid play.


North
- 5 2
- J
- J 10 9 3
- A K 9 8 5 2

East
- K Q
- K 8 7 5
- A K 8 5
- Q 6 4

South
- A

Pass
- 3♣
- 4♥

The 3♣ bid promised four spades and five hearts. North’s 4♥ call was to prove superior to the 3NT chosen by North in the earlier article.

North received a spade lead, picking up the queen. He cashed all his major-suit winners, coming down to:

- –
- –
- A K
- Q 6

- –
- –
- Q 9
- 10 9

- –
- –
- 6 3 2
- K J

East had to discard and had just been squeezed - a nasty punishment for an inferior choice of opening lead. +1460 was worth 226 matchpoints; the other declarers in hearts made only twelve tricks.

More French card-play skills were exhibited on Board 14 from the second qualifying session, when again my French opponent justified a 4♥ bid with splendid play.

South led the ♥J and East smoothly ducked it, a cost-free play missed by almost every other declarer. North tanked but eventually decided that the danger of partner having ♥J107 and ♥Qx (or ♥Qxx) outweighed the chance of declarer having ♥1073, so ducked. Declarer was eventually able to pitch a club from dummy on the jack of spades to bring home her contract. +420 was worth most of the matchpoints.

Schedule of events

(Today)
10:45 Vivendi Rosenblum Cup (Round-Robin)
10:45 Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup (Round-Robin)
10:45 Lipton Ice Tea Junior Pairs (Triathlon)
10:45 Coralia Continuous Pairs

(Tomorrow)
10:45 Vivendi Rosenblum Cup (Round of 64)
10:45 Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup (Round of 32)
10:45 Lipton Ice Tea Junior Pairs (Third and fourth sessions)
10:45 Senior Teams
10:45 Coralia Continuous Pairs
We guess that everyone has been doing that so far here in Lille as the weather has been just a trifle on the damp side. In keeping with the conditions outside all four leading pairs found the second session of the J.M.Weston Mixed pairs Championship hard work.

The following boards were typical of the Auken's session.

**Board 7. All Vul. Dealer South**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♠ K 2</td>
<td>♣ A 6</td>
<td>♠ J 10 T 3</td>
<td>♠ A 10 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>♠ 10 8</td>
<td>♠ A 6 5</td>
<td>♠ 10 7</td>
<td>♠ A 10 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>♠ 9 1</td>
<td>♠ K Q 8 5 3 2</td>
<td>♠ 3 1</td>
<td>♠ A 9 6 4 2</td>
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</table>

South's opening bid promised a weak two-suiter and Jens Auken found himself with a bidding problem at his second turn. 3NT was one possibility and he may even have considered some move towards a slam. Eventually he settled for a middle of the road approach and raised Sabine to game.

**Board 8. Love All. Dealer West**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♠ J 10 8 7 4</td>
<td>♠ Q 7 6</td>
<td>♠ J 10 5 3</td>
<td>♠ 6 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠ K 9</td>
<td>♠ A K 9 3</td>
<td>♠ 4 2</td>
<td>♠ J 9 7 5 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

South led the ♥10, and although Sabine did not divine the trump position, the lie of the club suit gave her 11 tricks. After she had discarded one losing spade on the established club she exited with the ♥9 so she could ruff a second losing diamond in the dummy. Another reasonable result but it only added up to the bronze medal position.

**Board 18. N/S Vul. Dealer East.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♠ A J 8</td>
<td>♠ Q 7 5 4</td>
<td>♠ K 3 2</td>
<td>♠ K 9 3 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠ 6 1</td>
<td>♠ K Q 10 8 3</td>
<td>♠ 8 1</td>
<td>♠ Q J 10 6 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠ 9 1</td>
<td>♠ A 10 6 3</td>
<td>♠ 10 9 6</td>
<td>♠ 9 8 5 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sabine's first thought was that 3♥ was a mini-splinter, but then she decided it was just promising a good hand. When Jens went back to hearts she realised she had been right the first time. South led the ♥10, and although Sabine did not divine the trump position, the lie of the club suit gave her 11 tricks. After she had discarded one losing spade on the established club she exited with the ♥9 so she could ruff a second losing diamond in the dummy. Another reasonable result but it only added up to the bronze medal position.
Who was Saving?

McGowan (GB) v Winestock (Australia) in the McConnell Cup qualifying stage featured a deal on which it was right to sacrifice against a grand slam when your side held two aces. This was the deal:

**Board 6. E/W Vul. Dealer East.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McGowan</td>
<td>Balog</td>
<td>Dhondy</td>
<td>Winestock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♦ K 8 7 3</td>
<td>♠ ♦ 8 ♦ 7</td>
<td>♠ ♣ A 7 6 5 2</td>
<td>♠ ♣ ♦ 6 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♦ 10 9 5 4 2</td>
<td>♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠ A 7 ♦ 9 3</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
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<tr>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
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<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
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<tr>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
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<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
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<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
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<tr>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Open Room, we are assured that East opened 4♥ and played there for +650. This looks to be a mildly eccentric choice of opening bid but who are we to argue?

There was a lot more action in the Closed Room.

**Promotional Play**

This deal from the J.M. Weston Mixed Pairs saw a neat defence by one of the top Italian pairs.

