

3rd World Youth Open Bridge Championships

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Daily Bulletin



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Junior Swiss Teams

Session 7

Rank	Team	VPs
1	WAR OF ROSES	102.65
2	TURKIYE	88.32
3	JAPAN	80.94
4	AUSTRALIA	77.64
5	ITALIA	77.16
6	CALIFORNIAN ACES	72.79
7	VENEZUELA	70.47
8	ARGENTINA	69.07
9	USA JOLLY	66.77
10	WERNIS	63.50
11	USA MANFIELD	52.49
12	FCBC	16.20

Youngsters Swiss Teams

Session 7

Rank	Team	VPs
1	CHINA XNWX	106.18
2	USA JENG	92.24
3	BERK	87.54
4	CHINA SX CLUB	85.70
5	KRISTENSEN	82.21
6	CHINA WFL	76.67
7	LIN	75.57
8	BERMAN	69.79
9	GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	68.39
10	BERK S	68.26
11	CHINA GIRLS SX CLUB	67.68
12	ZHIHAOLE SCHOOL	64.17
13	CHINA QFL	63.59
14	BRIDGEMATES	36.37
15	MIDNIGHT SUNS	19.64

Junior Teams

ARGENTINA	Juan Cruz ETCHEPAREBORDA, Nicolas Miguel SENGIALLI, Francisco Pablo MONTES DE OCA, Felipe Jose FERRO, Santiago RUEDA, Ariel ARGAIN
AUSTRALIA	Peter HOLLANDS, Justin HOWARD, Nathan HOWARD, Lauren TRAVIS, Maxim HENBEST, Ellena MOSKOVSKY
CALIFORNIAN ACES	Kevin ROSENBERG, Frank LIN, Antony LEE, Ryan WESSELS
FCBC	Santiago VELEZ, Joan Sebastian VALENZUELA RIVERA, Jose Alejandro ZAMORA VILLAMIZAR, Nicolas CORREA LAGUNA, Juan Felipe CUERVO LOPERA, Luis Alejandro REY ARISMENDY,
ITALIA	Giorgia BOTTA, Massimiliano DI FRANCO, Margherita CHAVARRIA, Gabriele ZANASI, Zachary BRESROLL
JAPAN	Tadahiro KIKUCHI, Kosuke ITO, Koichiro HASHIMOTO, Takumi SESHIMO, Yuki HARADA, Ryoko OYAMA
TURKIYE	Akin KOCLAR, Muhammet OZGUR, Sarper USLUPEHLIVAN, Erkmen AYDOGDU, Altug GOBEKLI, Berk GOKCE
USA JOLLY	Dennis KRIVENTSOV, Anant RATHI, Andrew CAVALIER, Christian JOLLY
USA MANFIELD	Jeffrey TSANG, Qucheng GONG, Nathaniel MUNGER, Sabrina MANFIELD, Seth MANFIELD
VENEZUELA	Karla DE JESUS, Ruben Dario CABRERA, Carlos RODRIGUEZ, Adriana SUAREZ, Fernando PEREZ, Moises GRANDA
WAR OF ROSES	Adam GROSSACK, Kevin DWYER, Owen LIEN, Adam KAPLAN, Marius AGICA, Zachary GROSSACK
WERNIS	Luz Carolina ORTEGA, Isha THAPA, Marianna LINZ, Rebecca WERNIS, Julie ARBIT, Rachna GOYAL

Youngsters Teams

BERK	Hakan BERK, David SOUKUP, Samuel AMER, Nolan CHANG, Jake OLSEN
BERK S	Ellie FASHINGBAUER, Gianni HSIEH, Victor LAMOUREUX, JASON MILLER, Sedef BERK, John ALTMAN
BERMAN	Murphy GREEN, Asya LADYZHENSKY, Evan BERMAN, Jeffrey SCHWARTZ
BRIDGEMATES	Bryan GOODWIN, Jett NOVAK, Albena-Maria VASSILEVA, Olivia COLBURN, Olivia LAUFER
CHINA GIRLS SX CLUB	Yunpeng CHEN, Xinyao RUAN, Yijia LU, Xinying LU, Aijia YUAN, Huiyuan JIN
CHINA QFL	Yihao GU, Xinyi YANG, Yunyi FANG, Danlei HUANG, Li QIAN, Yingqi WANG
CHINA SX CLUB	Licong CHENG, Renyu LI, Yiyang ZHANG, Zhecheng DU, Yijun SHANG, Yihong LIU
CHINA WFL	Yiqin SHAO, Hanchang LI, Bin QIN, Penghao WANG, Siyuan LIU, Xu HUANG
CHINA XNWX	Tianyi JIN, Zhizhou SHA, Kaiwen WU, Kai JIN, Felicia Xinying YU, Yiling SHEN
GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	Lu BAI, Kai Lu GONG, Xuan Yu LIU, Ding Zhi MA, Zi Nan ZHOU
KRISTENSEN	Benjamin KRISTENSEN, Brandon HARPER, Gregory HERMAN, Ryan MILLER
LIN	Amber LIN, Theo ALLEN, Joseph LIEBERMAN, Christopher WELLAND
MIDNIGHT SUNS	Sterling MAGNUSON, Madelyn NOVAK, Cherish ANDREWS, Sarah EDWARDS
USA JENG	Andrew JENG, Richard JENG, Burke SNOWDEN, Oren KRIEGEL
ZHIHAOLE SCHOOL	Wenyu LIU, Xieen JI, Yuqiao ZHAO, Zelin FEI, Zijun WU, Meilun LI

