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Only in the internet edition:













Issue No. 13

Friday, 9th October 2015

WHO WILL BE THE CHAMPIONS?



The WBF Scoring Team

The Venice Cup and d'Orsi Senior Trophy will end today. In the former, France and USA 2 are about as close as they can get at 96.7 to 96.0 for France.

It's a different story in the Senior event, where USA I has a commanding lead at 159-50.3. With 48 boards to play, however, anything can happen.

In the Bermuda Bowl, which ends tomorrow, Sweden leads Poland 154.0 - 103.5 with 80 boards to play. The World Transnational Open

Press Conference

The closing Press Conference of the 2015 World Bridge Team Championships will be held this afternoon, Friday 9th October, at 3.30 p.m. in Room 7 (next to the BBO room on the 2nd floor).









SCHEDULE

BB-VC-OT

Finals and Play-Offs

Transnational

Semifinals

Swiss Pairs

Morning Session

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

Afternoon Session

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





MP Pairs winners from Japan: Dawei CHEN and Kazuo FURUTA



IMP Pairs winners from India: Sujit Kumar BOSE and Swapan GHOSH

Prize-giving

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

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

Anti Doping Tests

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

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

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

Paolo Walter Gabriele & Jaap Stomphorst WBF Medical and Prevention Commission



IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THE WINNING TEAMS

Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Senior Trophy and World Transnational Open Teams

PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY

The captains of the three medal-winning teams – gold, silver and bronze - in each category should ensure that they and their players go to the RAJENDRA HALL where the ceremony is to be held no later than 7.20 pm.

Rows will be assigned to teams in each category and the positions will be indicated on the assigned seats, starting with the third row from the stage. Please leave the first seat in the row free for the girl who will carry the flag of your country.

Late Night in Chennai

By Herman De Wael

More than 8,000 people had been watching on-line the final boards of the Bermuda Bowl semi-final match between Poland and England. That match ended at 20:15 (local time), whereas the normal finishing time would have been 19:40. The players agreed that both teams were equally responsible for the delay, so no time penalties were applicable (it was a knock-out match after all). Meanwhile, at 20:10 (at the end of the review period for the matches that ended on time) the captains' meeting had started such a meeting being necessary for the toss and the choice of seating rights. Just before 20:45, the captain of the England team (which had lost the semi-final) contacted the Chief Tournament Director with the request for a review. What had happened was this:

> Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul. **♠**]8 ♥ A 9 7 6 5 3 ♦ 10 5

♠ A K 10 5 4 3

♡ K 4 ♦ A 7 **♣** | 7 2

♥ Q 2 ♦ KQJ863 ♣ A Q 9 4

♥ | 108 ♦ 942 ♣ K 10 3

wes	st	North	East	South
Kluko	wski	Bakhshi	Gawrys	Gold
I♠		Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT		Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠		Pass	4♣	Dble
Pass		Pass	Rdbl	Pass
4 ◊*		Pass	4NT	Pass
5◊		Pass	6◊	All Pass
2♦ 2NT Rdbl *	ĞF ♣ A	not GF in tempo		

There had been an uncontested break in tempo (later

timed on the video as 6'29") by the 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)-bidder. The Director had asked four players two questions: what would be their action after 40 (without telling them about the delay), and what would a slow 40 signify. Most of the consulted players would have continued to slam, and none attached any special meaning to the delay. Consequently, the Director ruled to allow the result to stand.

This was board 4 of the fifth session of the match (played in the afternoon). The result of that ruling had been given to the England team just prior to the start of the sixth and last session, so the Chief Tournament Director agreed to apply the half hour review period to the last session and to the actual end of play for that session.

Of course it was not easy to get everyone together at such a late hour. By sheer chance, the Polish team passed the hotel lobby on their way to dinner, as did the reviewers. Someone knew the room number of the Director, who was dragged out of bed (with a severe cold) and so the Review could take place.

It took the Director another half hour to prepare the forms, and the two captains wrote down their views as well.

The reviewers asked the Director for the name of the four consulted players. The Director could provide only three names, not knowing the name of the fourth one as he had simply been pointed out by a colleague. The three players were of sufficient standard, but the procedure states that five players should be consulted. So the reviewer demanded that a minimum of two extra players would have to be consulted.

This was subsequently done, and the newly consulted players confirmed the views of the original panel. So the Directors maintained the ruling, but it was after 22:30 before the Polish team were certain that they would indeed start the next day as Bermuda Bowl finalists.

BBO and OURGAME SCHEDULE

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

VuGraph 11:00

France v USA 2 (VC Final)

VuGraph 14:30 and 17:20

To be determined



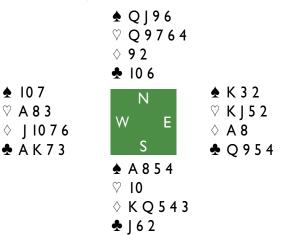


Transnational Teams - Day Three

By T.C. Pant

A few interesting deals of day three in the World Transnational Open Teams event are covered in this report.

Round II, Board I3. Dealer North. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

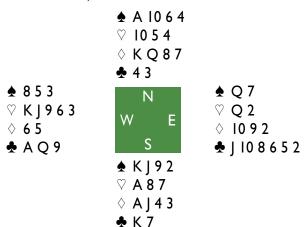
East-West were playing Precision. The I♦ opening and normal 2NT response (II-I2) wrong-sided the contract. On the lead of the ♠Q, West's only chance was for the heart finesse to work and the suit to split 3-3. That was not the case and the contract went one down.

West	North	East	South
	Pass	I♣	Pass
I♦	Pass	Ι♡	Pass
2♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

With East as declarer the normal spade lead from South gives declarer the contract. The same would be true if South started with a low diamond or one of his honors. If South leads fourth-best from his diamonds, the ninth trick is again there. Even on a passive heart or club lead, declarer clears the hearts and clubs and plays the $\Diamond A$, and another diamond, forcing South to give a trick in diamonds or

spade.

Round 11, Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
			INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

When South opened INT (15-16 HCPs) and North made a Stayman enquiry, South became declarer in 4♠. West led the ◇6 and declarer won in dummy. The ♠A was followed by a low spade, and declarer was happy to see the ♠Q. Declarer took out one more trump and after clearing diamonds and ending in dummy, played a low heart, with the intention of keeping East off lead. That worked perfectly when South could play the ♡7 when East followed with the two West won the trick and played a heart back, but declarer won with the ace and played another heart to endplay West and score his contract.

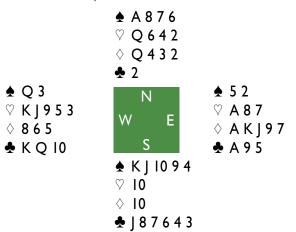
Another table played the contract from the North side on the following bidding.

West	North	East	South
			I♦
ΙØ	I♠	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			



At this table, N/S were playing weak NT (11-14), so a $1 \diamond$ opening followed by INT over $1 \spadesuit$ showed 15-16 HCPs. When North raised to 3NT, South converted to $4 \spadesuit$ with the four-card support. East led the $\heartsuit Q$ and declarer did well to hop up with $\heartsuit A$, play top spades, felling the queen, and then playing the diamonds. He finally played the $\heartsuit 10$ and that was the end of the defense. West could win two hearts but had to play a club or give a ruff-sluff, in which case declarer would ruff in hand and discard one of dummy's clubs.

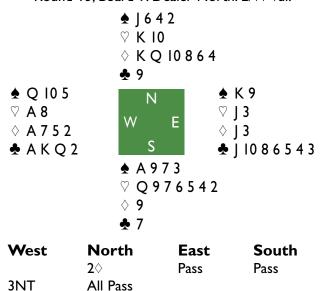
Round 11, Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
		INT	2♠*
3♡	3♠	4♡	Pass
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass

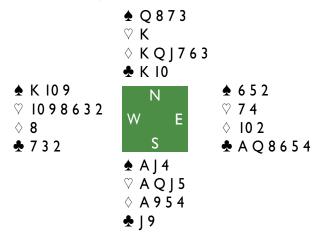
South's $2 \triangleq$ showed spades and a minor suit. With his four hearts, North knew about the heart shortness in partner's hand and bid $4 \triangleq$, hoping to gain few IMPs as a sacrifice over $4 \heartsuit$. It turned out to be a bonanza for N/S, as spades broke 2-2 and clubs broke 3-3, allowing the doubled contract to make. If E/W are allowed to play in hearts, the fall of \heartsuit 10 allows West to tackle the red suits correctly to fulfill the contract. So it was one of those interesting boards, where both directions were scoring game in a major.

Round 13, Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



This was another freakish deal, where West had to take action when North's weak 2♦ was passed around to him. He feared that his 2NT bid would be taken as a normal 15-18 HCPs and might be passed. He could have doubled to show his good hand, but he chose the practical bid of 3NT, showing 19-20 HCPs, and that worked well as partner passed. With seven tricks in clubs, it was an easy 3NT to make. In the cases where West doubled, the onus was on East. Should he bid 2NT, a relay to 3♣ to show a weak hand, or 3♣, showing some values. With 6 HCPs, which included three jacks, most preferred 2NT, and when partner bid 3♣ (surely not the right bid with the West hand), it was passed out.

Round 15, Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.



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

I ★ was Precision (16+ HCPs) and $2\Diamond$ by partner showed 9+ high-card points with five or more diamonds. North's 3♠ over partner's 2NT was natural. South jumped to $5\Diamond$, showing a minimum $1 \clubsuit$ opening, which was raised by North with his 6-carder suit and 14 HCPs.

The slam is safe played by North. If East starts with the ♣A, declarer can win the continuation, unblock the ♡K, pull trumps ending in dummy and discard three spades on dummy's high hearts. On any other lead, declarer can win, unblock hearts, pull trumps and throw his two clubs away. The only loser is a spade. Those who played in 6NT had to rely on the spade finesse or the ♣A onside. Both were wrong and the contract went two down.

Duplimates



The Duplimate dealing machines that will be taken back to Sweden after the Championships have already been pre-ordered. You can, however, buy a

new (not used) Duplimate for Euro 2200 + shipping from Sweden till the end of the Championships. Please email bridge@jannersten.com for details.

Proud to be back home

By Brent Manley

Two players on USA teams are thrilled to be back in the country where they were born for the first bridge world championship in India.

Pratap Rajadhyaksha and Hemant Lall, both now U.S. citizens, returned to their homeland to play, respectively, for the Mark Gordon team in the World Transnational Open Teams and USA 1 in the d'Orsi Senior Trophy.



Pratap Rajadhyaksha

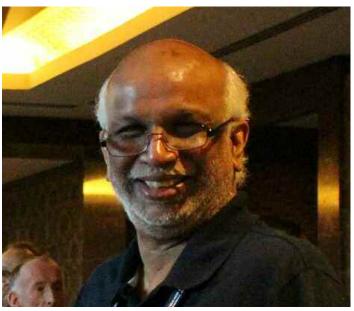
Rajadhyaksha, 59, was born in Solapur, near Mumbai, moving with his family to Columbus, Ohio, in the U.S. when he was 13 years old. He attended high school in Detroit and studied civil engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. At that time, he recalls, MIT was a hotbed of bridge, with future stars like Chip Martel and Mark Feldman holding court for new players.

"The bug bit me," says Rajadhyaksha, who later formed a highly successful partnership with Steve Landen. In the 26 years they played together, the two won three North American championships, including two of the most prestigious — the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs and the Reisinger Board-a-Match teams. Rajadhyaksha also won the Roth Open Swiss Teams with his new regular partner, Mark Gordon.

