

Issue No. 5
Thursday, Ist October 2015

## SHOOTING FOR THE STARS

| ar whid heider THUS CKAMMONSHIPS 2015 <br>  |
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Two champions:
Bob Hamman is the all-time leader in WBF placing points (for lifetime achievement). His former partner, Zia Mahmood, is the player with the most WBF masterpoints who is in Chennai.
More than halfway through the round robin qualifying for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and d'Orsi Trophy, few teams are truly out of contention, and with 144 boards still to be played before qualifying ends on Saturday, there may be some surprises in the offing.
One thing is certain: with the exception of those in first place in their respective groups, every team is looking to move up. At the end of play Wednesday, Bulgaria is No. I in the Bermuda Bowl, USA 2 is tops in the Venice Cup and Australia is leading the field in the d'Orsi Trophy, Australia.
Once qualifiers are determined, the quarterfinal stage of the knockouts begins on Sunday.


## Venice Cup

## After Round 12

|  | TEAM | VP |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 1 | USA2 | 186.23 |
| 2 | USAI | 170.24 |
| 3 | DENMARK | 167.04 |
| 4 | ITALY | 165.45 |
| 5 | ENGLAND | 164.81 |
| 6 | NETHERLANDS | 161.10 |
| 7 | FRANCE | 158.08 |
| 8 | CHINA | 154.64 |
| 9 | POLAND | 149.74 |
| 10 | AUSTRALIA | 126.01 |
| 11 | CHINESE TAIPE | 123.85 |
| 12 | CANADA | 119.82 |
| 13 | JAPAN | 112.22 |
| 14 | BRAZIL | 101.63 |
| 15 | NEW ZEALAND | 98.39 |
| 16 | EGYPT | 83.86 |
| 17 | VENEZUELA | 70.18 |
| 18 | GUADELOUPE | 61.51 |
| 19 | SOUTH AFRICA | 53.68 |
| 20 | PAKISTAN | 47.40 |
| 21 | JORDAN | 36.11 |
| 22 | INDIA |  |



## Bermuda Bowl

| Round 13 |  | $11: 00-13: 2$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I | CHINA | BULGARIA |
| 2 | UAE | CANADA |
| 3 | NEW ZEALAND | EGYPT |
| 4 | SOUTH AFRICA | JORDAN |
| 5 | USAI | ENGLAND |
| 6 | DENMARK | JAPAN |
| 7 | USA2 | GUADELOUPE |
| 8 | SINGAPORE | POLAND |
| 9 | BRAZIL | ARGENTINA |
| 10 | AUSTRALIA | INDIA |
| 11 | SWEDEN | FRANCE |


| RoUnd $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{4 : 3 0}$ - $\mathbf{1 6 : 5 0}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | CANADA | CHINA |
| 2 | EGYPT | UAE |
| 3 | JORDAN | NEW ZEALAND |
| 4 | ENGLAND | SOUTH AFRICA |
| 5 | FRANCE | USAI |
| 6 | JAPAN | BULGARIA |
| 7 | GUADELOUPE | DENMARK |
| 8 | POLAND | USA2 |
| 9 | ARGENTINA | SINGAPORE |
| 10 | INDIA | BRAZIL |
| 11 | SWEDEN | AUSTRALIA |


| Round 15 | I7:20 $=19: 40$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1 | CHINA |
| 2 | UAE |
| 3 | NEW ZEALAND |
| 4 | SOUTH AFRICA |
| 5 | CANADA |
| 6 | BULGARIA |
| 7 | DENMARK |
| 8 | USA2 |



## The Body in the Closed Room

IBPA member Anant Bhagwat has written a book that carries 36 bridge hands of varied interests and themes, with a murder mystery as the backdrop.
The book has been written in an Indian setting. His writings give some insight into the way Bridge tournaments are played and administered in India at the city and district levels.
The book titled "THE BODY IN THE CLOSED ROOM" is available at the IBPA Press Room for a price of INR 400 or 6 USD or 5 Euros. A team of six, that purchases six copies, ends up paying for only five (so you can get six copies for USD 30 / INR 2000 / 25 Euros).
Anant Bhagwat will be available in Chennai at the Championship Venue from Sept 30 until the end of the event.