**Board 21. N/S Vul. Dealer North.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zucchini</td>
<td>Azzimonti</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠ ♦ 1♥</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ Pass</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ All Pass</td>
<td>♠ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hoping to set up some ruffs for his partner North started with the two of hearts which went to the seven,jack and ace. Declarer played a diamond to the 9 and king and doubtless thought he was well on the way to making his contract. South switched to the ♦4 and North took his ace and returned the ♦3. West put up the king and was disappointed to see South ruff. Back came the ♦2 taken by dummy's king as declarer got rid of the ♦10. He played a spade to the jack and ace and North continued with the ♦4. South was wide awake and ruffed with the ♦K in order to return the ♦9. That ensured a further trump trick for the defence and the contract was one down.

**The least expensive mistake in the world championships**

by Johan De Grave & Herman De Wael

Hubert Janssens has to lead from ♦QJ109 ♦A86 ♦A4 ♦Q875 to a contract of two clubs. The queen of spades did not tax his opening lead skills.

The lead is taken on the table and a diamond goes to the jack, king and ace. Hubert crosses to partner's ♦Q and she plays her trump king. West returns a diamond, ruffed with the seven. Hubert plays the ♦J to the King, and West tries another diamond. If Hubert ruffs this, the contract will fail.

Instead he threw a heart, allowing the contract to make. This proved far from expensive. But how did they get there in the first place? Greet De Grave in South thought it was time to do something, so she opened 1♥ West bid 2♥, and Hubert Janssens passed, expecting partner to reopen the bidding, but she didn't.

-90 scored 81.4% of the available match points, with most pairs going down in 2, 3 or 4 hearts.

+100 would have been 84.1%. The victims? Lavazza - Duboin!

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**XVI Cairo Bridge Festival**

The Festival will be held at the Ramses Hilton Hotel, Cairo, from February 15th-20th 1999. The program includes Open Pairs, Open Teams and Mixed Pairs and the prize fund totals over $35000.

The first BFAAME Zonal Junior Championship will also be held alongside the festival.

For further information please contact:

**Mr Hossam El-Din A Hamid**
President of Egyptian Bridge Federation
Head of Organising Committee
Tel & Fax: 202-4039941/2623549
e-mail: ebf@ec.egnet.net

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**Hesitations by screenmate**

The tournament directing staff report that there have been many instances of a player calling for a director to report a hesitation by his screenmate - while the bidding is still in progress!

Clearly this should never be done! Automatically such a call confers illegal information. Under no circumstances should any player call a director concerning a hesitation by a screenmate during the auction period.
E/W Vul. Dealer South.

North
\[ \spadesuit\ A\ J\ 6\ 5\ 2\ \clubsuit\ J\ 10\ 9\ 8\ 7\ 6\ \heartsuit\ 9\ 6\ \diamondsuit\ - \]

South
\[ \spadesuit\ K\ 7\ \clubsuit\ A\ K\ Q\ \heartsuit\ Q\ J\ \diamondsuit\ J\ 8\ 7\ 5\ 4\ 3 \]

West

North

East

South

1NT

2\[ \text{Dble Pass Pass} \]

2NT 4\[ \text{(1) Pass 4} \]

All Pass

(1) Transfer to hearts

West leads the \[ \spadesuit\ A. \]

After the ace of diamonds, West cashes the king of diamonds, then exits with a small club.

West’s 2NT bid is an attempt to bail out of a desperate situation in the hope of finding a fit in one of the minor suits. Such tight-rope walking, when vulnerable, can only be justified if his distribution is 5-0-4-4.

Had West exited with a spade at trick two, the contract would be easily won as follows: South wins with the king and continues a spade to the jack, which must be ruffed by East who exits with a trump. After ruffing two clubs in dummy and two spades in hand, dummy still has enough trumps left (three) to draw East’s two remaining trumps and cash the ace of spades for the tenth trick.

West’s counter-play in clubs shortens dummy’s trumps and thus foils the above line of play. However, it opens the way to another winning line: setting up the club suit.

**Solution**

South ruffs the club in dummy, comes to hand with the king of spades at trick four, ruffs a second club and presents a small spade from dummy. East must ruff and return a trump, otherwise declarer cannot be prevented from making his nine trumps separately on a cross-ruff.

Another club is ruffed to reach the following position:

\[ \spadesuit\ A\ J\ 6\ \heartsuit\ J\ 10\ \diamondsuit\ -\ \spadesuit\ -\ \clubsuit\ Q\ 10\ 9\ \heartsuit\ 5\ 4\ \diamondsuit\ xxx\ \spadesuit\ A\ \spadesuit\ -\ \heartsuit\ A\ K\ \spadesuit\ -\ \spadesuit\ J\ 8\ 7 \]

North to lead.

Declarer needs to make all the remaining tricks. The ace of spades is played, which East must ruff (otherwise South throws a club and cross-ruffs the rest), South over-ruffs, ruffs a fourth club in dummy and returns to hand by drawing East’s last trump to cash the two remaining clubs.