Now splitting time between Columbus and Florida, Rajadhyaksha oversees his own engineering company – 7NT Enterprises – and plays exclusively with Gordon. The two have a world title – the World Transnational Open Teams in 2013 – to their credit. They and their teammates traveled to Chennai to try for another gold medal in that event.

Rajadhyaksha notes that "I may be the only person of Indian origin to win an open world title," but there would not be a second in Chennai. The team did not make it to the knockout stage of the WTOT. Even so, Rajadhyaksha says he enjoyed returning to India and visiting Chennai for the first time.

"It's a great country," he says of the world's most populous democracy. "There are a lot of hard-working, intelligent people here."



Hemant Lall

Lall, 63, was born in Lucknow, near New Dehli, moving to New Delhi with his family as an infant. He graduated from high school in December 1967 and had a nine-month wait before starting college at age 16. While he was waiting, he and some friends discovered bridge. "We would hang out, listen to the Beatles and play bridge," he says. After every deal, Lall recalls, the group would go over the play. "At bidding, we were hopeless."

The college he planned to attend as an electrical engineering student was the Kanpur campus of the Indian Institute of Technology, which he describes as "the MIT of India." Lall says he picked the Kanpur campus because it had U.S. connections. "I wanted to go to America and play for the Dallas Aces," he says, referring to the first full-time professional team, assembled by Ira Corn.

After graduating from IIT, Lall was accepted at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. While there, he kept up his studies as one of two ways to remain in the U.S. – the other being marrying an American – but he eventually started playing bridge for pay on a team formed by a wealthy sponsor. He also worked for the energy division of one of Henry Ross Perot's companies, and he put in 13 years at Bob Hamman's company, SCA Promotions.

Lall is now retired and playing a lot of bridge with Reese Milner, captain of USA I, which is in the final of the d'Orsi Senior Trophy against Sweden. "It's a dream come true to come back to India representing the U.S.," Lall says.

India, he adds, has changed a lot in the time that he has been away. "India is dramatically better than before," he says. "There have been a lot of positive changes."

Disastrous Developments (VC SF 4)



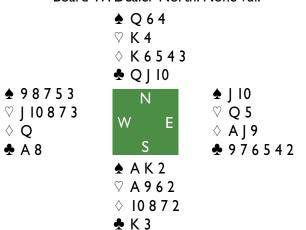
USA2 v Netherlands



By Jan van Cleeff

On the second day of the Venice Cup semifinals, USA2 had a cushion of 31.5 IMPs over the Netherlands. The match started disastrously for the European champs.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open room

West	North	East	South
Michielsen	Sokolow	Wortel	Seamon-Molson
	Pass	Pass	I ♦
Pass All Pass	2◊*	Pass	3NT

20 inverted minor raise (limit or better)

West led \heartsuit J: king, 5 and 2. Janice Seamon-Molson played a spade to hand and the \diamondsuit 7 to the queen, king and ace. East played the \heartsuit Q, taken by declarer with the ace. She next tried the \clubsuit K to West's ace. West cashed the \heartsuit 10 and continued with another heart. With East holding the \diamondsuit J, declarer had nine tricks and plus 400.

Closed room

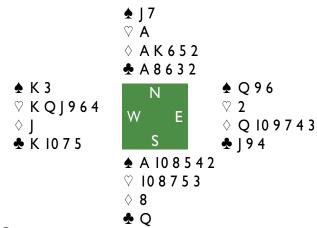
West	North	East	South
Deas	Pasman	Palmer	Simons
	Pass	Pass	I ♦
2◊*	3NT	All Pass	
2♦ both	majors		

East led the \triangle J to the \triangle A; \lozenge 7 to queen, king and ace; \triangledown Q to the king (nice switch, by the way) and a diamond from hand. East hopped up with the jack and continued in hearts. Declarer won the ace but still had to develop a club, so she played a club after having cashed her diamonds. West had this vital entry for her now-good three hearts: 3NT, one down, USA gaining 10 IMPs on the board.

The heart switch of course was excellent, but declarer could/should have made her contract by ducking ∇Q or winning ∇K and playing a club first.

The very next board was just a matter of style:





Open room

West	North	East	South
Michielsen	Sokolow	Wortel	Seamon-Molson
		3◊*	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT	Pass
4 ♡	All Pass		
3♦ modei	rn, aggressive s	tyle	

The contract had no play: 4% was four down. Closed room

West	North	East	South
Deas	Pasman	Palmer	Simons
		Pass	Pass
I♡ All Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣

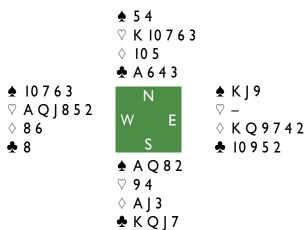
2NT both minors



Meike Wortel, Netherlands

Poor Anneke Simons. She was forced to show preference with her singleton. This contract had no play as well: 34 went three down for another 11 IMPs to USA2. It was not over yet.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



Open room

West	North	East	South
Michielsen	Sokolow	Wortel	Seamon-Molson
			♣
2♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	3♦	Dble
All Pass			

No escape for EW on this one. Declarer went three light; NS +800.

Closed room

West	North	East	South
Deas	Pasman	Palmer	Simons
			INT
$Dble^*$	2◊*	Dble	Pass*
Pass	Rdbl*	Pass	2♡
Dble	All Pass		



Marion Michielsen, Netherlands

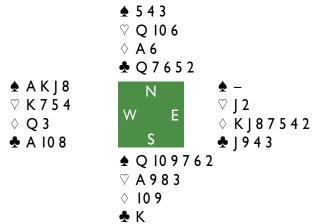
Dble Four of a major and five or six of a minor; a one-suiter with clubs, diamonds or hearts; both majors strong, strong spades or a strong balanced hand.

2♦ Transfer to ♥ Pass two hearts Rdbl SOS

Yes, 2° doubled was almost made, but there was no way declarer could avoid six losers. Down one delivered 14 IMPs to USA2.

That was three double-digit scores in a row, all in favour of USA2 and another one was coming.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.



Open room

West	North	East	South
Michielsen	Sokolow	Wortel	Seamon-Molson
I♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	5◊	All Pass

South led her $\heartsuit A$ and continued the suit. Declarer, who had to get rid of three club losers, ducked, hoping South held the $\triangledown Q$. Not this time $5 \diamondsuit$ was one down.

Closed room

West	North	East	South
Deas	Pasman	Palmer	Simons
♣*	Pass	I ◊*	I♠
INT	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
2NT tran	ative		

Jet Pasman led a spade to the queen and ace. The $\Diamond Q$ was ducked, but Pasman had to win the next diamond trick. Another spade was won by declarer, who tabled $\clubsuit A$. When the $\clubsuit K$ fell, West had her entry to the dummy and the diamond tricks. Plus 460 brought another II IMPs to USA2.

With 32 boards to play, the Americans had increased their lead to 160.5 - 99.

Venice Cup Semi-Final S6



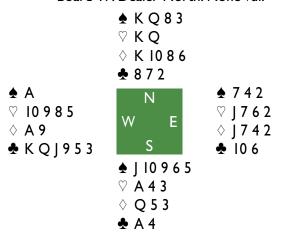
England v France



By Brian Senior

One 16-board set to go to decide who would go to the final of the 2015 Venice Cup, with France leading by 35 IMPs going into the set. That was a useful edge to have, but by no means decisive. Both teams would be eager for a good start.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
_	I ♦	Pass	l ♠
2♣	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Reess	Senior	Zochowska	Dhondy
_	I♣	Pass	I♠
Dble	2♠	Pass	2NT
3♣	4♠	All Pass	

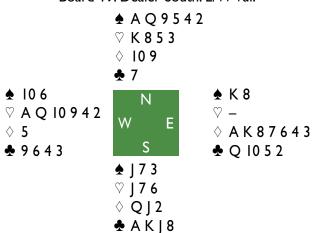
Both Norths showed four-card spade support. Cronier raised herself to game, while Dhondy made an artificial game try and Senior jumped to 4.

Smith led the king of clubs and continued with the jack when Cronier ducked. Cronier won the ace and led a heart to the queen then the king of spades. Smith won and played the queen of clubs, ruffed by Cronier who drew a round of trumps, unblocked the king of hearts and drew the missing trump before cashing the ace of hearts. Reading the position perfectly, Cronier led a low diamond to the king then ducked a diamond on the way back. Smith won the ace but Cronier had the rest for +420. A nicely played hand to start the set.

Reess too led the king of clubs. Dhondy won immediately and played a spade up. Reess won the ace and played queen then jack of clubs, ruffed in hand by Dhondy, who played a

spade to the king, cashed the king and queen of hearts and came back to hand with a spade. Now she cashed the heart ace and led a diamond towards the king Reess rose with the ace and played back her remaining diamond. That would have been a necessary play had the jack and queen of diamonds been switched around, as ducking would offer declarer the opportunity to put up the king then exit with a second round to the now bare ace and get a ruff and discard to make her contract. In practice, of course, there was no defence and Dhondy had played well to flatten the board.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
_	_	_	♣
Ι♡	I♠	2♦	2♠
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass
West	North	East	South
West Reess	North Senior	East Zochowska	South Dhondy
			Dhondy

Smith's simple overcall allowed Willard to introduce her spades at the one level and Brock to show her long diamonds. When Cronier supported the spades, Willard had sufficient extra playing strength courtesy of the long spades to go to game, sharply doubled by Brock.

Brock led the king of diamonds to ask for a count signal and could read Smith's five to be a singleton. She continued with a low diamond for Smith to ruff and Smith played ace then ten of hearts. Brock ruffed and played the ace of diamonds. Willard ruffed and laid down the ace of spades so had the rest for down one and -100.

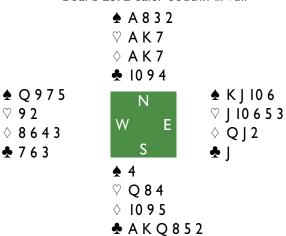
Reess made a weak jump overcall, as would I, and now Senior had shown most of her hand when she bid $2\spadesuit$. Hence, when Dhondy raised to $3\spadesuit$, she passed, no doubt also suspecting that there would be a heart ruff coming

against her.

The first four tricks were as in the other room, but then Zochowska led another low diamond to force her partner to ruff, just in case she had the queen. No, Senior could over-ruff the ten and cash the ace of spades so had nine tricks for +140 and 6 IMPs to England; 151-180.

The next three deals were all flat and, with no opportunities coming their way the English players were no doubt starting to get a little fidgety.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
_	_	_	I♣
Pass	I♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Reess	Senior	Zochowska	Dhondy
_	_	_	I♣
Pass	I♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

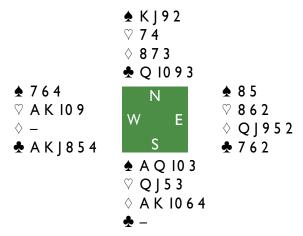
Cronier bid and rebid her clubs then stressed them with a third bid over the artificial 2° bid. Willard set trumps then went on to the small slam over Cronier's sign-off, confident that she must have powerful trumps as she didn't appear to have much else.

Dhondy preferred to show a heart stopper over the semi-natural 20 but now Senior set trumps and, after a cuebid from Dhondy, asked for key cards and bid the slam.

There was nothing to the play, with 12 easy tricks and no prospect for a thirteenth; flat at +1370.