## Venice Cup

| Round $1 \mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{l} \mathbf{0} \mathbf{0}=\mathbf{3 : 2 0}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 21 | DENMARK | EGYPT |
| 22 | USAI | NEW ZEALAND |
| 23 | NETHERLANDS | ENGLAND |
| 24 | PAKISTAN | AUSTRALIA |
| 25 | GUADELOUPE | CHINESE TAIPEI |
| 26 | SOUTH AFRICA | JAPAN |
| 27 | ITALY | INDIA |
| 28 | CHINA | JORDAN |
| 29 | FRANCE | CANADA |
| 30 | POLAND | VENEZUELA |
| 31 | USA2 | BRAZIL |


| RoUnd $\mathbf{4}$ |  | $\mathbf{4 : 3 0}$ - $\mathbf{1 6 : 5 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 21 | NEW ZEALAND | DENMARK |
| 22 | ENGLAND | USAI |
| 23 | AUSTRALIA | NETHERLANDS |
| 24 | CHINESE TAIPEI | PAKISTAN |
| 25 | BRAZIL | GUADELOUPE |
| 26 | JAPAN | EGYPT |
| 27 | INDIA | SOUTH AFRICA |
| 28 | JORDAN | ITALY |
| 29 | CANADA | CHINA |
| 30 | VENEZUELA | FRANCE |
| 31 | USA2 | POLAND |


| Round 15 | $\mathbf{7 : 2 0}=19: 40$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 21 | DENMARK | ENGLAND |
| 22 | USAI | AUSTRALIA |
| 23 | NETHERLANDS | CHINESE TAIPEI |
| 24 | PAKISTAN | GUADELOUPE |
| 25 | NEW ZEALAND | JAPAN |
| 26 | EGYPT | INDIA |
| 27 | SOUTH AFRICA | JORDAN |
| 28 | ITALY | CANADA |
| 29 | CHINA | VENEZUELA |
| 30 | FRANCE | USA2 |
| 31 | POLAND | BRAZIL |

## d'Orsi Trophy

| Round 13 | \||:00 - $\mathbf{3 : 2 0}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 41 | BULGARIA | CHINA |
| 42 | POLAND | INDIA |
| 43 | INDONESIA | USAI |
| 44 | GUADELOUPE | CANADA |
| 45 | AUSTRALIA | BRAZIL |
| 46 | USA2 | EGYPT |
| 47 | NEW ZEALAND | PAKISTAN |
| 48 | SWEDEN | JAPAN |
| 49 | IRELAND | TUNISIA |
| 50 | NORWAY | ENGLAND |
| 51 | AUSTRIA | CHILE |


| Round $\mathbf{4} \mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{4 : 3 0} \mathbf{- 1 \mathbf { 6 : 5 0 }}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 41 | INDIA | BULGARIA |
| 42 | USAI | POLAND |
| 43 | CANADA | INDONESIA |
| 44 | BRAZIL | GUADELOUPE |
| 45 | CHILE | AUSTRALIA |
| 46 | EGYPT | CHINA |
| 47 | PAKISTAN | USA2 |
| 48 | JAPAN | NEW ZEALAND |
| 49 | TUNISIA | SWEDEN |
| 50 | ENGLAND | IRELAND |
| 51 | AUSTRIA | NORWAY |


| Round 15 |  | I7:20 - $\mathbf{9 : 4 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 41 | BULGARIA | USAI |
| 42 | POLAND | CANADA |
| 43 | INDONESIA | BRAZIL |
| 44 | GUADELOUPE | AUSTRALIA |
| 45 | INDIA | EGYPT |
| 46 | CHINA | PAKISTAN |
| 47 | USA2 | JAPAN |
| 48 | NEW ZEALAND | TUNISIA |
| 49 | SWEDEN | ENGLAND |
| 50 | IRELAND | AUSTRIA |
| 51 | NORWAY | CHILE |

## Bermuda Bowl Round 6

## Bulgaria v Egypt

By Brian Senior
Going into the final match of day two, Bulgaria lay third and Egypt twelfth in the Bermuda Bowl standings.

Board I7. Dealer North. None Vul.