Knockout Matches Junior Teams

WAR OF ROSES	Adam GROSSACK, Kevin DWYER, Owen LIEN, Adam KAPLAN, Marius AGICA, Zachary GROSSACK
JAPAN	Tadahiro KIKUCHI, Kosuke ITO, Koichiro HASHIMOTO, Takumi SESHIMO, Yuki HARADA, Ryoko OYAMA
TURKIYE	Akin KOCLAR, Muhammet OZGUR, Sarper USLUPEHLIVAN, Erkmen AYDOGDU, Altug GOBEKLI, Berk GOKCE
AUSTRALIA	Peter HOLLANDS, Justin HOWARD, Nathan HOWARD, Lauren TRAVIS, Maxim HENBEST, Ellena MOSKOVSKY

Knockout Matches Youngsters Teams

2. CHINA XNWX	Tianyi JIN, Zhizhou SHA, Kaiwen WU, Kai JIN, Felicia Xinying YU, Yiling SHEN
1. BERMAN	Murphy GREEN, Asya LADYZHENSKY, Evan BERMAN, Jeffrey SCHWARTZ
1. USA JENG	Andrew JENG, Richard JENG, Burke SNOWDEN, Oren KRIEGEL
2. LIN	Amber LIN, Theo ALLEN, Joseph LIEBERMAN, Christopher WELLAND
2. BERK S	Ellie FASHINGBAUER, Gianni HSIEH, Victor LAMOUREUX, JASON MILLER, Sedef BERK, John ALTMAN
1. CHINA WFL	Yiqin SHAO, Hanchang LI, Bin QIN, Penghao WANG, Siyuan LIU, Xu HUANG
2. CHINA SX CLUB	Licong CHENG, Renyu LI, Yiyang ZHANG, Zhecheng DU, Yijun SHANG, Yihong LIU
1. KRISTENSEN	Benjamin KRISTENSEN, Brandon HARPER, Gregory HERMAN, Ryan MILLER

Knockout Formats

In the Junior Knockout, there will be one-day, 48-board semifinals and final with no carryovers.

In the Youngster Knockout, there will be 32-board quarterfinals, semifinals and final, also with no carryovers.

So both events will finish on Friday, allowing all teams to play for at least two days in the Board-a-Match Teams that begins this morning and ends on Sunday.

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Nine Ever Ten Never

by Murat Molva

In the second round of the Junior Swiss Teams, this was Board 15:

Dlr: South ♠ A Q 8 2
 Vul: N-S ♥ J 10
 ♦ A 9 8 7
 ♣ 9 3 2

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

♠ K 4
 ♥ A 6 5 4 3 2
 ♦ J 10 3
 ♣ A J

West	North	East	South
<i>Seshimo</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Oyama</i>	<i>Agica</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Put yourself into South player Marius Agica's (USA) shoes. You have a nice six-card suit and useful looking side values in the other suits, and your partner invites you to game. You are vulnerable, so a nice game bonus is waving to you. It is teams, so you are not worried about any pairs strategies or the rest of the field. You only have to think about your teammates at the other table. Would you not be tempted to bid four hearts? I am sure many of us would. Well Agica did not. And he was dead on target. Although dummy appeared with excellent values too, nine tricks were the limit. Well judged.

At the other table, the Japanese pair Hashimoto-Kikuchi had exactly the same auction, but at the point where Agica passed, Kikuchi bid four hearts. He just needed trumps to split 3-2. Not today. Down one and 6 IMPs to the team War of Roses.