Board 24 was flat in 3NT+2 by N/S but then came a real swing board, and the swing went to the team that really needed it, England.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
_	Pass	Pass	I♦
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
2♡	2♠	Pass	4♠
Dhla	All Pacc		

West	North	East	South
Reess	Senior	Zochowska	Dhondy
_	Pass	Pass	I♦
2♣	Dble	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

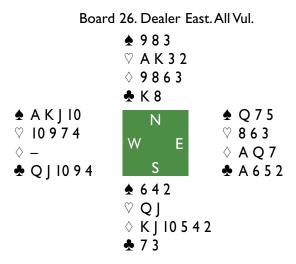
Willard, facing what would often prove to be a weak no trump, passed as North after West's overcall, but Cronier had the perfect distribution to reopen with a double and now Smith showed her second suit and Willard admitted to holding a bit of something and four or more spades. Cronier raised to game and Smith doubled, ending the auction.

Senior was facing a 1° opening which would usually be unbalanced so knew there was an eight-card fit there if not in spades and made a wafer-thin negative double. Dhondy showed the three-suited nature of her hand, as well a sits power, with a jump cuebid and Senior signed-off in $4 \pm$, doubled by Reess.

Zochowska led the queen of diamonds against 4\$\rightarrow\$ doubled and Senior's ace was ruffed out by Reess, who switched to king, ace and a third heart. This was all rather helpful to declarer, who won the third heart and drew trumps in two rounds then led the seven of diamonds to the nine and ten and soon had ten tricks for +590.

Brock found the rather more challenging lead of a trump. Willard won in hand with the nine and led a heart to the jack and king, won the spade return and led a second heart to the queen and ace. A third trump came back so she won in hand and led the eight of diamonds and ran it when Brock didn't split. That saved a trick but Brock split on the next round of diamonds and declarer had to lose a heart and a diamond at the end for down one and -100, giving England 12 badly-needed IMPs. That closed up the match to 163-180 and, with another seven boards to play, it was still

very much alive.



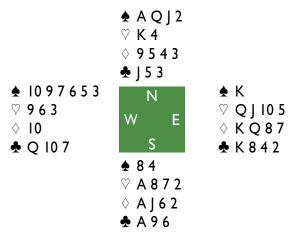
West	North	East	South
Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
_	_	♣	Pass
I♦	Pass	Ι♡	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
West Reess	North Senior	East Zochowska	South Dhondy
		Zochowska	Dhondy
Reess	Senior —	Zochowska I♣	Dhondy I♠
Reess - Dble	Senior — 2♣	Zochowska I♣ Pass	Dhondy I♠ 2♦

Just when England seemed to have some momentum in their favour, that momentum swung against them once more. After Brock's two-plus card I♣ opening, Smith transferred to hearts then showed four-four in the majors invitational, and finally clubs. Looking at a minimum opener with half her points in diamonds opposite the known shortage, Brock passed. Cronier led a trump so a heart loser went away on the fourth spade; II tricks for +150.

Dhondy overcalled I♦ and Reess doubled. Senior showed a constructive diamond raise and competed to the three level at her next turn. All the N/S diamond bidding encouraged Reess to upgrade her hand and she drove to game, showing her strong spades then jumping to 5♣ over her partner's 3NT. There were three heart losers in 5♣ and, had Dhondy had reason to find the heart lead, the English fightback might have continued – but was there any reason to find the lead on this auction? Maybe, if you assume that dummy is short in diamonds and strong in spades so that the heart suit is the only place left to find tricks, but it wasn't clear, and Dhondy actually chose a trump so the game made for +600 and 10 IMPs to France, giving them a little more breathing space at 190-163.

Of course, 3NT is unbeatable, and the French were in that contract for a few seconds on the way to $5\frac{4}{3}$, and so is $4\frac{4}{3}$.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
_	_	_	1♦
Pass	I♠	Dble	Pass
2♣	Dble	Pass	2♡
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Reess	Senior	Zochowska	Dhondy
_	_	_	I♣
Pass	I♠	Dble	INT
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

It is not compulsory to double with the East hand but to do so is very tempting, particularly for Zochowska, who could double take-out of spades after the two-plus card I popening, while Brock was doubling take-out of spades and diamonds. Both Souths found themselves declaring a thin and rather unattractive game.

Reess found the nine of hearts, a good start for the defence, and Dhondy won with dummy's king to lead the three of diamonds, ducking Zochowska's queen. She won the queen of hearts return and took a losing spade finesse. Zochowska cashed the hearts then exited with the two of clubs and Dhondy shot up with the ace to cash two spades then play a diamond to her jack. There was just the ace of diamonds to come so the contract was down two for -100.

After the rather more complex auction at the other table, Smith made the more attacking lead of the seven of clubs – declarer had, of course, bid hearts at this table – and that gave declarer a chance. Cronier played low from dummy and Brock played the four so Cronier's nine scored. She was one trick better off than Dhondy now – could she find the other extra trick she required to bring her up to nine?

Cronier took the spade finesse, losing to the bare king, and Brock, rather than play back a club, chose the seven of diamonds. Cronier thought about that and came to the conclusion that it would be strange to lead away from a diamond holding including the ten with four to the nine in

dummy, plus most of the missing high cards were known to be on her right from the auction. She put in the jack and must have been very pleased when she saw Smith's ten. Time to think some more. There appeared to be two tricks in each suit and the extra one was likely to require a squeeze. Cronier led a low heart now and ducked it to Brock's five (to win the first round of a suit with the five with everyone following would cost a round of drinks in some circles). Brock now returned a club and Cronier ducked again. She won the club continuation and cashed the ace and jack of spades and Brock had to surrender. Cronier could wait and see which red-suit Brock discarded and throw from the other one herself. A heart discard would give a third heart trick immediately, while a diamond discard would just require Cronier to cash the king of hearts then play ace and another diamond to establish the fourth round as her ninth trick. Plus 400 meant 11 IMPs to France and the lead was up to 201-163 with five boards to

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

Board 2	8. Dealer vve	est. IN/S vui.
	★ A K 7 6 3	}
	♡] 9	
	♦ K 10 9 3	
	♣ 76	
8 4	N	♠ Q92
KQ10832	W E	♡ 74
872	VV E	♦ A 5
K 4	S	♣ A Q 10 8 3 2
	♦ 1 10 5	

♡ A 6 5 ◇ Q J 6 4 ♣ | 9 5

West	North	East	South
Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
3♡	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Reess	Senior	Zochowska	Dhondy
2♦	Pass	2♡	Pass
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

The West hand is a classical weak two bid but, when you desperately need points you have to do some less classical things and Smith opened a level higher. Three Hearts scooped the pool and Willard first cashed the ace of spades, then switched to the ten of diamonds and, when that held, switched again, this time to the jack of hearts. That last was good news for Smith, of course, as she scooped it in with her king and returned the queen to Cronier's ace. Smith won the diamond return, crossed to hand via a club to the king and ran the trumps then clubs and had ten tricks for +170.

Reess opened a multi and $2\heartsuit$ was pass or correct. When $2\heartsuit$ came round to Senior, she balanced with $2\clubsuit$ and nobody had anything to add. Senior won the heart lead and led the jack of spades off the dummy, going up with the ace when there was no flicker on her right. She continued by cashing the king of spades then switched her attention to diamonds and had eight tricks for +110 and 7 IMPs to England. That closed the match up to 170-201. Was there a flicker of hope for England? If so, the next board at least offered the prospect of a big swing.



The French ladies with their captain.



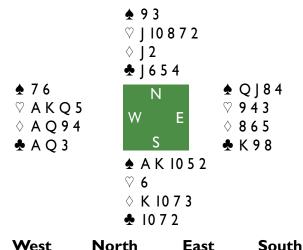
Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
_	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6◊	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
West Reess	North Senior	East Zochowska	South <i>Dhondy</i>
	Senior	Zochowska	Dhondy
Reess -	Senior Pass	Zochowska Pass	Dhondy Pass

The prospect of a swing, perhaps, but no swing in real terms. Brock opened 2♣, strong and artificial or a weak two in diamonds. Two No Trump asked and 3♦ showed a minimum weak two bid, but Smith wasn't too worried about that and asked for key cards then bid the small slam on finding one. There was no weak two option for the French pair but Reess opened with a strong and artificial 2♣ and 2♥ showed two controls. When Reess next treated her hand as balanced, Zochowska jumped to 4♣, transfer to diamonds, and Reess jumped to the small slam, knowing already that an ace must be missing.

A club was led at both tables so the board was flat at +1370.



Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.



Smith	Willard	Brock	Cronier
_	_	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Reess	Senior	Zochowska	Dhondy
_	_	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Smith opened 2NT and was raised to game. Willard led the jack of hearts. Smith won the king and led a spade to the queen and king. Back came a low diamond, on which she put in the queen. Smith cashed a heart, seeing the bad break, then tried a second spade to the jack and ace. Cronier returned the seven of diamonds to Smith's ace and all she could do was to hope for an even diamond break. When that did not materialise she was down one for -50.

Reess opened $2\clubsuit$, intending to rebid 2NT to show 20-21 balanced, and the $2\diamondsuit$ response showed fewer than two controls. Now Dhondy's overcall meant that Reess could not bid no trump so she passed it round to Zochowska who first doubled then converted Reess's $3\heartsuit$ response to 3NT.

Here, declarer had much more information with which to work. Dhondy led the three of diamonds, ducked to the jack, and Senior switched to the nine of spades for the queen and king. Dhondy got off play with a heart to dummy so Zochowska cashed the hearts and clubs then led a diamond to the queen and continued with ace and another diamond. Dhondy won the king but had to give the last trick to declarer in spades; nine tricks for a nicely played +400 and 10 IMPs to France.

Though England picked up 16 IMPs over the last two deals, it was too little too late, and France had come out on top by 211-186 and would play in the final starting the following morning – 96 boards against USA2 for the championship of the world.

Slumdog Millionaires (BB S5 & S6)



England v Poland



By Mark Horton

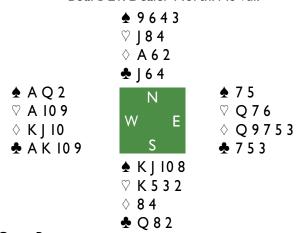
Segment 5

Slumdog Millionaire is a 2008 British drama film loosely adapted from the 2005 novel Q & A by Indian author and diplomat Vikas Swarup. Set and filmed in India, it tells the story of Jamal Malik, a young man from the Juhu slums of Mumbai who appears on the Indian version of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? and exceeds people's expectations, thereby arousing the suspicions of cheating; Jamal recounts in flashback how he knows the answer to each question, each one linked to a key event in his life.

As the semi final of the match between England and Poland unfolded the players sought to draw upon their vast experience to answer the many tough questions they had to answer at the table.

Join me now as we explore what happened on day two - I promise you will not be disappointed.

Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Jassem	Robson	Mazurkiewicz
	Pass	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the six of spades and when South played the king declarer ducked. He took the return of the eight of spades with the ace and played the king of diamonds, followed by the ten. When that also held he played three rounds of clubs, South winning with the queen and returning the jack of spades. Declarer won, cashed the ten of clubs and exited with the jack of diamonds. North won, cashed the nine of spades and played the eight of hearts. Declarer played low from dummy and was home,+400.

There is more to this hand than meets the eye.