The full hand:

\[ \spadesuit\ A\ J\ 6\ 5\ 2\ \heartsuit\ J\ 10\ 9\ 8\ 7\ 6\ \diamondsuit\ 9\ 6\ \spadesuit\ -\ \clubsuit\ Q\ 10\ 9\ 8\ 3\ \heartsuit\ 4\ 3\ 2\ \spadesuit\ A\ K\ Q\ \spadesuit\ J\ 8\ 7\ 5\ 4\ \clubsuit\ K\ 7\ \heartsuit\ A\ K\ Q\ \spadesuit\ Q\ J\ \spadesuit\ J\ 8\ 7\ 5\ 4 \]

**Note**

If West’s distribution, though unlikely, had been 5-1-3-4 or 5-1-4-3, the recommended line of play would have come to the same result.

Suppose his distribution were 6-0-4-3 or 6-0-3-4 (unlikely, since he would have stayed in 2\[ doubled), the contract would be unmakable, for East/West would have no trouble scoring two spade ruffs and two top diamonds.

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**The Par Contest - Problem 1**

Special shuttles will leave from the following hotels to the Lille Grand Palais and will return in the evenings at the stated time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercure Lesquin</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novotel Lesquin</td>
<td>09.45</td>
<td>08.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novotel Englos</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercure Englos</td>
<td>09.45</td>
<td>08.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campanile CHR</td>
<td>10.10</td>
<td>09.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Western Marcq</td>
<td>09.45</td>
<td>08.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balladins Marcq</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>09.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sofitel Marcq</td>
<td>10.05</td>
<td>09.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ibis Villeneuve</td>
<td>09.45</td>
<td>08.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascotel Villeneuve</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>09.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From Lille Grand Palais, shuttles from 18.00 to 21.30
For further information: 06 03 79 40 78 or 06 60 17 55 34

All Shuttles from Lille Grand Palais will depart from the front of the building, to the left of the main door
Shuttles are provided by the City of Lille and Urban Community

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Lille, France 1998
Wednesday, 26 August 1998
7
Cronier vs. Seguin

Eight boards were pushed in the first match we watched today. Philippe Cronier’s team scored 4 IMPs each on the other two boards to win, 17-13 in Victory Points and 8-0 in IMPs. Their opponents were captained by Patrick Seguin. Interestingly enough, the most exciting board was a push.

Board 1. None vul. Dealer North

West North East South
de Sainte Marie Pignot Bompis Buba

It’s quite amazing that the swing on this deal was only 4 IMPs. André Buba raised his partner’s weak two-bid to game, but that didn’t stop Thierry de Sainte Marie from coming in - he tried 5♦. D. Pignot had two aces, so he raised to slam. But there were still two aces missing, and the defence took them to set the contract one trick.


West North East South
de Sainte Marie Pignot Bompis Buba

The bidding diagram is NOT in error. North NEVER bid with his 8-5. It appears that 5♦ will go down only one trick for a good save. Clearly it was the unfavourable vulnerability that convinced Pignot to pass - but would you have been able to maintain silence throughout the auction? Certainly the auction must have been different at the other table.

Board 8. None vul. Dealer West.

West North East South
de Sainte Marie Pignot Bompis Buba

It was! South didn’t even bid 1♦! Otherwise it was the same for a push. Michel Lebel also decided the North hand was not worth a bid.


West North East South
de Sainte Marie Pignot Bompis Buba

Internet News

All the computers being used at these Championships are connected to the World Bridge Federation’s server. You can access all sorts of information, including material that may not always appear in the Daily Bulletin by visiting the site at www.bridge.fr.
The Louis Vuitton McConnell Cup - Liu v Truscott

For our first visit to the McConnell Cup we take a brief look at the match between Liu of China and Truscott of the United States. LIU is the team which, with one change in personnel last year, has been runner-up in the last two World Teams Championships. Truscott leads an experienced American squad.

The boards were very dull in general so we are limiting this report to the two swing boards.


A 9% grand slam

by Philippe Brunel, France

It wasn't all that good a grand slam - only 9% - but all that doesn't matter when the contract makes. The deal occurred in the seventh match of the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams round-robin.

The Chinese strong club action made North declarer, which was a good idea on this deal. Of even greater importance was the fact that declarer's side suit had not been revealed during the auction. Truscott led a club, the only suit not to give the contract immediately. Sanders won the Ace and had to find a switch.

We can all see that a heart switch would have been spades, assuming spades to be partner's suit after the overcall. Joann Sprung raised to 4 and the diamonds broke 3-3 and both honours were ended. Zhang won the King and switched to a club.

The score in the match was 19-3 IMPs to LIU.

A 9% grand slam

by Philippe Brunel, France

Lille clippings competition

In each hospitality bag you should find a Freepost envelope to use after the event to submit Press Clippings mentioning these championships.

This is intended for clippings from publications such as newspapers and magazines other than bridge magazines. Only the author or editor should submit articles from bridge magazines.

Please include the full clipping, the name and country of the publication, the date of publication, name of the author of the piece and, if you know it, the approximate number of copies of the publication printed (e.g. one million). Send as many different clippings as you like in one envelope.

All such clippings will be eligible for prizes, both for the journalists and, by random draw only, for the person who submitted the clipping. So include your own name and address if you wish to receive a prize.

To be eligible for prizes the clippings must be received before the end of November this year.
Appeals Committee:
Joan Gerard (Chairman, USA), Chris Compton (USA), Jean-Louis Derivery (France), Barbara Nudelman (USA), David Stevenson (England).

Tournament Director:
AS Viswanathan

Mixed pairs Round 3
Belgium v Lebanon

Board 1. Dealer North. No-one Vulnerable.