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { AJ } 763 \\ & \vee 104 \\ & \diamond J \\ & \& Q 9642 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - 98 | N | - 5 |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 987 |  | QKJ 32 |
| $\checkmark 98543$ | W | $\checkmark$ AK 107 |
| - K 10 | S | * A 875 |
|  | - K Q 1042 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 65 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q 62 |  |
|  | - 13 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sadek | Stamatov | Nabil | Danailor |
| - | 2 - | Dble | 38 |
| Pass | 3 | All Pass |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Gunev | Abdelfattah | Nanev | Bakly |
| - | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | 14 |
| Pass | 4 | Dble | Pass |
| 5 | All Pass |  |  |

For Bulgaria, Jerry Stamatov opened a multi $2 \diamond$ and Nabil doubled. Three Hearts was pass or correct and Stamatov did as requested. When 31 was passed out, the Bulgarians had won the bidding battle.There was little to the play and Stamatov soon had nine tricks stacked in front of him for +140 .
Mahmoud Abdelfattah did not open the North hand, it not being to his taste for a weak two bid, reasonably enough. Ivan Nanev opened $1 \diamond$ as East, I0-I5 but not necessarily with any diamonds, and Bakly overcalled. When Abdelfattah raised to 4s, Nanev doubled for take-out and Rossen Gunev removed to $5 \diamond$ as his partner was now marked with a natural opening, ending the auction. Again, there was nothing to the play, there being three inevitable losers for down one; -50 but 3 IMPs to Bulgaria.
Egypt levelled it up at 3-3 on a partscore deal, then came the first major swing.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/WVul.

- KQ 5432
- J3
$\diamond 852$
\& A
4 A
คAK 75
$\triangleleft 106$
\% KJIO 832

$\pm$ J
Q Q 942
$\diamond$ AK Q J 43
96
¢ 109876
ค 1086
$\diamond 97$
8954

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sadek | Stamatov | Nabil | Danailor |
| - | - | - | Pass |
| 18 | 14 | $2 \checkmark$ | 4 |
| 4NT | Pass | 5 | Pass |
| 6 | Dble | All Pass |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Gunev | Abdelfattah | Nanev | Bakly |
| - | - | - | Pass |
| 1\% | 14 | 2 | $3{ }^{3}$ |
| Dble | Pass | 4 | Pass |
| 5\% | Pass | $6\rangle$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | Rdbl | Pass |
| Pass | 64 | Dble | All Pass |

Superficially, the two auctions began in an identical fashion, but Gunev's 1\& opening was Precision, 16+, so did not promise clubs, and Nanev's $2 \triangleleft$ promised only five or


Rossen Gunev, Bulgaria
more cards and 8+ HCP. Bakly raised to 3s with the South cards while Diyan Danailov went a level higher, trading on the favourable vulnerability.
Forced to make a decision at a very high level, Tarek Sadek chose 4NT, take-out, and Nabil committed to slam by cuebidding 5s. However, when Sadek now chose $6 \diamond$, Stamatov doubled for a club lead. He did not get one, Danailov choosing a heart, but there was nowhere for the clubs to go away and Nabil eventually had to play the suit so was down one for -200 .
Bakly's 3s raise left Gunev a little more room and he doubled for take-out then bid his long club suit over the $4 \diamond$ response. Nanev liked his hand now and jumped to the diamond slam, once again doubled by North. Nanev, however, redoubled, and now Abdelfattah lost his nerve and ran to 64, promptly doubled by Nanev. There were five unavoidable losers for down four; -800 and 14 IMPs to Bulgaria, ahead by 17-3.