For instance, if North had held the king of hearts declarer would have been able to get home by playing a third diamond, relying on the queen of hearts to be an entry. He was perhaps able to judge that was unlikely from the early play.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Hackett	Nowosadzki	Hackett
	Pass	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♡*	Pass	3 ♠ *	Dble
3NT	All Pass		
3.4 D			

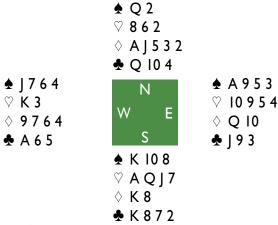
3♣ Puppet Stayman3♡ No Major

North led the four of spades and declarer took South's king with the ace and played three rounds of diamonds, North winning with the ace and continuing with the three of spades. Declarer ducked, won the next spade and played a heart for the jack, queen and king.

The defenders cashed a spade and exited with a heart, waiting for a club trick, -50 and 10 IMPs for England.

Credit those to Forrester.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Jassem	Robson	Mazurkiewicz
		Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the four of diamonds and declarer took East's ten with the king and played a club to the ten and jack. The return of the four of hearts went to the queen and king and West played the nine of diamonds, covered by the jack and queen. Declarer won the heart return played a club to the queen and cashed the ace of diamonds. When East showed out he tried the queen of spades but East won and

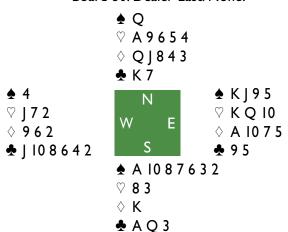
returned the nine of spades and declarer was three down, -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Hackett	Nowosadzki	Hackett
		Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the seven of spades and East won with the ace and returned the five of hearts for the queen and king, West returning the three for the six, ten and ace. Declarer played a club to the ten and jack, won the heart return with the jack and played a club, West taking the ace and switching to the seven of diamonds for the ten and king. Declarer played a spade to the queen, overtook the queen of clubs with the king, cashed the eight of clubs and the king of spades and played a diamond to the ace, the fall of the queen giving declarer his ninth trick, +400 and 11 IMPs to England, putting them ahead, 120.3-112.

Board 30. Dealer East. None.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Jassem	Robson	Mazurkiewicz
		♣*	I♠
3♣	$Dble^*$	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

1♣ 5+♣ or 4414 short ◊ (<17) 11-14 balanced 18-19 balanced Doubleton ♣ possible

To defeat 4♠ West must lead a heart.

I thought it was a possibility, as at least you have an honour in the suit, but my esteemed colleague Jean-Paul Meyer assures me it is the last thing he would consider, so West can consider himself to be unlucky.

On West's diamond lead, East took the ace and returned the five, but the potential heart loser had vanished and declarer could safely negotiate the trump suit for two losers by playing the queen, winning with the ace when East covered and continuing with the ten, +420.

Closed Room

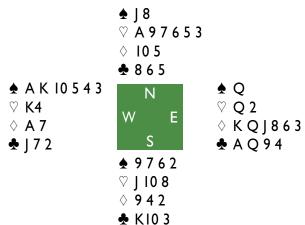
West	North	East	South
Kalita	Hackett	Nowosadzki	Hackett
		I ♦	I♠
Pass	2♡	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the queen of hearts and when West followed with the two he switched to the five of clubs. Declarer won with the king and played the queen of spades. East should have covered that, but he made the slight mistake of ducking, giving declarer a difficult opportunity.

Declarer takes two rounds of clubs followed by the king of diamonds. If East ducks declarer plays a heart, covering West's card. With West out of the game declarer can take on East and should easily come to nine tricks. Terence Reese described a very similar hand in a story entitled Divide and Rule.

In practice declarer played a diamond and East took the ace. Playing a heart at this point ensures the defeat of the contract, but East played a second club, giving declarer a chance to revert to the winning line. However, the spade suit was too tempting and declarer cashed dummy's ace of spades which meant he had to go one down, -50 and 10 IMPs to Poland, who had regained the lead, 137-125.3.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



Open Room

-			
West	North	East	South
Forrester	Kalita	Robson	Nowosadzki
I♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♡*	Pass
3NT	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4♡*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
6◊	All Pass		
30 Fourt	h suit forcing		

3♥ Fourth suit forcing

4♥ Cue bid

5♣ Cue bio

South led the jack of hearts and declarer played low from dummy, North winning with the ace and returning the three of hearts.

After long thought declarer played a club to the queen and was one down, -100.

Closed Room

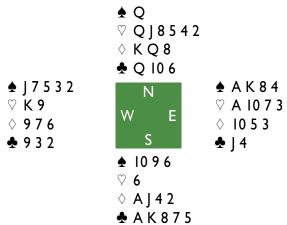
West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Gold	Gawrys	Bakhshi
I♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣*	Dble
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5◊*	Pass	6◊	All Pass
2NT Extra 4♣ Cue b 4NT RKCB 5♦ 3 key	id		

The defence started in the same way.

Having been warned off the club finesse by South's double, declarer crossed to the king of diamonds, unblocked the queen of spades, came to hand with a diamond and cashed three spades, which took care of dummy's clubs, +1370 and 16 IMPs to Poland.

West had taken several minutes before bidding 40 and the deal was subsequently reviewed, but there was no change to the result.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Kalita	Robson	Nowosadzki
			♣
Pass	Ι♡	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♡	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♣	Dble	All Pass

West led the two of spades and East won with the ace and returned the ten of diamonds, declarer winning with dummy's king and playing a heart. East went in with the ace and continued with the three of diamonds, declarer taking the trick with the jack, ruffing a spade and playing the queen of hearts, ruffing when East followed with the three, bringing down West's king.

At this point declarer can get home in more than one

way, the simplest being to draw trumps, cross to dummy with a diamond and pitch the losing spade on the jack of hearts but when declarer cashed the ace of clubs, crossed to dummy with the queen and pitched a spade on the jack of hearts West was able to ruff with the nine of clubs, one down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Gold	Gawrys	Bakhshi
			♣
Pass	Ι♡	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♡	Pass	4♡
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	5♣	Dble	All Pass

Having doubled 4° (a contract that was going down) and perhaps recalling the old Russian proverb that 'having said A you have to say B' East felt compelled to double 5^{\bullet} .

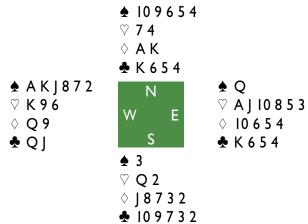
West led the two of clubs and declarer won with the seven and played a spade, East winning with the king and returning the three of diamonds. Declarer won in hand with the jack and ruffed a spade.

The way home now is to play a low heart.

West wins and plays a club, but declarer wins with dummy's queen and ruffs a heart, bringing down the king. He draws the outstanding trump, crosses to dummy with a diamond and plays the queen of hearts, running it if East does not cover.

Alas, fearing ghosts, declarer overtook the queen of clubs, drew trumps and played a heart, West winning and playing a spade for one down, -200 and no swing.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Kalita	Robson	Nowosadzki
			Pass
I♠	Pass	2♡	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♡	Pass
500	Pass	6♡	All Pass

With little to go on South went for the nine of clubs. With trumps 2-2 that was all the help declarer needed and he was soon claiming all the tricks, +1460.

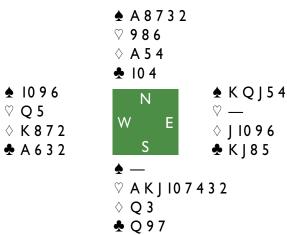
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Gold	Gawrys	Bakhshi
			Pass
I♠	Pass	2♡	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♡	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♡	All Pass

2NT Extra values

Here South led his spade and once again declarer took all the tricks, +510 but 11 IMPs to England.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Kalita	Robson	Nowosadzki
	Pass	I♠	4♡
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

South led the ace of hearts and declarer ruffed and ran the jack of diamonds. When it held he decided to play the jack of spades, which held the trick and disclosed the 5-0 split. The nine of diamonds was covered all around and North could have assured two down by playing trumps. When he went for the eight of hearts declarer pitched the ten of diamonds, allowing South to win with the king.

He exited with the seven of clubs and declarer won with the jack, played a diamond to dummy's seven, cashed the ace of clubs and played a diamond, ruffed by the seven and overuffed by declarer who played the king of clubs. North could ruff, but the ace of spades was the last defensive trick, one down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Gold	Gawrys	Bakhshi
	Pass	I♠	4♡
All Pass			

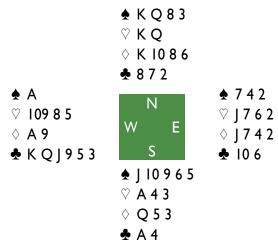
West led the nine of spades and declarer pitched a diamond on the ace and drew trumps, claiming eleven tricks, +650 and 10 IMPs to England.

Board 16 was very dramatic - you will find it reported in lan van Cleeff's article.

With 16 deals to play Poland led 182-163.3.

Segment 6

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Robson	Gawrys	Forrester	Klukowski
	♣*	Pass	I♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass All Pass	3♡*	Pass	4♠

1♣ 12-14, balanced or 4-4-1-4 distribution or 15+ PC, natural; or 18+ PC, any

West led the king of clubs, East following with the ten as declarer won and played the six of spades, West taking the ace, cashing the nine of clubs and continuing with the queen, ruffed by East with the seven of clubs and overruffed by declarer who crossed to the king of spades, unblocked the hearts, came to hand with a spade, pitched a diamond on the ace of hearts and played the queen of diamonds. West took the ace and exited with a diamond, one down, -50.

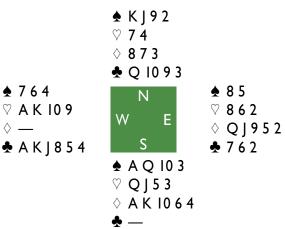
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bakhshi	Nowosadzki	Gold
	INT	Pass	2♡*
3♣	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

East led the ten of clubs and declarer won and played a spade, West winning and playing two more clubs as East pitched a diamond and declarer ruffed.

After drawing trumps declarer took the winning view in diamonds, +420 and 10 IMPs to England.

Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Robson	Gawrys	Forrester	Klukowski
	Pass	Pass	I ♦
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Rdbl	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♡	2♠	3♣	3♡*
Dble	Pass	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

East led the two of hearts and West won with the nine when declarer played the three from dummy.

Back came a trump and declarer won with the ten and tried to cash the ace of diamonds.

West ruffed and played another trump and declarer won in dummy and played a heart to the jack and ace. He ruffed the ace of clubs return, ruffed a heart and played a diamond, ducking when East played the queen.

When East played a club declarer pitched a heart allowing West to win, two down, -300.



Piotr Gawrys, Poland

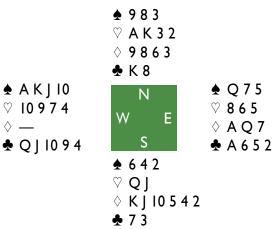
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bakhshi	Nowosadzki	Gold
	Pass	Pass	I♦
Dble	I♠	Pass	4♠
4NT*	Pass	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

South led the king of diamonds and declarer ruffed and played a spade, North winning and returning a spade, South winning with the queen and continuing with the ace, forcing dummy to ruff. The jack of diamonds was covered by the ace and ruffed and declarer cashed the ace of clubs and then played three rounds of hearts, South winning and exiting with a diamond.

When declarer pitched his remaining heart North ruffed and exited with a spade. There was still a trump to come, three down, -800 and 15 IMPs to England, closing in at 193-190.3.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Robson	Gawrys	Forrester	Klukowski
		♣*	Pass
INT*	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the eight of diamonds for the queen and king, declarer throwing the ten of spades and then taking the return of the two of diamonds with dummy's ace, playing a spade to the ace and running the queen of clubs, ready to go six down if it lost.