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

TD’s decision:
3♦ doubled minus two.

The Committee’s decision:
The Committee ruled: 3♦ doubled by East making: -530 to N/S. Deposit returned.

Appeals Committee:
Joan Gerard (Chairman, USA), Chris Compton (USA), Jean-Louis Derivery (France), Barbara Nudelman (USA), David Stevenson (England).

Mixed pairs Round 3
France v Netherlands


West North East South
♠ 6 5 ♦ J 10 7 5 ♣ 6 5 4 3 ♥ Q 18
♥ J 9 7 2 ♦ K Q ♠ A K 8 3 ♥ 9 8 6 3 2
♦ Q J 9 8 ♠ A 7 5 ♥ Q 10 4 ♦ A 4
♣ A 10 9 4 3 ♠ A K 10 7 2 ♦ K 6 2

West North East South
Pass Pass 1NT Pass
Pass 3♦ Pass Pass Dble (1)
Dble All Pass

(A) = alerted

Facts:
The meaning of 2♣(1) was that it showed diamonds plus either hearts or spades. On West’s convention card it said “DON’T”. West did not speak English or Dutch and attempted to explain the meaning using first pen and paper and subsequently the bidding cards. South did not speak English or French. The original description written on the paper was “R = 4: H or S = 4” and was far from clear. The TD was called at the end of the auction and recalled at the end of the hand. South’s first double was negative: promised hearts or extra values.

Result at the table:
4♠ minus one.

The Committee’s decision:
The Committee ruled: Table score stands (3♦ doubled minus two). Deposit returned.

Appeal No. 3
Reported by David Stevenson (England)

West North East South
2♣ 3♣ 1♠ Pass Pass
3♠ Pass Pass Pass Dble (1)
Pass 4♠ All Pass

Facts:
The second double by South (1) was agreed upon by the Committee.
The TD was called at the end of the auction and recalled at the end of the hand. South’s first double was negative: promised hearts or extra values.

Result at the table:
4♠ minus one.

The Committee’s decision:
The Committee ruled: Table score stands (3♦ doubled minus two). Deposit returned.

Appeal No. 4
Reported by David Stevenson (England)

West North East South
Pass Pass Pass 1NT
Pass 2♣(A) 3♦
Dble All Pass

(A) = alerted

Facts:
The meaning of 2♣(1) was that it showed diamonds plus either hearts or spades. On West’s convention card it said “DON’T”. West did not speak English or Dutch and attempted to explain the meaning using first pen and paper and subsequently the bidding cards. South did not speak English or French. The original description written on the paper was “R = 4: H or S = 4” and was far from clear. The TD was called at the end of the auction and recalled at the end of the hand. South’s first double was negative: promised hearts or extra values.

Result at the table:
3♦ doubled minus two.

The Committee’s decision:
The Committee ruled: Table score stands (3♦ doubled minus two). Deposit returned.

The Committee believed that this was a pure misunderstanding. West did his best to make clear the meaning of the bid, and South had tried to understand it. However, a correct explanation had been made, and it was up to South to understand it or seek help via the Tournament Director.

The Committee also felt that West would have done better to call for help from the Tournament Director, once he realised there was a problem in understanding his explanation.

The Committee noted the regulation in the Conditions of Contest that Appeals Committees would not consider matters that were solely caused by one side’s inability or unwillingness to express themselves in English but considered it did not apply to this case. They also noted the regulations concerning filling in of convention cards, and considered that the use of the name of a convention that is not a standard worldwide convention was completely inadequate. They also did not understand why an artificial adjusted score had been awarded. They also comment that if writing descriptions it is more sensible to use suit symbols, which everyone understands, rather than suit initials, which are different in different countries.

The Committee’s decision:
The Committee ruled: Table score stands (3♦ doubled minus two). Deposit returned. 15% of a top Procedural Penalty to East-West for Inadequate description of convention on convention card and failure to explain it helpfully.
**Wright was right - But the Price was wrong...**
*by Hans Werge, Denmark*

It’s not just the average player who needs a repetition of the most important rules from time to time. I suppose British experts Lionel Wright and David Price might have had some discussion after this board from Monday’s match against Team Norris from Denmark. It seems to me that East must have forgotten the BOLS tip given by Gabriel Chagas - ‘Never spoil your partner’s brilliancy.’

*Love All. Dealer North.*

1NT 2NT 3NT 4NT 5 NT

At one table, Halberg-Wrang had bid the N/S cards to a reasonable 3NT, making 12 tricks with the favourable club position. At the other table E/W were Wright-Price. N/S Nils Graulund-Thomas Berg bid the poor slam this way:

1NT 2NT 3 NT

West’s fourth in hand opening was an upgraded weak two and East used a relay to discover that her partner was maximum with a club feature. Worried about something she decided not to go on to game and Paul Chemla led the 2 to Catherine’s ace. It looks natural to switch to the singleton club hoping for a ruff, but she realised that it might lead to declarer dropping a hypothetical singleton king of spades in her partner’s hand. So she continued with a heart on which declarer switched to a club. Declarer won and played a diamond! Chemla won and switched to a club. Declarer won and played a diamond! Chemla won and gave his partner a club ruff.

Declarer claimed the rest and takes our award for gallantry by working overtime to justify his partner’s bidding!