Stamatov opened the empty II-point North hand with a Precision $\ \diamond$ and rebid INT after Danailov's negative double. Danailov corrected to $2 \triangleleft$ and, when that ran around to Nabil he doubled. Sadek responded $2 \triangleleft$ and played there. Abdelfattah led the ace of diamonds followed by the three of hearts to Danailov's jack. Sadek ducked so Danailov continued with a low heart, again ducked. Now Stamatov switched to a spade. Sadek won and took two diamond discards on the spade winners then played king and another club. Danailov discarded a diamond so Sadek
won the ace and ruffed his last diamond then played a club. Danailov ruffed and led the ten of spades. When Sadek discarded his club loser, Stamatov threw his last diamond and now a diamond through promoted the king of hearts into the setting trick. Nicely defended for down one and -100 .
Abdelfattah did not open the North hand so Nanev got to open Is as East and Gunev responded INT. When Nanev now rebid 2\%, Gunev bid $2 \bigcirc$. Logically, from a passed hand this could not be long hearts so was presumably his way to show a good club raise. However, the auction rather got into a tangle after that and the dreadful 3 NT was reached. Abdelfattah led the queen of hearts and continued with the king and, when that held, his third heart to the jack. Gunev won that, of course, and was on the club guess for his contract. He cashed the thirteenth heart,Abdelfattah pitching a spade, while dummy and Bakly threw diamonds. Now came the top spades and, when North showed out, discarding a club, I would have thought that he was the more likely to hold the club length. I was therefore surprised to see Gunev cash the king of clubs and play a second round. As the result, he was down two for -200 and 3 IMPs to Egypt; 6-17.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

|  | ¢ 9543 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\checkmark$ A 6 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q 98 |  |
|  | \& AK 32 |  |
| - A 762 | N | Q Q J |
| $\bigcirc$ Q |  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{KJIO} 93$ |
| $\diamond$ J 7642 |  | $\checkmark$ A 1053 |
| \& Q 105 | S | ¢ 64 |
|  | ¢ K 108 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 87542$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark \mathrm{K}$ |  |
|  | 2 1987 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sadek | Stamatov | Nabil | Danailov |
| Pass | I $\diamond$ | 18 | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | Pass | 1s |
| All Pass |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Gunev | Abdelfattah | Nanev | Bakly |
| Pass | 1\% | 18 | 29 |
| Dble | Pass | $2 \diamond$ | All Pass |

Stamatov opened a Precision $\mathbf{I} \diamond$ and, when he next made a take-out double of $\mid \nabla$, Danailov chose his three-card spade suit over the four-card clubs and was left to play there. Sadek led his heart. Danailov won dummy's ace and played a diamond and Nabil ducked, allowing the king to score. A club to the ace followed by the remaining low diamond saw East go in with the ace and Danailov ruff. The diamonds could not have gone much better for declarer,
who next crossed to the king of clubs to cash the queen of diamonds, pitching a club. Declarer had won the first six tricks and could not be prevented from making his contract. The play record ended here with him being credited with ten tricks, which looks slightly generous, for +170 .


Ahmed Hussein Bakly, Egypt
Abdelfattah opened $1 \boldsymbol{2}$ and Bakly raised to $2 \boldsymbol{2}$. However, though N/S had found their best fit, Gunev's take-out double also meant that E/W found theirs. Bakly led a heart against $2 \diamond$. Abdelfattah won the ace and cashed his club winners then switched to a spade for the queen, king and ace.A diamond to the ace held the trump losers to one and Nanev had nine tricks for + I 10 and 7 IMPs to Bulgaria; 246.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.
, K
Q Q 93
$\diamond$ AJ953
2 10863


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Sadek | Stamatov | Nabil | Danailov |
| - | $\mathbf{1} \diamond$ | Pass | I $\boldsymbol{Q}$ |
| INT | Pass | $\mathbf{2} \diamond$ | Dble |
| Pass | Pass | $\mathbf{2} \triangleleft$ | Pass |
| Pass | $\mathbf{3} \diamond$ | All Pass |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Gunev | Abdelfattah | Nanev | Bakly |
| - | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| $1 \$$ | $1 \diamond$ | Dble | $5 \diamond$ |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | All Pass |