Marius Agica (War of Roses - USA)



Adam Kaplan (War of Roses - USA)



Tadahiro Kikuchi (Japan)



Koichiro Hashimoto (Japan)

Slam? What Slam?

by Murat Molva

It has happened to all of us. After the session, teammates ask if we could find the slam on a particular, and we reply "Slam? What slam?"

This was Board 6 of the fourth round of the Swiss.

Dlr: East ♠ 6 3
 Vul: E-W ♥ K Q 10 8 7 6 2
 ♦ Q 8 3
 ♣ Q

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

♠ K Q 2
 ♥ J
 ♦ A K J 10 9 7 6
 ♣ J 8

As you can see, six clubs is on for East-West with a total combined high-card-point total of only sixteen.

Aside from the spade king-queen being onside, the key point of the deal is that even if a heart is led against the slam, South, when he gets in with his spade trick, will not be able to cash a heart trick, and declarer will discard West's heart loser on the established spade winners.

The frequency charts show two six diamonds doubled contracts, so we could assume that Australia and Argentina were able to bid the slam. Well done.

This board created some tension at the table I was watching:

West	North	East	South
<i>Linz</i>	<i>Hashimoto</i>	<i>Wernis</i>	<i>Kikuchi</i>
Pass	1♥	Dble	1♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	4♠

Probably, the three-diamond bid combined with the adverse vulnerability prevented West, Marianna Linz (USA), from overcalling on the first round, but she could have come closer to bidding something at her second turn after her partner, Rebecca Wernis, indicated length in both black suits. (And, yes, perhaps East should have intervened with one notrump to show at least 5-5 in the unbid suits.) But anyway, the Japanese pair reached a normal five-diamond contract.

West first led her spade ace and then her club ace. Correctly deciding that if the heart ace was cashing there was no rush to take it, she continued with the spade nine.

Tadahiro Kikuchi took this with his king and, without ruffing his second club, played three rounds of trumps ending in dummy. Since there were only hearts remaining in dummy, he led a heart to West's ace. West continued with a spade, which declarer ruffed! South then played a few more trumps and claimed the remainder conceding a club. But the spade queen was clearly visible in his hand. The girls were quick to call the TD, who started investigations during which I was consulted as a witness. Declarer was given a two-trick penalty and the final result was down four.

Rather than ruffing a trick that already belonged to him, Kikuchi would have been better advised to ruff one of the aces that West cashed. That -- in theory -- would have allowed him to make the contract. J



A Jolly Good Slam

by Murat Molva

Any slam that makes can be classified as belonging to the jolly good category. At least for the declaring side anyway. This was Board 9 in the fourth round of the Swiss:

Dlr: North ♠ J 4 3
 Vul: E-W ♥ 9 8
 ♦ 10 6 3
 ♣ A 9 8 7 5

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

♠ 9 7
 ♥ K Q 6 5 4 2
 ♦ K J 9
 ♣ 6 4

This good slam was reached by only two pairs in the Juniors, and none of the Youngsters could bid it. (Yes, all right, it is better played by West, but how would one manage that when using a natural system? That East hand is too strong for Namyats.)

West	North	East	South
<i>Koclar</i>		<i>Aydogdu</i>	
	Pass	1♠	2♥
Dble	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♣	All Pass

Erkmen Aydogdu (Turkey) showed a good hand with his three-heart cue-bid. But how good? When he heard his partner remove three notrump to four spades, Akin Koclar reasoned that if they did not have two quick heart losers, and if the trump quality was good, there should be a good play for slam. So he came up with a five-spade raise to convey his thoughts. East had all that was required, so he just bid the slam.



West	North	East	South
<i>Jolly</i>		<i>Cavalier</i>	
	Pass	1♠	3♥
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	All Pass

Here, the bid of three notrump by Christian Jolly (USA) gave East, Andrew Cavalier, more hopes to reach a slam. But what to bid? Andrew found a four-club rebid that the NASA engineers are still trying to analyze. Is it a fake control-bid (cue-bid) to inhibit a club lead? Or is it a high-tech conventional bid that says "Partner I have no controls in clubs and diamonds, but I just love the rest of my hand"? West, meanwhile, was quite satisfied with the way things were going. He showed his club support by raising to five clubs. Now Cavalier probably thought that things could get out of hand if he found another technical bid. So he just blasted the slam, and all was well.

East's bidding was cavalier, but in the end he and his partner were jolly happy with the result!