**The Noblest Icelander of them all**

Catherine d’Ovideo told us a wonderful story from the J.M.Weston Mixed Pairs Championship. It happened in the first qualifying round when a pair from Iceland opposed the French superstars.

*Board 13. Game All. Dealer North.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4NT</td>
<td>4NT</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>5NT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6♠</td>
<td>6♠</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>3♠</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

West: AKQJ5 N

Nils Jensen of Sweden, former vice president of the World Bridge Federation, has brought a number of special honour pins that will be offered for sale at Per Jannersten’s book desk on the third floor. There are spade pins for Grand Masters, heart pins for World Masters, diamond pins for International Masters, and club pins for other contestants. These pins were originally offered for sale at the 1983 Bermuda Bowl World Championships in Sweden.

**Société Générale Group: Profile**

Société Générale is a key player in the increasingly global banking market

**European Loan House of the Year (IFR)**

**Nº1 bookrunner for all French franc bond issues (IFR)**

**Nº1 bank for DEM/FRF and USD/FRF currency swaps, FRF interest rate options and CAC 40 index options (Risk Magazine)**

**Nº4 arranger of syndicated credits by number of issues (excluding US) (IFR)**

**Nº13 bookrunner for all international equity issues (IFR)**

**Nº14 adviser for European cross-border mergers and acquisitions (Acquisitions)**

**France:**

**Nº1 lead manager for equity and convertible bond issues**

**Nº1 bookrunner for equity block trades on the secondary market**

**Nº1 mutual fund manager (based on assets under management)**

**7th largest bank worldwide based on total assets**

**13th largest capitalization on the Paris stock exchange at December 31, 1997**

350,000 shareholders

2,600 branches in France (including Crédit du Nord)

500 offices in 80 countries

**Ratings at December 31, 1997**

Aa3 (Moody’s), AA (ICBA), AA- (Standard & Poor’s)

*The Banker, July 1998*
Late players dominated the first major auction pairs event to be staged in the UK that was played in London last weekend. Many of them were taking the opportunity to practice for these Championships, but doubtless had a mild interest in the first prize of £100,000.

Fourteen pairs qualified for the final and this is how they finished:

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Howard Weinstein-Steve Garner</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>101.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Maria Joao Lara-Manuel Capuco</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>73.23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lauge Schaller-Mathias Brun</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>55.04</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Franco Pietri-Mario Dimaio</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>52.25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Geza Szappanos-Miklos Dumbovich</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>31.06</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Grant Baze-Ralph Katz</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>28.07</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Willie Whitaker-Derek Patterson</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>19.28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Espen Erichsen-Boye Brogeland</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>12.49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wayne Chu-Jason Hacket</td>
<td>Ch./Engl.</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Howard Cohen-Nick Sandqvist</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Bob Brinig-Victor Silverstone</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Grant Baze-Ralph Katz</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ural Durmum-Norman Selway</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Dave Kendrick-Mark Horton</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>2.6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Here are some highlights from both the qualifying rounds and the final.

This deal illustrated the vagaries of system - and the differing judgement of several expert players.

Game All. Dealer North.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♠</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>Q</td>
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<tr>
<td>♥</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♣</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

You are in 3NT from the West side. North, playing fourth best, leads the ♣3 despite East having mentioned his spade suit. How do you plan the play?

It seemed to the unsuccessful declarer that he would need the heart finesse, two tricks from spades and one from clubs. Not wanting South to win the opening lead and switch to a diamond, he put up the queen at trick one.

Opening 4♥ on the West hand tended to rebound as North ended up declaring a spade contract, whilst opening 1♣ usually allowed East-West to find their diamond fit and the good save.

This board gave one of your editors the chance to compare notes with a world champion.

Dealer East. Game All

You partner opens 1♣ and you respond 1♠. He rebids 2♥ and you give preference with 2♠. He continues with 2♠. Your bid?

The vast majority of the field passed and made 11 or 12 tricks! This was partner's hand:

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<tr>
<td>♠</td>
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<td>♥</td>
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<td>♦</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>♣</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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The runners-up had an excellent result after this auction:

West North East South

<p>| | | | | |</p>
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<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1♠</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Redbl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5♥</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Redbl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dbl</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Redbl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Pass</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

At first sight 4♠ has no chance as West can start with three rounds of hearts. However, if North is the declarer the defence is helpless! Declarer wins the opening lead, draws trumps and eliminates the diamonds, discarding a club. Exiting with ace and another club then endplays whoever wins the trick.

Opening 4♥ on the West hand tended to rebound as North ended up declaring a spade contract, whilst opening 1♣ usually allowed East-West to find their diamond fit and the good save.

This board gave one of your editors the chance to compare notes with a world champion.

Dealer East. North/South Game.

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<tr>
<td>♠</td>
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<td>♥</td>
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<td>J</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♣</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You are in 3NT from the West side. North, playing fourth best, leads the ♦3 despite East having mentioned his spade suit. How do you plan the play?

It seemed to the unsuccessful declarer that he would need the heart finesse, two tricks from spades and one from clubs. Not wanting South to win the opening lead and switch to a diamond, he put up the queen at trick one.