Gunev opened a strong club in fourth seat and Abdelfattah overcalled $\mathrm{l} \diamond$. When Nanev showed a semipositive by doubling, Bakly just assumed that his opponents would probably have a game on their way and pre-empted all the way to $5 \diamond$, which was doubled to end the auction. Nanev led a spade to the ten and king so declarer gave up a club. Gunev won that and played ace and another heart. Nanev won, cashed the third heart winner and exited with a spade to dummy's ace. A successful trump finesse meant that Abdelfattah had the rest for down two and -300 .
Stamatov opened the North hand with a Precision $\ \diamond$ and Danailov responded lis. Sadek overcalled a natural and strong INT and Nabil transferred to hearts. When Danailov doubled the transfer, Sadek passed to deny three hearts and Nabil bid $2 \checkmark$ himself. Having heard his partner double $2 \diamond$, Stamatov could now compete with $3 \triangleleft$ and that was that. Nabil led a club. Sadek won and switched to ace and another heart and Nabil won and cashed the third heart then played a spade. Stamatov won in hand, ruffed a club and took the diamond finesse and had nine tricks for +110 and 9 IMPs to Bulgaria; 33-6.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

- AKJ876
$\subset$ A 4
$\diamond K$ Q \& A 85
Q Q 1042
- Q 107
$\checkmark 8$
K K 9632

-     - 
- J 98532
$\diamond$ A 109743
\& 4
- 953
- K 6
$\diamond$ J 652
Q QJ 107

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sadek | Stamatov | Nabil | Danailov |
| - | - | $2 \bigcirc$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 34 | Pass | 4 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Gunev | Abdelfattah | Nanev | Bakly |
| - | - | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | 2\% | 4 | Pass |
| Pass | 4 | Pass | 5 |
| Pass | 64 | All Pass |  |

Nabil could open $2 \checkmark$ to show five or more hearts plus a four-card or longer second suit in a weak hand so did so and this ran around to Stamatov. He doubled and Danailov bid 2NT, Lebensohl. However, Stamatov was far too strong to bid the requested $3 \%$ and instead showed his strong hand with long spades by bidding 34. Danailov raised to game and that was that. Nabil led a heart. Stamator won in hand and cashed the ace of spades. On seeing the four-nil split, he tried the queen of diamonds and that slipped past Nabil. Stamatov continued with the king of diamonds. Nabil won and played a heart, so Stamatov won and led the nine of spades to the ten and jack. With no more quick entries to dummy, he had to give up a club to create an entry to pick up the spade so had II tricks for +650 .


Ivan Nanev, Bulgaria
Nanev had only a natural weak two bid at his disposal and judged to pass for now and hope for a better opportunity to describe his hand. There were three passes to Abdelfattah, who opened a strong and artificial 2\%. Now Nanev overcalled $4 \diamond$, clearly showing diamonds with some kind of major-suit on the side to explain his failure to make an opening pre-empt. That went back to Abdelfattah, who bid 44. Does the South hand contain sufficient useful values to justify a move towards slam? Bakly thought so and cuebid 5 §, and that was enough to convince Abdelfattah to jump to 64.
The combination of two mildly optimistic actions led to a poor contract. Nanev led ace and another diamond and the contract was down immediately. Gunev ruffed and returned a low club and declarer had no choice but to run it, after which he could negotiate the rest for down one and -I00; Bulgaria +13 IMPs and a 46-6 lead.
Things improved a little for Egypt from here Abdelfattah/Bakly bid and made a thin $4 \checkmark$ on Board 28 and Sadek/Nabil stayed out of a thin 4s that was going down on Board 29 to pick up 10 and 7 IMPs respectively - but Bulgaria ran out winners by 49-24 IMPs, I 5.92-4.08 VPs.

## Championship Diary

During the course of a day, we pose many problems to the assembled multitude, particularly with regard to bidding and opening leads.
I asked Herman what he would lead with this hand: $\mathrm{AK} 643 \vee 102 \triangleleft 762 \$ \mathrm{Q} 92$ after the bidding goes 19-(1中)-3

## Herman went for the $\$$ A.

Jan van Cleeff had been listening in and he sided with Herman.
I was quick to point out that he had fallen into my trap, as in bridge related matters it well known that it is a generally a mistake to agree with Herman.
Partner has $\uparrow$ QJ9 and declarer $\$ 10852$, so a top spade blocks the suit.

Talking of mistake, Herman was proof reading and enquired as to the meaning of 'misstake' to which I replied - 'Don't eat this meat.'

Herman was now on a roll, and when I asked him how he was getting on in his capacity as Assistant Reviewer he pointed out that so far he had not had to deal with a single case. In the last four major championships, there were only four reviews, two of them emanating from cases where Herman had given the initial ruling in his capacity of Director.
By changing his role here in Chennai, it appears that (thus far) the number of reviews will at least be halved.