Not today, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bakhshi	Nowosadzki	Gold
		I ♣	Pass
ΙŸ	Pass	INT	Pass
2◊*	Pass	2♡*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

South led the queen of hearts and continued with the jack, North overtaking, cashing the ace and playing his last heart, neatly promoting his king of clubs, as declarer had to ruff with dummy's ace. Two down, -500 and incredibly a consecutive gain of 15 IMPs to England, now ahead at 205.3-193.

On the very next deal England handed Poland a life line. In the Closed Room they reached a normal looking 2NT which failed by a trick when declarer failed to divine that the king of spades was an offside singleton.

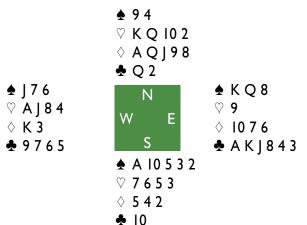
In the replay after South had opened a Polish Club on \$84 ∇A872 ∇AJ62 ♣A96 and North had responded a spade with ♠AQJ2 ∇K4 ♥9543 ♣J53, East, with ♠K ∇QJ105 ∇KO87 ♣K842 elected to double.

West found the best solution to this horrible problem by passing with ♠1097653 ♥963 ♦10 ♠Q107 but declarer made an overtrick for +260 and 8 IMPs.

A well bid slam on 29 was flat, as was 3NT on the next deal, although Robson had to work much harder than Kalita as he faced a tougher opening lead.

31 was a flat part score and, with around 8,000 watching on BBO this was the final deal.

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Robson	Gawrys	Forrester	Klukowski
Pass	INT*	Pass	2♡*
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

INT (14)15-17 PC, balanced, can be 5 in a major, 5422 minors, 6322 minor longer

The English pair use a double of INT to show the majors or 18+ (partner can relay via 2♣ with 10+ and 2♦ with 0-9). 2♣/♦ would promise clubs/diamonds and a major.

Having passed on the first round it was perhaps incumbent on East to bid $3\clubsuit$ on the next one, but these things are much easier from where I am sitting.

East led the ace of clubs and switched to the six of diamonds for the king and ace. When declarer played the nine of spades East put up the queen and played the ten of diamonds, declarer winning with the queen and playing the four of spades. East played the eight and time stood still as declarer considered playing dummy's ten. Had he done so the defenders would have been able to cross ruff for one

down, but when he eventually played the ace he had eight tricks, +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bakhshi	Nowosadzki	Gold
Pass	I ♦	2♣	Dble*
Rdbl	2♡	3♣	All Pass

There was no compelling reason for North to start with INT (it would have been 12-14) and in any event my guess is that East, expecting to be behind after the body blows on 25 & 26 would have bid 3 no the second round of the auction.

Declarer was not hard pressed to take ten tricks, +130 and 6 IMPs that took Poland to their second Bermuda Bowl final.

It had been a tremendous match - I could easily have described many more deals - trust me, you will enjoy reading this year's World Championship Book.



World Championship Book 2015

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

On publication, the official retail price will be

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

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

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

Brian Senior

Another Tight Battle (BB FI)



Sweden v Poland

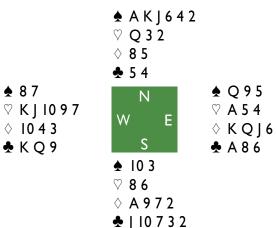


By Micke Melander

In the qualifying round-robin Poland played solid bridge against Sweden, winning the match 21-0. That gave them a carry-over lead of 10.5 IMPs. It took Sweden another three boards before they finally managed to score their first IMP against Poland.

Two boards later came the first significant swing of the match.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Upmark	Gawrys	Nyström
	I♠	INT	Pass
2◊*	Pass	2♡	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♡	All Pass

Gawrys had an easy ride for 10 tricks when the ten of spades was led. Ace and king of spades and a diamond, which went to South's ace were the first three tricks. Without doubt, North now held the queen of hearts since he had opened the bidding.

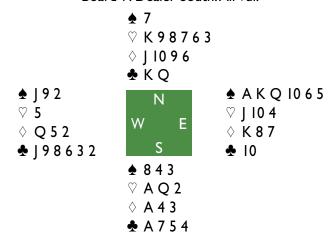
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sylvan	Jassem	Wrang	Mazurkiewicz
	2◊*	2NT	Pass
3◊*	Pass	3♡	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♡	All Pass

For the same reason Wrang went one off in the same contract, where three rounds of spades were played, South naturally pitching a club on the third round. Knowing that North had ace-king-jack six times in spades he surely didn't have much more than a jack. When the heart finesse lost to the queen it was 10 IMPs to Poland.

Sweden soon scored a huge swing.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Upmark	Gawrys	Nyström INT
Pass All Pass	4 \ ^*	Pass	4♥

When North made his heart transfer at the four level, Gawrys didn't risk making his otherwise quite obvious spade overcall. Klukowski led a club and Nyström had no problems pulling trumps, unblock the king of clubs to enter his hand a pitch dummy's losing spade on the ace of clubs for eleven tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sylvan	Jassem	Wrang	Mazurkiewicz
			♣*
Pass	Ι♡	I♠	Dble
2♠	4♡	4♠	All Pass

The Polish Club gave Wrang the opportunity to overcall and when East raised he knew that Four Spades must be a good sacrifice if not even making.

Mazurkiewicz led a potentially killing trump and Wrang had to change plan and to try set up dummy's clubs. Declarer needed the ace of diamonds to be with South to have the three entries needed to dummy so that if clubs were 3-3 he would make his game.

He won the trump lead in hand to play a club. North won with the queen and returned the jack of diamonds, which ran to dummy's queen.

Then came a club ruff, spade to the nine, and the nine of clubs and when North pitched a heart (eight) declarer did the same. South won with his ace and cashed the ace of diamonds, noticing the two, nine and seven. Instead of cashing the ace of hearts Mazurkiewicz must have believed

that partner had played second-fourth from KJ96 in diamonds and played another round of the suit. Declarer won with the king, entered dummy with a trump and claimed his contract. I5 IMPs to Sweden.

Why on earth it might be right not to cash the ace of hearts before playing a diamond is written in the stars.

Board 12. Dealer East. N-S Vul. **★** | 4 3 ♥ AK952 ♦ 10 7 ♣ 872 **★** A 8 7 **♠** Q 6 ♡ 106 ♥ O 8 3 ♦ 983 ♦ A K Q J 5 2 AKQ64 **♣** | 5 **★** K 10 9 5 2 ♡ | 7 4 ♦ 64 ♣ 1093

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Upmark	Gawrys	Nyström
♣	Ι♡	2◊	Pass
2♡	Pass	3NT	All Pass

When South led the five of spades Gawrys went up with the ace to collect his eleven minor suit winners for twelve tricks.

Closed Room

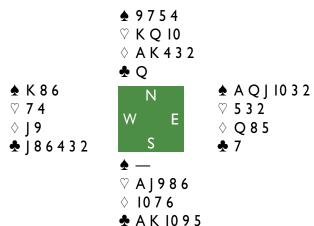
West	North	East	South
Sylvan	Jassem	Wrang	Mazurkiewicz
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass



Krzysztof Jassem, Poland

Sylvan, had upgraded his hand to a 14-16 INT and when North led the five of hearts he was on a guess. With the ten in hand, he naturally called for a low card. Mazurkiewicz won with the jack to return the suit for one down. I IMPs back to Poland.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Upmark	Gawrys	Nyström
		2◊*	4♣*
Pass	4◊*	Pass	4♡
Pass	5♡	Pass	6♡
All Pass			

Four Clubs was a strong two-suiter with clubs and a major, Four Diamonds asked, and Four Hearts told the full story. North made a natural slam try happily accepted by South. West led a spade, ruffed by declarer. A club to the queen, heart to the jack and a ruff in clubs constituted the first four tricks. Declarer then pulled trumps and ducked a diamond for twelve tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sylvan	Jassem	Wrang	Mazurkiewicz
		2◊*	2♡
Pass	4♡	All Pass	
2♦ Mult	i		

When South overcalled North didn't make any attempt to reach the excellent slam. Declarer was held to ten tricks when he played on dummy reversal lines. Mazurkiewicz ruffed the spade lead, played a club to the queen, cashed the ace of diamonds and ruffed a second spade. He then entered dummy with a diamond and ruffed a third spade. Nothing could prevent declarer from ruffing dummy's last spade with the ace of hearts and scoring three more tricks with dummy's king-queen-ten of trumps. II IMPs to Sweden.

The first set finished 39-37 to Poland, who with their carry-over led 49.5-37. Another tight match may be in prospect and might not be for kibitzers with weak hearts – it might be just too much!

Fast out of the Gate (OT FI)



USA I v Sweden

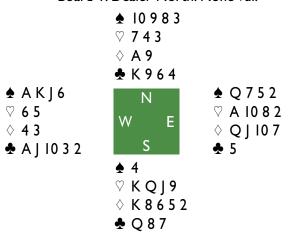


By Brent Manley

The final of the d'Orsi Trophy match between USA I and Sweden started with the Swedes ahead by 2.33 IMPs thanks to their carryover from the head-to-head match in the round robin.

That lead was nearly wiped out on the first board.

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Sellden	Rosenberg	Wenneberg	Zia
	Pass	Pass	ΙŸ
I♠	2♡	4♠	All Pass

Michael Rosenberg led the $\heartsuit 7$ to dummy's ace and declarer, Goran Sellden, played a club to his ace and ruffed a club. A spade to the king was followed by another club ruff. Another spade to declarer's hand revealed the bad



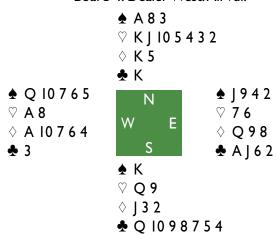
Björn Wenneberg, Sweden

trump break. Sellden played the \clubsuit J to Rosenberg's king, and Rosenberg exited with the \bigstar IO. Sellden won with the \bigstar J and played a diamond. Rosenberg won the ace, pulled declarer's last trump and the defenders took the rest of the tricks for plus 100.

At the other table, Bob Hamman played 3NT from the East seat and received the opening lead of the $\heartsuit K$, Hamman ducked that trick and the $\triangledown Q$, but Gunnar Eliasson put his partner in with a diamond to the ace for a heart return. Hamman won the ace and established a couple of diamond tricks by playing the queen from hand. The defenders had five tricks. USA I had 2 IMPs.

The score, including carryover, was 5-3 when this deal came along.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Sellden	Rosenberg	Wenneberg	Zia
I♠	2♡	3♡	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

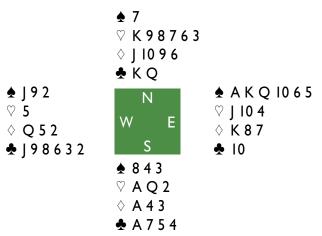
Sellden lost two spades, a heart and a diamond for plus 140. The Swedish North/South misjudged in the bidding at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Lair	Ostberg	Hamman	Eliasson
I♠	2♡	3♠*	Pass
Pass	4♡	Pass	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♡
Pass	Pass	DЫ	All Pass

Hamman's 3♠ showed support with less than limit-raise values. Lair liked his shapely hand, so he took a shot at game, which was due to go down. Whether 5♥ was a bid to make or a save against 4♠, the result was minus 200 when the defenders did not fail to take their three aces. Plus 200 meant 2 more IMPs to the Americans.