The other, a certain Geir Helgemo, went for the alternative of playing low from dummy at trick one. One declarer made seven tricks, the other nine. Who is your money on?
Small gain or big loss
by Barry Rigal

In our second-round match we had the opportunity to make a small gain instead of a big loss. It all came down to a double dummy position.

\[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
\text{W} & \text{E} & \text{N} & \text{S} \\
\hline
8 & 6 & 3 & \text{V} \\
\hline
K & J & 9 & 5 \\
\hline
K & Q & 9 & 5 \\
\hline
K & J & 1 & 4 \\
\end{array} \]

We defeated 3NT by North after I had opened 1\. Danny Sprung led a club, of course - that was minus 660.

Our teammates got to declare 3\. doubled after West, rather randomly doubled in a game-forcing auction. The defence actually cashed both minor suit aces - but it did not matter. Declarer has the opportunity to play off the top plain suit cards, then ruff a club to hand.

\[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
\text{W} & \text{E} & \text{N} & \text{S} \\
\hline
8 & 6 & 3 & \text{V} \\
\hline
K & J & 9 & 5 \\
\hline
Q & A & 4 & 2 \\
\hline
J & 2 & & \text{V} \\
\hline
& & & 10 & 5 \\
\end{array} \]

When South, on lead, tries the \( \spadesuit J \), what is West to do? If he ruffs with the jack or king, he concedes at once. If he ruffs with the 5 it is overruffed with the 8 and 10. East leads the \( \spadesuit 7 \), South ducks, and it's curtains for West. So West ruffed with the 9 and the diamond was pitched from dummy. East overruffs with the 10 and plays the \( \spadesuit 7 \) to the queen and king (declarer can duck the 7, but this is more exotic). West is endplayed now to concede the last two tricks.

Wrong is Right
by Alan Truscott

'There is a demand nowadays,' said the Latin writer Publius Terentius Afer, usually known as Terence, 'for the man who can make wrong appear right.' On the following deal from the first session of the Mixed Pairs final, wrong was decidedly right. Unfortunately.


\[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
\text{W} & \text{E} & \text{N} & \text{S} \\
\hline
K & Q & 10 & 5 \\
\hline
Q & 7 & 6 & 3 \\
\hline
& & & 10 & 8 & 4 & 3 \\
\hline
& & & 9 & 10 & 8 & 10 \\
\end{array} \]

It was normal for North-South to play in a heart part-score, making nine tricks, or for East-West to play in a club part-score making ten tricks. But at our table North-South foolishly failed to find their heart fit, the victims of our weak no-trump. Or perhaps not so foolishly.

West North East South

\begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
\hline
\text{Pass} & \text{Pass} & \text{Dble} & \text{All Pass} \\
\hline
\hline
\text{INT} & \text{Dble} & \text{Redble}^{(1)} & \text{2}\text{\clubsuit} \\
\hline
\end{array}

(1) Requiring two clubs, and showing either club length or two suits other than clubs.

We had 23 high-card points, and we had them in the wrong contract. Three rounds of diamonds forced the declarer, and she led a spade to the king. She then finessed the \( \spadesuit 10 \), and I took the ace and forced declarer with another diamond. When declarer cashed her \( \spadesuit Q \), that left my partner with the only trump, but it did us no good. The declarer led the heart jack and finessed. The finesse was repeated, and my partner's trump was all we could get.

So the wrong contract was a triumph: In the right contract you are not doubled. The declarer wrote down 470, and I had to tell her she had made an overtrick for 570. Not that it mattered.

Computer Jungle
You are welcome to visit the Computer Jungle in the main hall. You can try out various computer softwares when you visit.

Vivendi sponsors the Vivendi Rosenblum Cup
At the end of the first day’s play, Maria Erhart’s Austrian squad were leading Group Z of the McConnell Cup qualifying round while the Dutch Speelman team were lying bottom. When the two teams met in round six, the Austrians must therefore have been hoping for another big win. In fact, the match proved to be close throughout. The Dutch took the lead on Board 12.

**Board 12. N/S Vul. Dealer West.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♠️ 10 8 3</td>
<td>♣️ A 9 8 7</td>
<td>♢️ Q 6 3</td>
<td>♦️ J 8 4 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠️ A 7 5 4</td>
<td>♣️ K 9</td>
<td>♢️ 10 9 8 7</td>
<td>♦️ 10 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠️ K 7 6</td>
<td>♣️ Q J 6</td>
<td>♢️ Q 7 4 3</td>
<td>♦️ J 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠️ J 5</td>
<td>♣️ 9 2</td>
<td>♢️ J 9</td>
<td>♦️ Q 9 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Open Room**

- **West** | **North** | **East** | **South**
- Weigkricht | Speelman | Fischer | Debets
- Pass | Pass | Pass | 1♣️
- Pass | 1♦️ | Pass | 1♥️
- Pass | 2NT | All Pass

Why 2NT is the right call with the North cards is not clear to me as even when South has not guaranteed a club suit there must surely be some number of spades which is fourth-suit-forcing. However, 2NT put the right hand on lead from North/South’s point of view.

Doris Fischer chose her fourth highest club, to the jack and a spade. Speelman played the ♠️10 then a spade to the jack, which also held. Now she tried the ♦️5 to her queen and Fischer’s king. Fischer cashed her two top clubs, Weigkricht throwing a spade, then switched to a low heart from the ♠️9, and this ran to declarer’s jack. Sylvia Terraneo put in the nine. When Weigkricht pitched a low heart, Doedens actually put her in with the ace and played a low club from the dummy. When Wijma ducked smoothly, Terraneo put in the nine. When that lost to the ten, she was down. Doedens actually put her in with the fourth spade and Terraneo threw dummy’s low heart. She played a club now but the defence could win and play a heart and come to the rest; -100 and 6 IMPs to SPEELMAN.