The Times of India features a daily report on the Championships. Yesterday's edition revealed that the English Women's team has a secret weapon before the start of every match they dab themselves with a few drops of lavender oil to help them remain focused. For more details read the article!

## VC R6 - Advantage, USA 2



## USA I v USA 2



By Brent Manley
On day two of the Venice Cup qualifying, USAI and USA2 sat down to play in the sixth round of the qualifying round robin. USA 2 sent Tobi Sokolow - Janice Seamon-Molson against Jenny Wolpert - Jill Levin in one room and Lynn Deas - Beth Palmer against Migry Zur-Campanile - Jill Meyers in the other.
USA 2 had the early advantage, leading 7-0 after the first two boards, then more than doubling the lead on the third deal.

Board 19. Dealer South. EWVul.


Wolpert needed luck - the missing club honors split between North and South - and a good guess. On the lie of the cards, a successful guess was not possible, so the contract was quickly one down, minus 100 . At the other table:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Palmer | Zur-Campanile | Deas | Meyers |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| $1 \diamond$ | 14 | Dы | 3. |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | $4{ }^{4}$ | 5 | Pass |
| 5 | All Pass |  |  |

Palmer had to lose the same two club tricks, but she needed only I I tricks. Those were easy and she scored plus 650 and 13 IMPs. USA 2 now had a 20-0 lead. USA I managed a IO-IMP swing on board 25 when SeamonMolson found herself in $5 \triangleleft$ doubled, three down for minus 500 compared to plus 50 for their teammates, who
defended $4 \diamond$. That made the score $21-13$ for USA 2.
After that, there was not much action and no significant swings until this deal came along, USA 2 leading 22-13.

Board 28. Dealer West. NS Vul.
\& AK
$\checkmark 1064$
$\diamond$ J 86
\& KJ764

| ¢ J 6 | N | ¢ Q 10843 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 172$ | N | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K} 3$ |
| $\diamond 9743$ | W E | $\diamond$ A Q 2 |
| \% A 1083 | S | \% 952 |
|  | ¢ 9752 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AQ985 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K 105 |  |
|  | \& Q |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Levin | Sokolow | Wolpert | Seamon-Molson |
| Pass | 19 | 19 | Dbl |
| Pass | INT | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | $3 N T$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Deducing that partner had little or no help in spades West did have a chance to double South's bid of 24 Wolpert started with $\diamond A$, continuing with the queen to declarer's king. The eq went to Levin's ace and she continued with a diamond to declarer's jack. Sokolow played the $\vee I O$ from hand, playing low from dummy when East covered with the king. Wolpert continued with a heart and Sokolow could claim plus 630 with four hearts, two clubs, two diamonds and two spades. At the other table:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Palmer | Zur-Campanile | Deas | Meyers |
| Pass | 10 | IS | 2 $\varnothing$ |
| Pass | 2NT | All Pass |  |

Deas led a low spade to the jack and declarer's ace. The QIO was covered by the king and ace. The 9 Q was won by Palmer with the ace, and she exited with a spade, clearing the suit. With no entry back to her hand, declarer cashed her two good clubs, then played a heart to dummy's 9. Palmer won the 8 J , cashed the 10 and put her partner in with a diamond to the ace.When Deas was finished cashing her spades, declarer was two down for minus 200, good for 13 IMPs to USA 2, now ahead 35-I3.

After three more pushes, the final board hit the table.
Board 32. Dealer West. EWVul.