Back to the Past in the Pairs

by Phillip Alder

There were several other interesting boards in the three pair events.

Let's start with surely the biggest plus score we will see at this tournament -- if not this year. It occurred on Board 10 of the first final session in the junior event.

First, though, let's set the scene. On the previous deal, against the normal contract of four hearts by North, East had made the abnormal lead of a low spade from ace-fourth. This had conceded an overtrick, partner having queen-jack-fourth and declarer king-third. A second overtrick had been surrendered with inaccurate discarding. Minus 480 was a bottom for East-West. Sylvia Shi admitted that she was "on tilt," determined to get the matchpoints back.

Dlr: East	♠ 9 6 4 3	
Vul: Both	♥ Q 2	
	♦ 6	
	♣ K 10 9 4 3 2	
♠ J 5		♠ 10 8
♥ A 9 5		♥ K J 10 8 7 6 4
♦ A J 9 8 4 3 2		♦ K Q 10 7
♣ A		♣ -
	♠ A K Q 7 2	
	♥ 3	
	♦ 5	
	♣ Q J 8 7 6 5	

West <i>Shi</i>	North	East <i>Prairie</i>	South
		4♥	4♠
6♥	6♠	Pass	Pass
7♥!	Dble	Pass	Pass
Redble!	Pass	Pass	Pass

West had a tough choice over four spades because she did not have a bid that invited a slam and asked partner for a spade control. But, as a four-heart opening bid often includes short spades, West decided to jump to slam.

Then North, trusting his opponent, sacrificed in six spades.

After two passes, Shi was up at the plate again. She knew that she could double six spades and probably get 500 or 800, but that would not compensate for 1430 in six hearts.

Still "on tilt," Shi bid seven hearts.

North, with no defensive tricks, surprisingly doubled this.

After two more passes, Shi decided that seven hearts doubled and down one was probably going to be a zero. So she raised the ante by redoubling. She also wondered if this might persuade her opponents to bid seven spades. But no. And now South was on lead.

Reasonably assuming that West had to be void in spades, and perhaps wondering if his partner's double was a Lightner, South led a club.

Seven hearts redoubled plus two vulnerable is 3740, but the overtricks were not permitted. Still, plus 2940 was a nice top and resulted in an exactly average two-board round!

In the Girls Final, the winners, Giorgia Botta and Margherita Chavarria from Italy, began the last day in third place. But they started perfectly on the first board of the penultimate session.

Dlr: East	♠ 8 5	
Vul: Both	♥ Q 5	
	♦ A J 7 6 5 2	
	♣ A 4 3	
♠ J 10 9 6 2		♠ A K Q 4 3
♥ 9 3 2		♥ A J 7 6
♦ 9 4		♦ K 3
♣ 8 5 2		♣ 10 7
	♠ 7	
	♥ K 10 8 4	
	♦ Q 10 8	
	♣ K Q J 9 6	

West <i>Chavarria</i>	North <i>Jin</i>	East <i>Botta</i>	South <i>Yuan</i>
		1♠	2♣
3♠	Dble	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	Dble	All Pass

South should have made a takeout double over one spade. But when she overcalled two clubs, Chavarria produced a very brave pre-emptive three-spade raise. When one makes that bid with so few high-card points, one usually has a singleton or a void somewhere. But it worked well. North doubled to show some points, South hoped her partner had four or five hearts, and Botta happily doubled North's five-club rescue.

South lost one spade, one heart and one diamond, East cashing her heart ace when in with the diamond king.

Plus 200 was 6 out of 6 for East-West.

The next two boards were flat. In the second set, the first board was also average. But then the Italians got a top when one of their opponents passed a forcing bid. The auction went one diamond-(one heart)- two clubs-all pass. Plus 130 did not trouble the scorers when the other three pairs were bidding and making game. What was even more strange was that the opener had 15 high-card points, three aces and one king. So she would have been worth a move toward game opposite a nonforcing two-club response (what is known as a negative free bid).

Boards 19 and 20 helped the cause of the American bronze medalists. First, Isha Thapa got a favorable lead that let her take twelve tricks in three clubs, for 5 matchpoints out of 6. Then North made a textbook error.