The swings through the first six boards were all modest, and USA I was ahead I2-3 when the Americans broke through for an II-IMP gain.



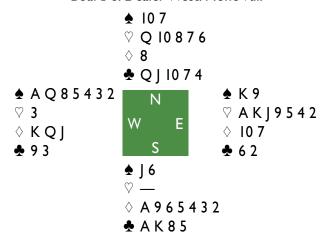


West	North	East	South
Sellden	Rosenberg	Wenneberg	Zia
			♣
Pass	I 🛇	2♠	Pass
3♠	DЫ	Pass	4♡
All Pass			

Wenneberg led a high spade and continued the suit. Rosenberg ruffed, played a heart to the queen and ruffed dummy's last spade. He then played a heart to the ace, a heart to his king, followed by the ♣K and ♣Q, then ran the ◇J to West's queen. He took the ♣J return with dummy's ace, ruffed a club to hand and played the ◇IO, claiming when East covered. Plus 650 to USA I.

At the other table, Hamman bought the contract at 4\.
He took only nine tricks, but it was a big gain for USA 1.
The next deal was a spectacular gain for the Americans.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Sellden	Rosenberg	Wenneberg	Zia
I♠	Pass	2♡	4 ♦
4♠	Pass	Pass	DЫ
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
DЫ	All Pass		

Zia's double was in the Lightner category – calling for an unusual lead, in this case, dummy's first-bid suit. Had Rosenberg found the heart lead, there would have been

potential for plus 500 via a heart ruff followed by the $\Diamond A$, a diamond ruff, club to the king, a second diamond ruff and a club to the ace. As things worked out, the plus score for them was even better when Rosenberg bid 4NT.

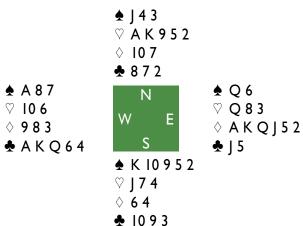
In 5♣ doubled, Zia ruffed the opening heart lead, cashed the ♦A, ruffed a diamond, cashed the ♣Q and played a club to hand for the diamond ruff that established four diamond tricks for declarer. A further heart ruff allowed Zia to claim an overtrick, pitching dummy's spades on diamonds and taking one spade ruff for plus 650. It was a huge gain because of what happened at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Lair	Ostberg	Hamman	Eliasson
I♠	Pass	2♡	5◊
DЫ	All Pass		

Eliasson lost two spades and two diamonds for minus 300. It was a 14-IMP gain for the Americans, now in the lead 37-3.

Sweden broke through on this deal.

Board 12. Dealer East. N-S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Sellden	Rosenberg	Wenneberg	Zia
♣	Pass	2♠	DЫ
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	5◊	All Pass

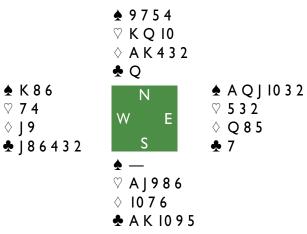
The contract is cold, Wenneberg making 12 tricks after Zia started with the \clubsuit 10. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Lair	Ostberg	Hamman	Eliasson
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Johnny Ostberg hit on the opening lead of a low heart. Lair made the normal play of low from dummy and was quickly one down when Eliasson's \heartsuit J won the trick. Plus 50 meant 10 IMPs to Sweden.

Zia and Rosenberg helped USA I cap a successful first session with good bidding on this deal near the end,

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Sellden	Rosenberg	Wenneberg	Zia
		2◊*	4♣*
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4♡
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♡
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

- 20 Multi: weak two in a major
- 4. Leaping Michaels: At least five clubs, five of the other major

Zia could probably guess East's major by looking at his hand. Rosenberg probably could, too, but he bid 40 to get Zia to choose. Once he did, Rosenberg assumed his partner had a control in spades and made an inquiry about key cards in hearts. Zia gave the answer he wanted, so Rosenberg bid the slam.

Zia ruffed the opening spade lead in hand, played a club to dummy's queen, then played the $\heartsuit 10$ to his jack, followed by a club ruff. He overtook the $\heartsuit K$ with the ace to pull the last trump, then cashed the $\clubsuit A$ and played a low diamond from hand, playing low from dummy when West followed with the 9. The 3-2 split in diamonds meant 12 tricks for Zia and 11 IMPs to his team because North/South in the other room stopped in $4\heartsuit$, making six, on a virtually identical line of play.



Johnny Östberg, Sweden

Jane Alam Fazli



Jane Alam Fazli, World Life Master, passed away at home in Karachi, Pakistan, on Wednesday after a prolonged, diabetes-related illness.

He and Zia Mahmood were members of the Pakistan Open Team that reached the Final of the Bermuda Bowl at the 25th World Team Championships at Port Chester, New York, in 1981. They lost to USA, which had won the event in 1979.

At the time, Pakistan was only the second team outside Europe and North America to reach the Final in its maiden appearance in the Bermuda Bowl.

Five years later, Fazli played with Zia on the Pakistan Open Team when Masud Saleem was unable to attend the 7th World Championships in Miami Beach, Florida. Playing four-handed, the team again reached the Final of a world championship, earning the silver medal.

"Fazli was my lifelong friend," said WBF Vice President Mazhar Jafri, also of Karachi. "He was really an outstanding player."

Fazli represented Pakistan in various Zonal Championships (BFAME Zone-4) and, playing with Zia, won the title five times.

Zia was playing in the Bermuda Bowl in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 2009 when Saleem died. "I felt like he was watching over me when we won the Bermuda Bowl," Zia said, adding that as he plays in the final of the d'Orsi Senior Trophy he feels the same about Fazli.

"He was a great character and I loved playing with him," Zia said, recalling an occasion during the tournament in Florida in 1986 when Fazli tried to beg off playing because he didn't feel well. To make his point, Zia recalled, Fazli lay down on the floor. "If you are that sick," Zia said, "we will have to call the doctor and you will pay American prices. He got up and played with us."

Another Bridge Thriller (BB SF4)



Sweden v USA 2

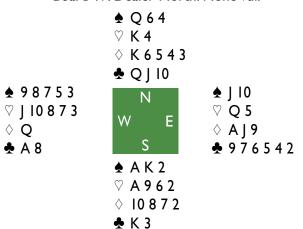


By Micke Melander

After watching yesterday morning's set between Sweden and USA 2 it was with great expectations that I waited to see how the IMPs would be shared out in the opening session of day two. Sweden had managed to wipe out USA 2's 16 IMP carry-over and given themselves a small lead in the match, 142-129.

Those waiting for IMPs were not disappointed, when they started to flow on the very first board.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Wrang	Wooldridge	Sylvan
	♣*	Pass	◊*
Pass All Pass	I ♡*	Pass	3NT

I♦ Hearts

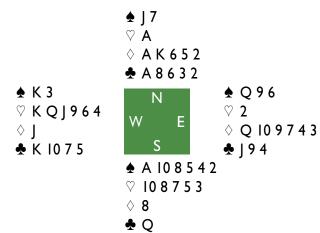
The Swedish relays made South declarer in this room. As declarer had shown hearts, Hurd went for the other major with his opening lead and started with the eight of spades. That was all Sylvan needed since he won with the king and set up his diamonds. Wooldridge got in and attacked clubs, but it was all too late. 10 tricks and +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Demuy	Upmark	Kranyak
	I ♦	Pass	ΙŸ
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Demuy stood no chance when Upmark led his longest and strongest, clubs. Declarer tried the king, West won to continue the suit, and since East had to get in twice in diamonds declarer was two down.
That was II quick IMPs to Sweden.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Wrang	Wooldridge	Sylvan
		Pass	Pass
ΙŸ	2NT*	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Hurd didn't see any reason to rebid his heart suit and Sylvan was left to play the very bad Three Club contract. The defence showed no mercy when they started with the queen of hearts. Declarer won with dummy's ace and tried to cash the ace and king of diamonds. When West ruffed the defenders started their cross-ruff in hearts and diamonds. Declared tried ruffing, only to see himself overruffed. The contract eventually went the scheduled four down, +400 for E/W.

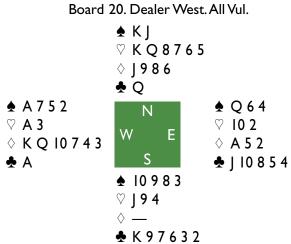
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Demuy	Upmark	Kranyak
		Pass	Pass
Ι♡	2NT*	Pass	3♣
3♡	Dble	All Pass	

Nyström acted as a rescue patrol for the Americans when he decided his hand was worth another shot at hearts.

North led the king of diamonds to see the dummy and when that held he shifted to the jack of spades, which went to South's ace, declarer unblocking the king. South played back the queen of clubs to the king and ace. The defence then ruffed a club and South exited with a spade to dummy's nine. A heart to the king and North's ace followed. North had to lose another trick in trumps and was two down.

With the 400 they had collected in the other room it meant 12 IMPs for USA 2.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Wrang	Wooldridge	Sylvan
$I \diamondsuit$	I 🛇	I♠	2♡
2♠	3♡	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	4♡	Pass
5◊	All Pass		

Wrang led the king of hearts.

Declarer ducked and won the second round of hearts. Hurd then played the queen of diamonds to discover that he had a diamond loser when South pitched a club. Declarer then tried a low spade towards dummy, but Wrang rose with his king and exited with the jack. When Hurd covered with the queen and played another spade to the ace, North ruffed in. That meant two down as North exited with his queen of clubs and declarer couldn't get back to his hand to draw the last trump.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Demuy	Upmark	Kranyak
♣*	2◊*	Dble*	3♡
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4 ♦	All Pass		

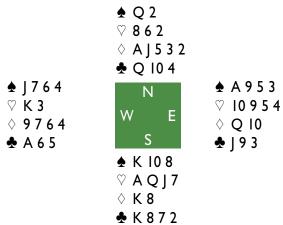


John Kranyak, USA 2

Demuy led the queen of hearts (Rusinow) and Nyström won with the ace and played back the suit. North played low and South won with the jack to return a spade. Nyström finessed happily and probably thought he was safe at this point. Having won with the king Demuy exited with the jack of spades, covered by dummy's queen.

When he played trumps he fell into the same trap as Hurd to go one down when the defence had to score a second trump trick en passant. 3 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

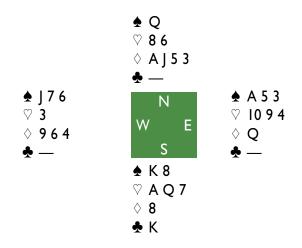


Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Wrang	Wooldridge	Sylvan
		Pass	INT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♡
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Hurd led the seven of diamonds, attitude. This went to the two, ten and declarer's king.

Sylvan then tried a club towards dummy and finessed the ten, losing to East's jack. It wasn't easy to see that the killing defence was to exit with the queen of diamonds to set up partners nine. East played back the three of clubs to West's ace. He shifted to a spade for the two, nine and ten. A club to dummy was followed by a heart finesse. This was now the situation:



West played a second spade, and East allowed dummy to



Fredrik Nyström, Sweden

win with the queen. With four tricks in the bag declarer crossed to his hand in hearts, and cashed the king of clubs, seeing a spade discard from both defenders. The queen of hearts followed, West pitching the jack of spades. Declarer now knew that West had a 4-2-4-3 distribution and could not throw East in, but what about that attitude diamond lead? Declarer played the eight and West covered innocently with the nine. Declarer called for the ace, bringing the queen down for nine tricks. Very well played by Sylvan!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Demuy	Upmark	Kranyak
			INT
Pass	2 ♠ *	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Kranyak was up to the task. Nyström led the four of spades, and when declarer played the two from dummy Upmark rose with the ace and played back a heart to the queen and king. Another heart followed and that went to the eight, nine and jack. Declarer then took the losing finesse in clubs with dummy's ten. Upmark continued with his five of hearts. Kranyak, who had understood what was going on, finessed with the seven and when that succeeded he set up his clubs and claimed nine tricks. No swing.