**Board 14. Nil Vul. Dealer East.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♠️ K 7 5</td>
<td>♣️ Q 5</td>
<td>♢️ K 10 9 8 2</td>
<td>♦️ A 6 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠️ 10 9 8</td>
<td>♣️ J 6 4 2</td>
<td>♢️ A 7 4</td>
<td>♦️ J 6 5 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠️ 2</td>
<td>♣️ J 4 2</td>
<td>♢️ A 10 8 3</td>
<td>♦️ A 9 5 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Open Room**

- **West** | **North** | **East** | **South**
- Weigkricht | Speelman | Fischer | Debets
- Pass | 3NT | All Pass
- Pass | 1♠️ | Pass | 1♥️

The Dutch auction was simple and uninformative. Fischer led a low club and Speelman won and cleared the suit. Weigkricht discarded the ♦️2 then the ♣️8, so Fischer switched to a low diamond to the ace. A second diamond went to the ten and jack and Fischer played another diamond to the queen and king. Declarer had nine tricks now, just giving up a spade; +400.

**Closed Room**

- **West** | **North** | **East** | **South**
- Doedens | Erhart | Wijma | Terraneo
- Pass | 1♥️ | Pass | 1NT
- Pass | 3NT | Pass | 2♠️
- Pass | 3NT | Pass | 4♣️
- Pass | 4♣️ | All Pass

It is common to respond ♠️1 on a three-card suit in the Austrian style and Maria Erhart assured her partner at length that she should therefore have passed the 3NT rebid. Well, that is all very well, but if North’s sequence is so clearly denying four spades then perhaps we should have seen more alerts at the table than was actually the case.

Wijma led a low diamond and Erhart chose to discard a heart from dummy in the hope of preserving trump control. Doedens won the ♣️A and switched to her singleton club and declarer had little option but to run it. Wijma won the ♠️K, gave her partner a ruff, and got back in with the ♦️A to give a second ruff. Declarer lost another trick in the wash for three down; -150 and 11 IMPs to SPEELMAN.

**Board 15. N/S Vul. Dealer South.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>South</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♠️ 7 2</td>
<td>♣️ A J 3</td>
<td>♢️ J 6 3</td>
<td>♦️ K Q 9 5 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠️ 4</td>
<td>♣️ K 10 7 6 5 4</td>
<td>♢️ Q 9 8</td>
<td>♦️ A 1 0 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠️ 8 7 3</td>
<td>♣️ A Q 9 3</td>
<td>♢️ 2</td>
<td>♦️ 9 7 5 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♠️ A J 1 0 4</td>
<td>♣️ Q 9 2</td>
<td>♢️ J 6 4 2</td>
<td>♦️ Q 7 8 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Open Room**

- **West** | **North** | **East** | **South**
- Weigkricht | Speelman | Fischer | Debets
- 2♥️ | 2NT | 3♥️ | All Pass

When Terri Weigkricht made a weak jump overcall of 2♥️, Betty Speelman bid a natural 2NT. Fischer competed with 3♥️ and that ended the auction.

Speelman led the ♦️Q to her partner’s ace and back came a heart to the eight. Declarer used her two diamond entries to hand to ruff clubs and conceded two trumps and a spade; +140.

**Closed Room**

- **West** | **North** | **East** | **South**
- Doedens | Erhart | Wijma | Terraneo
- Pass | 1♠️ | Pass | 1NT
- Pass | 3NT | Pass | 2♠️
- Pass | 3NT | Pass | 4♣️
- Pass | 4♣️ | All Pass

In the Austrian style, the South hand is a ♠️1 opening, and this put some momentum into the auction when Doedens made a weak jump overcall at the three-level. Erhart bid the obvious 3NT and now Wijma bid 4♥️ as a two-way shot. As it happened, neither shot came off, as 3NT is easy to beat and 4♥️ also failed. Erhart doubled and led the ♦️K.
held she switched to the ♦J. The choice of the jack might have been important on a different layout but not today as declarer had both the missing honours. Doedens took her two club ruffs and gave up a spade and two hearts for the same nine tricks as at the other table; one down for -100 and 6 IMPs to Austria.

Terri Weigkricht took full advantage of a defensive error on this deal.

**Board 17. Love All. Dealer North.**

- ♠ A 5 2
- ♥ K 10 8
- ♦ 10 8 3 2
- ♣ K 9 4
- ♠ K 10 7 6 3
- ♥ J 9 8 4
- ♦ Q 9 6
- ♣ K Q J 5 4
- ♠ A 3
- ♥ J 9 7 4 3 2
- ♦ A 7
- ♣ J 7 6 2
- West North East South
  - Doeders Erhart Wijma Terranaeo
  - Pass Pass 1♦
  - 1♠ Dble 3♣ 4♦

West North East South
- Doeders Erhart Wijma Terranaeo
- Pass Pass 1✿
- 1♣ Dble Pass
- 4♠ Dble All Pass

North led the ♦2, and that solved one of declarer’s problems. She won with the king and returned a spade. North put up the ace, South discarding the ♦3, and played her remaining trump. Declarer won in dummy and played a diamond to her king. She had no reason to do anything other than play for a 3-3 diamond break, but the actual lie meant she had to lose a club and go one down.