Dlr: West	♠ J 5 3	
Vul: Both	♥ 9 8 2	
	♦ A Q J 9 8 7	
	♣ 3	
♠ K 9 7 6 2		♠ Q 10
♥ 10 6 5 3		♥ A K Q
♦ 3		♦ K 10 5
♣ Q 8 5		♣ K J 10 9 2
	♠ A 8 4	
	♥ J 7 4	
	♦ 6 4 2	
	♣ A 7 6 4	

West <i>Thapa</i>	North	East <i>Arbit</i>	South
		Dble	3♦
Pass	2♦	3NT	All Pass
3♠	Pass		

South led the diamond four. North, who knew declarer had the king, should have played her jack. And if she were allowed to take the trick, she should have continued with a low diamond (or the queen). When declarer has one stopper in the suit you are trying to establish, work to make her use it up as quickly as possible.

However, North won the first trick with her ace and returned the jack. When she took that trick too, she shifted to the heart nine. Julie Arbit won and drove out the club ace. South took the third round and returned a heart. East finished the clubs, then led the spade queen to establish her ninth trick.

Plus 600 was a cold top.

The final board of the girls event helped the silver medalists.

Dlr: East	♠ 4 2	
Vul: None	♥ Q 9 8 6	
	♦ K Q J 6 5	
	♣ 9 5	
♠ A K J 10 8 7		♠ Q 9 6
♥ 10 7 3		♥ A
♦ 8 7		♦ 10 9 4 3 2
♣ A 4		♣ K 8 6 2
	♠ 5 3	
	♥ K J 5 4 2	
	♦ A	
	♣ Q J 10 7 3	

West <i>Jin</i>	North <i>Suarez</i>	East <i>Yuan</i>	South <i>de Jesus</i>
		Pass	1♥
1♠	4♥	All Pass	

This contract went the obvious down two, but minus 100 was worth 5 matchpoints out of 6 to North-South.

North did well to drive straight to game, but East should have risked a card-showing double. Then West, who knew her partner was very short in hearts, would probably have converted to four spades, which you will have noticed could have been made with an overtrick even after a trump lead.

Stern at the Five-Level

by David Stern

This is an expression my partner has for my passion for bidding over the opponents at the five-level -- usually incorrectly, I might add. The following caught my attention for some good five-level action in Round 3 of the Teams.

Dlr: West	♠ K J 9 8 7 6 4 2	
Vul: None	♥ -	
	♦ 10 7	
	♣ A 7 3	
♠ 10 5 3		♠ Q
♥ A K Q 4 2		♥ J 10 9 8 6 5 3
♦ K 5		♦ 9 6 2
♣ 6 5 2		♣ K 10
	♠ A	
	♥ 7	
	♦ A Q J 8 4 3	
	♣ Q J 9 8 4	

Frequencies: +510x3, +450x1, +300x1, +100x3, +50x3, -420x1

The auctions that I watched varied, but the following was common.

West	North	East	South
1♥	4♠	5♥	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

This was the sequence at another table:

West	North	East	South
1♥	1♠	4♥	5♣
5♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Clearly North hadn't eaten his power food for breakfast, electing to bid just one spade with his eight-card suit.

A popular treatment over the four-heart response in this auction is four notrump showing two places to play, rather than the "guessing" five-club bid chosen by South holding five clubs and six diamonds.

West	North	East	South
1♥	3♠	4♥	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	Pass
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

South created a "winning" score when she didn't double five hearts, perhaps discouraged from doing so by partner's three-spade rather than four-spade bid.

They do say that pre-emptors should not bid twice, but having undercooked the hand with the initial three-spade bid, I don't think we can blame North for bidding five spades after his partner supported spades and failed to double five hearts.

Journalists tend to shy away from Deep Finesse and rely on their own analytical skills, but I like to use DF as a backup for my less-than-perfect analytical skills. DF says you can make six spades only by South -- can you see why?

A diamond lead from East will excommunicate your dummy and prevent you from being able to throw your club losers away on diamonds provided West wins with the diamond king and continues with a diamond.

Swingy Set

by David Stern

Round 5 of the Swiss (KO) Teams proved to be a wild affair with an average swing of just over 5 IMPs per board at each of the six tables in the Junior Teams. The first board was right on target as pairs guessed what the best spot was and what should be trumps.

Dlr: North ♠ K J 8 7 2
 Vul: None ♥ K 8
 ♦ 9 8 6 5 2
 ♣ 3

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

♠ 6
 ♥ 10 7 5 2
 ♦ A Q J 7 3
 ♣ Q 9 7

At the Open Room table where California Aces played Turkiye:

West <i>Koclar</i>	North <i>Lee</i>	East <i>Aydogdu</i>	South <i>Wessels</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	2♦	Dble	4♦
4♠	Pass	5♣	All Pass

East won the spade lead and took dummy's two top clubs. Now he had to go down one.