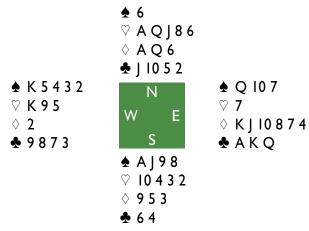
The set finished 21-33 to USA2 who had closed the gap between the two teams so Sweden led by a single IMP going in to the fifth segment. Another bridge thriller was about to be set up for the world of bridge!

Taking the Maximum

By Barry Rigal

Ifti Baqai, playing with Mirza Hussein on the Pakistani team in the penultimate round of the Transnational Teams qualifier, reached a thin game then threaded the needle to bring it home.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

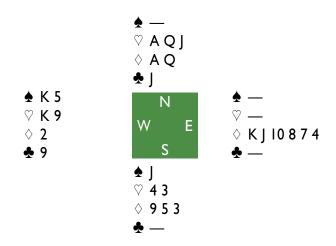


West	North	East	South
Pass	10	2♦	3♡
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

3♥ Pre-emptive

East led $\triangle A$ and West followed low, playing upside-down carding. Baqai then received the $\heartsuit 7$ shift, and he covered with $\heartsuit 10$. West played low, so Baqai played the $\triangle 6$, to the 10 and king. Back came a low spade. Declarer won the $\triangle A$ and, ruffed a spade with East producing the $\triangle 10$.

Then he ruffed a club, West playing the ΦQ . Baqai could now lead a third spade, discarding a small diamond to endplay West. This was the ending:



When East perforce returned a diamond, Baqai won cheaply and could ruff the winning club in dummy, and take the trump finesse for ten tricks.

While the contract might have been makeable by other lines, those all involve guessing what East's singleton diamond was. This line covered all the bases.

Venice Cup Semi-Final S5



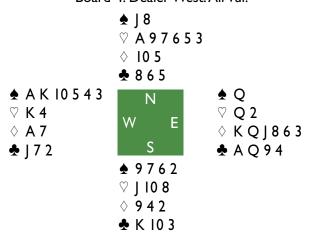
England v France



By Brian Senior

The French ladies led their Venice Cup semi-final with long-term rivals England by 58 IMPs with 32 boards to play. If they were hoping for a quiet set of boards in set five, they were to be disappointed. France picked up 5 IMPs over the first three deals to extend their lead to 156-93. Then the fun began.

Board 4. Dealer West, All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
I♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	6◊	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
I♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♡	Dble	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Neither E/W pair was playing two-over-one game-forcing, but Benedicte Cronier's 2♠ rebid was still forcing – though she could now have passed a 2NT bid from partner. Of course, Sylvie Willard had more than sufficient to force to game and introduced her second suit. When Cronier's fourth-suit bid was doubled, Willard left it back to her partner who admitted to an independent heart stopper and Willard left her to get on with 3NT. While slam is nothing special on this combination, it felt as though the French pair had never quite expressed their extra values.

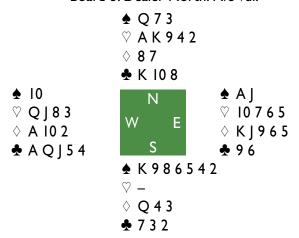
Nevena Senior led the six of hearts. Cronier won and cashed the queen of spades, crossed to the ace of

diamonds and cashed the spade ace. When the jack appeared she had all 13 tricks for +720.

For Sally Brock, a 2♠ rebid would not have been forcing so she jumped to 3♠. It looks as though the partnership agreed spades, as Brock showed three key cards in response to RKCB, but Smith always planned to play in diamonds once her partner had shown the ace, and jumped to 6⋄, ending the auction.

Six Diamonds is a horrible contract, much worse than 6 or 6NT due to the communication issues. Joanna Zochowska led the jack of hearts, low from dummy and Vanessa Reess won the ace and returned a heart to dummy's king. Smith played a spade to her queen then king of diamonds and a diamond to the ace, followed by spades from the top. When she found the jack dropping doubleton and the hand with the long spades also having the last diamond, declarer could take three discards for her clubs and did not require the club finesse – just as well. Plus 1370 meant 12 IMPs to England, who trailed by 105-156.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
_	Ι♡	Pass	I♠
2♣	Dble	2♦	2♠
3♦ All Pass	Pass	Pass	3♠

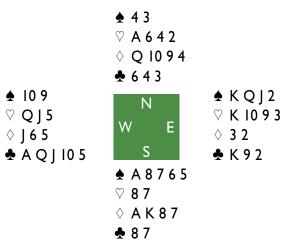
West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
_	Ι♡	Pass	I♠
Dble	Rdbl	3♦	4♠
All Pacc			

Reess made a support double of the overcall to show her three-card spade holding but, with so few high cards, Zochowska was not interested in game, just settling for competitive spade bids at her next two turns. Brock led the ten of spades to the three, jack and king and Zochowska returned a spade to the seven and ace. Smith led a diamond

to her partner's ten and Brock cashed the minor-suit aces; nine tricks for +140.

Heather Dhondy took a rather different view of the South hand, jumping to game opposite Senior's support redouble. Cronier too led the ten of spades but Willard took her ace and played the king of diamonds. Cronier followed with the two, standard count or attitude, and Willard erred by switching back to trumps. Dhondy could win in dummy and discard both her diamonds on the ace and king of hearts. She ruffed a heart and led a club up and the even heart split meant that she could establish a discard for one of the club losers; +620 and 10 IMPs to England, 115-156.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.



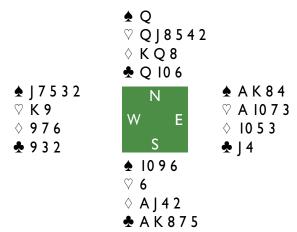
West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowsko
_	_	I ♣	I♠
2♠	Pass	3♣	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
_	_	I ♣	I♠
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Both Wests cuebid to show sound club raises but their partners chose two different rebids. Smith looked at her minimum and rebid 3♣, where she played, while Willard felt it more appropriate to describe her weak no trump type by bidding 2NT and was raised to game. I guess that Smith thought 2NT would be more encouraging than 3♣ and didn't want to make a forward-going move on her I2-point hand, but Willard's 2NT just feels right with only three clubs and so much strength in spades.

Zochowska led three rounds of diamonds against 34 and Smith ruffed the third round, drew trumps and had to concede two aces; +110.

Dhondy led ace followed by a low diamond against 3NT and the defenders soon had six tricks for down two and −200; 7 IMPs to England who closed to 122-156. So much for my feeling more comfortable with 2NT than 3♣.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
_	_	_	♣
Pass	I♡	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♡	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♣	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
_	_	_	♣
Pass	I♡	Pass	INT

Dhondy opened a potentially short club then rebid INT rather than $2\clubsuit$ and Senior simply jumped to $4\heartsuit$. That looks a normal-enough decision on Senior's part but $4\heartsuit$ proved to be a hopeless pot as there were three trump losers to go with a spade for down one and -100.

All Pass

Pass

4♡

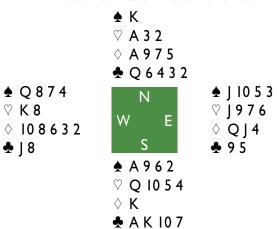


Heather Dhondy, England

You wouldn't catch a French woman rebidding INT with a singleton and, sure enough, Zochowska instead repeated her decent five-card club suit. Two Diamonds was forcing and the raise natural. Reess next showed the long hearts and, when Zochowska could only use fourth-suit forcing in reply, jumped to the club game.

Brock led a spade to Smith's king and Smith switched to her low trump round to the ten. Zochowska led a low heart off the table, losing to Brock's nine, and back came a second trump. She won in hand, ruffed a spade then ruffed a heart back to hand, bringing down Brock's king. Next Zochowska drew the missing trump, crossed to dummy with a diamond and led the queen of hearts, discarding when Smith played low. She had 11 tricks now for +600 and 12 IMPs back to France; 168-122.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



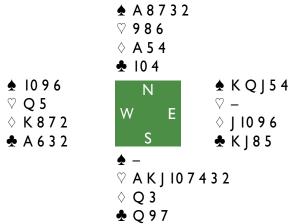
West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
Pass	♣	Pass	IΫ
Pass	2♡	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♡	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

We don't have the French auction but they played in 3NT by North, making two overtricks for +460. In English style, it is acceptable for opener to raise responder's suit with three cards, as here – the average French player would not do this – and now Dhondy's $3\clubsuit$ was a slam try as all their game tries are made by bidding the next step up, here $2\clubsuit$ over $2\heartsuit$. Senior raised to show that she actually had clubs and, after a couple of cuebids, Dhondy checked on key cards (Senior responding as if for hearts) then bid the club slam.

With trumps two-two and a heart loser going away on the ace of spades, 6♣ was quickly made for +920 and 10 IMPs to England; 132-168.

Nothing much happened for a few deals – both N/S pairs bid the easy spade slam on Board 10 – but then the swings began once more on Board 13.

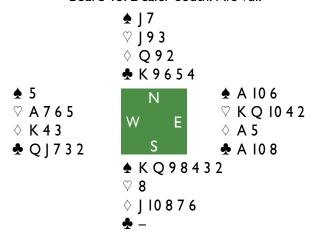




West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
_	Pass	I♠	4♡
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
West Cronier	North Senior	East Willard	South Dhondy
			~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
	Senior	Willard	Dhondy

Both Souths overcalled 4%. Brock passed as West and Zochowska made 11 tricks in 4% after a spade lead; +650. Cronier made a negative double of 4% and Willard bid 4NT, pick a minor. Could Dhondy have doubled that to suggest decent defence in context of a 4% overcall? Should Senior have done something anyway with two aces? They both went quietly so Cronier played $5\clubsuit$ undoubled. Senior led ace and another spade for Dhondy to ruff and a diamond – low, ace – put her back in to give a second ruff. That was two down but –200 was worth 10 IMPs to France, whose lead was back up to 178-133.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



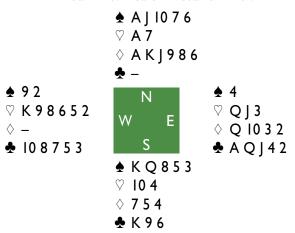
West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
_	_	_	3♠
Dble	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♡	All Pass

West	North	East	South	
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy	
_	_	_	3♠	
Pass	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Both Souths opened 3. Cronier passed as West, understandably enough when holding only 10 HCP, and passed again when Willard overcalled 3NT in fourth seat. Dhondy led the queen of spades. Willard won immediately and cashed three rounds of heart ending in dummy then ran the queen of clubs. That appears to risk the contract, but presumably Willard trusted knew that Dhondy would have led king from Φ KQJ and was confident that the defence would not be able to cash four tricks in the suit. Meanwhile, those overtricks could prove useful. Willard made 12 tricks in the end for +490 and, a sit turned out, the overtricks did save an IMP.