**Board 19. E/W Vul. Dealer South.**

- ♠ 9 8 7
- ♥ Q 5 4
- ♦ 7 5 3
- ♣ J 7 5 4
- ♠ K Q 3
- ♥ A 2
- ♦ A K Q 9 6 2
- ♣ A 3
- ♥ A 10 6 2
- ♦ K J 8
- ♣ J 8
- ♠ 9 8 6 2
- West North East South
  - Doeders Erhart Wijma Terranaeo
  - Pass Pass 2♣ (1)
  - 2♦ Dble 3♠ Pass
  - 4♠ All Pass

(1) Multi

North led the ♥10 and South took the ace and cashed the ace of diamonds. For most partnerships North’s ♦2 would have been discouraging, making it easy for South to switch to a club but here it simply showed an even number of cards in the suit.

When North continued with the ♦7 Terri won and flipped the king of spades onto the table. The appearance of South’s queen was a happy sight and she was soon able to claim ten tricks and record an 11 IMP gain.

Both sides missed a chance on this deal.

**Board 20. Game All. Dealer West.**

- ♠ A K Q 3
- ♥ 7 4
- ♦ 7 6 4
- ♣ J 8 6 2
- ♠ J 8 7 5
- ♥ J 6 5 2
- ♦ J 1 0 5
- ♣ 1 0 9
- ♠ 1 0 6 2
- ♥ K 9
- ♦ A K Q 9 8
- ♣ Q 7 5
- West North East South
  - Doeders Erhart Wijma Terranaeo
  - Pass Pass 1♥
  - 2♦ Dble 3♣ Pass
  - 3♥ All Pass
  - 3♥ Pass 2♦ Dble 3♣
  - All Pass

3♥ was quickly defeated. East started with her top clubs and ignored North’s cunning false cards of the eight and jack of clubs to give her partner a ruff. She then took the ace of hearts and played her last club allowing her partner to overruff the dummy.

When South elected to rebid her five-card suit rather than show her heart guard the excellent game that was available had been missed for the second time. Of course 3♥ could not be defeated so the Dutch team picked up 5 IMPs.

Since both a take-out double and a simple overcall seem to be flawed perhaps South should try a pushy 1NT at her first turn. Reaching game would be no problem now! The final score was 24-22 IMPs in favour of the team from The Netherlands, 16-14 VPs.
Devious Del'Monte Denied

Brad Moss and Barnet Shenkin (USA) sailed into the excellent 7♦ on this board from the qualifying stage of the Vivendi Rosenblum. Knowing that the club honours had to be in dummy, Kim Del'Monte of Australia found the fine lead of the ♦9!

Barnet Shenkin, a former British international now resident in the States, won the ♦A, drew four rounds of trumps, then played ace, king and another spade, ruffling. Next he led a low club towards the dummy and the four appeared.

"What are your leads?" he asked.

"I lead low from an honour and second highest from weak holdings," was the reply.

Barnet thought about that for a while and realised that if the ♦9 was a true card he had no chance of success as it would be from a doubleton. Finally, he decided to go with the odds by finessing the ten and when that held he could ruff another spade and claim his grand slam.

At the other table the contract was 6♣ down one so bringing home the vulnerable grand was worth 20 IMPs to the Moss/Shenkin team.

Have you noticed that if Kim had led the ♦6 instead of the nine, and Judy Hopkinson had co-operated by following to the first trick with the seven, the carding would have been consistent with the lead being from ♦9654! Now Barnet would really have had to be on form to get the position right.

Play or Defend?

Would you care to play or defend 4♥ on the following deal?

N/S Vul. Dealer East.

West North East South

Del'Monte Moss Hopkinson Shenkin

1♣ Pass 2♣
Pass 4♣ Pass 4♣
Pass 4NT Pass 5♣
Pass 7♣ Pass 7♦

All Pass

Would you care to play or defend 4♥ on the following deal?

N/S Vul. Dealer East.

West North East South

Del'Monte Moss Hopkinson Shenkin

1♠ Pass 2♠
2♥ Pass 3♥
Pass 4♥ Pass 4♠
Pass 5♥ Pass 5♠
Pass 7♥ Pass 7♦

All Pass

Good sportsmanship

by Patrick Jourdain

In the match between the first team from Wales ever to play in the Vivendi Rosenblum Teams and the top seed in the section (Mike Becker, Ron Rubin, Robert Levin and Steve Weinstein) my table finished late. The tournament director informed us, "You will both be fined."

"But it was our fault," Becker stated at once, even though he knew he might have lost the match. A true example of good sportsmanship.

For the record, Wales beat the American team, 16-14, without the penalty.

'I can sleep here'

Antonio Ricardi of Italy is happy to be working as a tournament director at this tournament – it means he can get some sleep.

Back home he and his wife are busy all the time looking after their little ones – the older is 2 and the younger is 13 months. "I get much more sleep here than I can ever get at home," he smiled.

Anglo-American

Great Britain’s Tony Forrester attends all the major tournaments in America. This was clearly demonstrated when he was spotted on his way to yesterday’s morning match wearing a pair of sneakers!