In the Closed Room they stopped in four clubs after:

West <i>Rosenberg</i>	North <i>Osgur</i>	East <i>Lin</i>	South <i>Uslupehlivan</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1NT	3♦	4♣	All Pass

Declarer took the same ten tricks.

Cont.	Decl.	Lead	Tricks	NS	EW	Home Res.	Vis Res.
4♠	W	♥9	6	200		12	
3NT	W		10		430		
2♠	W	♥9	6	100		--	--
3♠	S	♣A	9	110			
5♣	E	♥6	10	50		5	
4♣	E	♥6	10		130		
3♠	S	♣A	9	110		2	
3NT	W	♥9	8	50			
4♦x	N	♥A	9		100		4
4♥	E	♥6	9	50			
2♠	W	♥3	8		110		5
3NT	W	♥2	7	100			

Board four was a lost opportunity for the California Aces:

Dlr: West ♠ 7 6 2
 Vul: Both ♥ A 6
 ♦ 9 8 7 3
 ♣ K 9 8 3

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

♠ A K Q 8
 ♥ T 5
 ♦ A T 2
 ♣ A 6 5 4

Something strange happened on this board. The Open Room auction seemed simple and normal and perhaps likely to lead to a pickup when North-South avoided a three-notrump game with their combined 24-count, taking eight tricks in one notrump for plus 120.

West <i>Koclar</i>	North <i>Lee</i>	East <i>Aydogdu</i>	South <i>Wessels</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the Closed Room, however:

West <i>Rosenberg</i>	North <i>Osgur</i>	East <i>Lin</i>	South <i>Uslupehlivan</i>

Pass Pass Pass 1♣
 1♥ 2♣ 3♥ Dble
 Pass 3NT All Pass

East chose to lead the diamond king. This was not immediately fatal, but when North ducked, East continued with the diamond queen. The declarer won and played a third diamond to establish the diamond nine as his ninth trick after spades broke. I have some sympathy for East persisting with diamonds, but as my sage mother says, "You never have to apologise for leading partner's suit."

Cont.	Decl.	Lead	Tricks	NS	EW	Home Res.	Vis Res.
3NT	S	♥3	8		100		6
1NT	S	♥2	8	120			
1NT	S	♥3	8	120			
2♠	S	♥4	8	110			
1NT	S	♥2	8	120			10
3NT	N	♥K	9	600			
1NT	S	♥3	8	120			
1NT	S	♥3	8	120			
3NT	S	♥4	9	600			
3NT	S	♥5	8		100	12	
1NT	S	♥3	8	120			1
2NT	S	♥4	9	150			

Board 9 featured a big swing in three of the six matches. Murat Molva describes the action at the two tables where the slam made in his article titled A Jolly Good Slam. Please excuse the small amount of repetition here.

Dlr: North ♠ J 4 3
 Vul: E-W ♥ 9 8
 ♦ 10 6 3
 ♣ A 9 8 7 5

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

♠ 9 7
 ♥ K Q 6 5 4 2
 ♦ K J 9
 ♣ 6 4

West <i>Koclar</i>	North <i>Lee</i>	East <i>Aydogdu</i>	South <i>Wessels</i>
	Pass	1♠	2♥
Dble	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♣	All Pass

The three-heart inquiry for a stopper followed by the bid of four spades without support from partner showed mild slam interest, which West eagerly accepted with limited heart values. This made the obvious 12 tricks after the heart-king lead.

In the Closed Room, Rosenberg's more unilateral action substantially reduced the chances of reaching slam.

West <i>Rosenberg</i>	North <i>Osgur</i>	East <i>Lin</i>	South <i>Uslupehlivan</i>
	Pass	1♠	2♥
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Cont.	Decl.	Lead	Tricks	NS	EW	Home Res.	Vis Res.
5♠	E	♥K	12		680		
4♠	E	♥Q	12		680	--	--
3♠	E	♥6	10		170	11	
4♠	E	♥K	13		710		
6♠	E	♥K	12		1430		13
3NT	W	♥9	10		630		
4♠	E	♥6	12		680		2
3NT	W	♥9	9		600		
5♠	E	♥6	12		680	13	
6♠	E	♥6	12		1430		
4♠	E	♥K	12		680	--	--
4♠	E	♥K	12		680		

I'm not sure I could think of an auction that would result in a final contract of three spades, but we'll leave that for another time.

After the trading of IMPs in this match, California Aces beat Turkiye 39-33 to put them in second place.



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