In the other room, Brock found a very aggressive take-out double as West and Smith cuebid then jumped to the heart slam. After winning the spade lead and drawing trumps, Smith took the club finesse without caring if it won or lost. As it happened, the king was onside but the five-nil split meant that there were only three winners to be had in the suit. That was enough and Smith chalked up +980 and 10 IMPs for England; 145-178.

Board 16. Dealer West, E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Brock	Reess	Smith	Zochowska
2♦	Pass	2♡	Pass
Pass	4 ♦	4♡	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♡	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Cronier	Senior	Willard	Dhondy
Pass	I ♦	Pass	I♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♡
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

Brock opened a multi, always a poor weak two in a major, and 2° was pass or correct. When it came back to her,

Reess could jump to $4\Diamond$, diamonds and spades, and Zochowska bid 4Φ freely over Smith's $4\heartsuit$. That was enough to persuade Reess to make a slam try and, when she could cuebid both clubs and hearts, Zochowska jumped to the small slam.

Cronier was playing normal weak two bids and that West hand did not qualify by her standards. She passed as dealer and Senior therefore got to open I\(\int\). When Dhondy responded in Senior's five-card major, Senior used Exclusion Key-card and, after inviting Dhondy to bid the grand, finally did so herself.

Assuming that the defenders are going to get off to the right lead – a heart – this is a five or seven hand, so 7♠ is where you would want to be (just). Senior could have felt aggrieved had she lost heavily on the board, but both tables saw a heart lead and it meant that Zochowska was down one and Senior down two, giving France 2 IMPs to close out a lively set.

With one 16-board set to play, France led by 180-145.

Delightful Bridge

By L. Subramanian; A chemical engineer and a certified Energy Auditor. He Has worked in the field of energy conservation, particularly on steam systems. Organized and participated in numerous seminars and conferences on energy. Plays and writes about Bridge as a hobby; has over four decades of experience in the game and has taught and coached many players in their formative years. A regular contributor of Bridge articles to Souvenirs, Bulletins, and Newspapers. Has won many regional championships in India.

His book is aimed at improving the skill level of intermediate and advanced players to the next higher level in the ladder. The forty hands that follow are taken from actual play. The bidding is essentially Standard American or in some cases Precision.

The deals are not meant to test your play, defense, or bidding skills in the game. Rather, they explain how the experts solved the problems as they arose at the table, by their experience and class. If you are able to understand and appreciate the different techniques adopted by the experts, you will certainly gain a new insight into their mind. This is bound to reflect in your performance too.

There is nothing esoteric about the deals. Barring a few, most of the hands require straight-forward technique. They may be the bread and butter type, but you will find them contain many useful ideas. Some of the deals may even puzzle the experts and the world-class as well.

The book is available as an E-book on https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/517431

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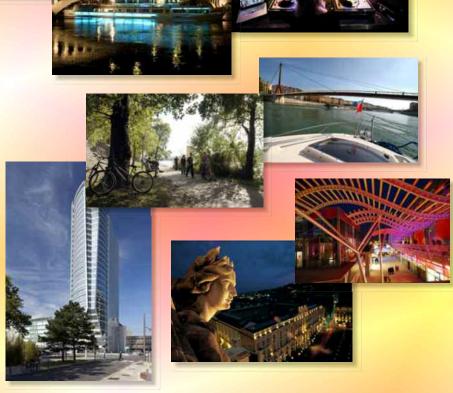
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Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy & 10th World Transnational Open Teams Championship



Schedule of play for the 2017 World Bridge Teams Championships

Teams registration Opening Ceremony Round Robin Saturday 12th August Saturday 12th August at 19.00 Sunday 13th ~ Saturday 19th August

Quarter Finals Semi final Final & Play-Off Sunday $20^{\text{th}} \sim \text{Monday } 21^{\text{st}}$ August Tuesday $22^{\text{nd}} \sim \text{Wednesday } 23^{\text{rd}}$ August Thursday $24^{\text{th}} \sim \text{Saturday } 26^{\text{th}}$ August

GGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG

Transnational Teams:

Qualification Monday $21^{st} \sim$ Wednesday 23^{rd} August Knock-Out Thursday $24^{th} \sim$ Saturday 26^{th} August Coupe de Lyon Thursday $24^{th} \sim$ Saturday 26^{th} August

RESULTS

	Bermuda Bowl												
						Fi	nals						
Team	•	c/o	I	2		3	4	5	6t	7	8		Tot
SWEDEN POLAND		0.0 0.5	37.0 39.0	57.0 36.0		0.0 8.0							154.0 103.5
						Pla	y-Of	fs					
Team	c/o	I	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot	5	Tot	6	Total
USA2 ENGLAND	3.3 0.0	48.0 34.0	51.3 34.0	49.0 48.0	100.3 82.0		152.3 138.0		152.3 138.0		152.3 138.0		152.3 138.0
					7	Veni	ce C	Cup					
						Fi	nals						
Team	c/o	I	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot	5	Tot	6	Total
FRANCE USA2	1.7 0.0	44.0 23.0	45.7 23.0	29.0 38.0	74.7 61.0	22.0 35.0	96.7 96.0		96.7 96.0		96.7 96.0		96.7 96.0
						Pla	y-Of	fs					
Team	c/o	I	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot	5	Tot		
ENGLAND NETHERLAN	0.0 DS 5.7	19.0 20.0	19.0 25.7	45.0 16.0	64.0 41.7	44.0 34.0	108.0 75.7		108.0 75.7		108.0 75.7		
					ď	Orsi	Tro	ophy	7				
						Fi	nals						
Team	c/o	ı	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot	5	Tot	6	Total
USA I SWEDEN	0.0 2.3	59.0 17.0	59.0 19.3	57.0 12.0	116.0 31.3		159.0 50.3		159.0 50.3		159.0 50.3		159.0 50.3
						Pla	y-Of	fs					
Team	c/o	ı	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot	5	Tot		
USA2 POLAND	4.0 0.0	39.0 35.0	43.0 35.0	12.0 58.0	55.0 93.0		91.0 142.0		91.0 142.0		91.0 142.0		

Transnational Open Teams

Quarter Finals

	Segment 1 Se	egment 2 Seg	ment 3 Total	
BURAS	42	38	10	90
				ASKGAARD
ASKGAARD	11	32	55	98
BRASIL	26	37	34	97 BULGARIA OPEN
BULGARIA OPEN	25	30	50	105
FORMIDABLES	47	9	44	100
TORWIDABLES	47	9	44	
YBM	30	54	29	YBM 113
GERMANY	5	21	0	26
				ZIMMERMANN
ZIMMERMANN	75	57	0	132

RESULTS IMP PAIRS

I BOSE S. - GHOSH S 2 MAJUMDER C. - LAHIRI S. 3 JANISZEWSKI P. - STRZEME 4 CHAKRADEO A. - SHAH N. 5 SOLANI J. - SHAH A.







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4th	\$1000			
5th	\$800			
6th	\$600			
7th	\$300			
8th	\$300			
9th	\$300			
10th	\$300			

MIXED PAIRS				
Winner	\$2000 + Trophy			
Runner Up	\$1500 + Trophy			
3rd	\$1000 + Trophy			
4th	\$600			
5th	\$500			
6th	\$300			
7th	\$300			
8th	\$300			
9th	\$300			
10th	\$300			

	TEAMS				
Winner	\$4000 + Trophy				
Runner Up	\$3500 + Trophy				
3rd	\$3000 + Trophy				
4th	\$2000				
5th	\$1200				
6th	\$1000				
7th	\$800				
8th	\$700				

PLATE EVENT			
Winner \$600 + Trophy			
Runner Up	\$500		
3rd	\$400		

OPEN PAIRS

Best Ladies Pair

1" N/S & E/W - \$200 2rd N/S & E/W - \$100 Best UAE Pair - \$300 Best Mixed Pair - \$300

- \$300

MIXED PAIRS

1" N/S & E/W - \$200 2" N/S & E/W - \$100 Best UAE Mixed Pair - \$300

TEAM

Best Ladies Team - \$600 Best UAE Team - \$600 + Trophy

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Sun 13* Dec 7:00 -11pm Mon 14th Dec 6:00-10pm Tue 15* Dec 6:00 -10pm

Wed16* Dec 2:30 pm and 9:30 pm

Thu 17th Dec 2:30 - 9:30pm Fri 18th Dec 10:00 - 12pm & 1:30 - 6pm

Friday 18th Dec Cocktail Reception 8:30pm

Gala Dinner 9pm

COMPLIMENTARY SNACKS AT EVERY SESSION

NOTE: REGISTRATION 1 HOUR BEFORE START

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PHASE 2: KNOCK OUT MONDAY 8 - THURSDAY 11

CONSOLATION EVENT FMB BOARD A MATCH TROPHY

MONDAY 8 - THURSDAY 11

ENTRY FEES

ZIMMERMANN CUP + FMB BAM TROPHY: 1250 EUROS FMB BAM TROPHY ONLY: 500 EUROS

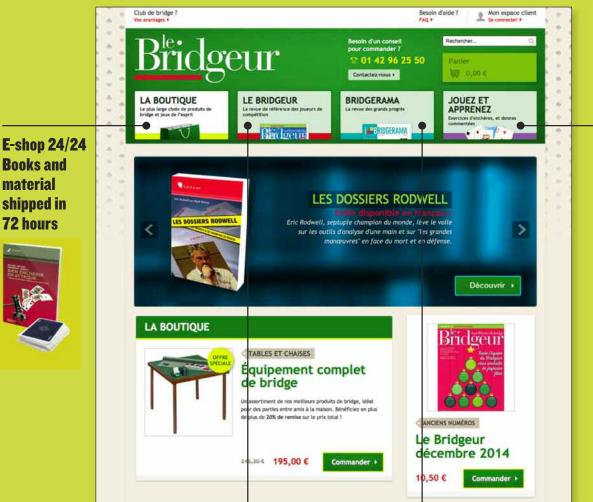
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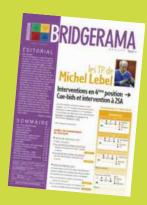
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2016 Asia Bridge Open

Congress

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Events and Schedule

Open Teams, Ladies Teams, Senior Teams, Junior Apr 20-24 Teams, Youngsters Teams, Girls teams Open Pairs, Ladies Pairs, Senior Pairs, Youth Pairs Apr18-19 **Mixed Pairs** Apr19 Individual Apr 17 **CCBA Open Teams** Apr 16-19 Apr 20-21 **Swiss Teams** Apr 22-23 Pairs event in every evening Apr 16-24

Entry Fees

Event	Entry Fee	Event	Entry Fee	
1. Open Teams	US\$1000	7. Open Pairs	RMB800	
2. Ladies Teams	US\$1000	8. Ladies Pairs	RMB600	
3. Senior Teams	US\$600	9. Senior Pairs	RMB600	
4. Junior Teams	US\$400	10. Youth Pairs	RMB400	
5. Youngsters Teams	US\$200	11. Mixed Pairs	RMB600	
6. Girls teams	US\$400	12. Individual	RMB300	

Players who are not from China Mainland having registered in the team events as well as players from China Mainland having registered in CCBA Open Teams can participate in the Pair events of the same category of the team event and individual event without paying entry fees.

13. CCBA Open Teams	RMB3000	15. Swiss Teams	RM800
14. IMP Pairs	RMB400	16. Pairs event in every evening	RMB400

Prize:

Total prize: RMB 500,000 and above

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

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

Hotel



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Sheraton Beijing Dong Cheng Hotel
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aboc2016@163.com
For more information please
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(The website is under construction)