Wolpert led the 2 to her partner's ace. A club went to Wolpert's king. She exited with the $\diamond$ Q, taken in dummy with the ace. Sokolow played a low spade from dummy to her 8 , won by Wolpert with the IO.A low heart was taken by declarer with dummy's ace. The king was cashed and declarer ruffed a heart low. Wolpert overruffed and got out with the $\Phi$. After winning the sA, Sokolow played a diamond to her king, dropping the jack. She was still two down, however, for minus 100. At the other table:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Palmer | Zur-Campanile | Deas | Meyers |
| Pass | Pass | I $\diamond$ | INT |
| Dbl | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | Pass |
| Dbl | All Pass |  |  |

Deas’ I $\diamond$ was Precision, possibly a doubleton. Declarer always has seven tricks if she guesses the diamond situation, but $2 \triangleleft$ was a playable contract. Deas started with the $\diamond Q$ to the king, Zur-Campanile ran the $\vee J$ to West's queen, and West cashed the N A and e Q before shifting to the $\$ 7$. Declarer won the $\Phi A$, returned to hand with 810 and played a diamond. When the jack popped up, she had

## In Nyström I trust <br> By Micke Melander

"In God We Trust" first appeared on coins in 1864 and has appeared on the American dollar bill since 1957. Johan Upmark might rephrase it into "in Nyström I trust" as a national bridge motto for Sweden. Just have a look at what happened in Sweden's match against USA I in the Bermuda Bowl from round 3 of the Round Robin.

Board I3. Dealer North. All Vul.

- 5
$\bigcirc 1098$
$\diamond$ AK 9632
- J 109


Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nyström | Rodwell | Upmark | Meckstroth |
|  | Pass | Pass | 18 |
| 2 | $4 \checkmark$ | 64 | All Pass |
| Closed Room: |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Levin | Warne | Weinstein | Bergdahl |
|  | Pass | Pass | I $\vee$ |
| 2 | $4 \diamond$ | $4 \bigcirc$ | Pass |
| 49 | Pass | Pass | 5 |
| Pass | Pass | 5 | Pass |
| 54 | All Pass |  |  |

That was 13 IMPs to Sweden.
Of course, Upmarks action was based on the certainty that his partner had a heart void. He didn't, but delivered everything else that Upmark could possibly have wanted.

## Journalists' Outing on Saturday, October the 3rd 2015

Organized and offered by the IBF Indian Bridge Federation
To Dakshinchitra (http://dakshinachitra.net/) - Living cultural museum of art, architecture and performing arts of South India. (Lunch included.)
Please register in the Press Room with Jan Swaan by Friday noon at the latest. A few non-journalists are allowed on this trip. So if you are interested, make yourself known.
Start II.00 a.m. sharp Departure from Lobby ITC Grand Chola Hotel - by coach.
End 5.I5 p.m. Back at ITC Grand Chola (depending on traffic).

* Full programme in Bulletin \#3 - Tuesday September 29th.


## The Far Pavilions (VC R7)



## Denmark v USA 2



By Mark Horton
The Far Pavilions is an epic novel of British-Indian history by M. M. Kaye, first published in 1978, which tells the story of an English officer during the British Raj. There are many parallels between this novel and Rudyard Kipling's 'Kim', which was published in 1900: the settings, the young English boy raised as a native by an Indian surrogate mother, the ' Great Game' as it was played by England and Russia. The novel, rooted deeply in the romantic epics of the 19th Century, has been hailed as a masterpiece of storytelling. It is based partly on biographical writings of the author's grandfather as well as her knowledge of and childhood experiences in India. It has sold millions of copies, caused travel agents to create tours that visited the locations in the book, and inspired a television adaptation and a musical play.
After many adventures, the hero and heroine set out in search of a paradise in the Himalayas - the far pavilions free of prejudice where they can live out their lives in peace.

In this match from Round 7, the teams representing Denmark and USAll were hoping to take another significant step en route to the summit of the Venice Cup. The undefeated Danes had so far carried all before them, but this would be a good test of their credentials.
It proved to be an entertaining, albeit error-strewn encounter.
There were a number of transmission problems, so I apologise in advance for any misremembered auctions or plays.


Nadia Bekkouche, Denmark

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

|  | ¢ - |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\checkmark$ AJ 652 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AKQJ 10 |  |
|  | \% Q 95 |  |
| ¢ 108764 | N | - AJ932 |
| $\bigcirc$ KQ 743 |  | $\bigcirc 109$ |
| $\diamond 632$ |  | $\diamond 5$ |
| 9 - | S | \& KJ643 |
|  | ¢ K Q 5 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 8$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark 9874$ |  |
|  | \& A 10872 |  |

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Deas | Bekkouche | Palmer <br> Rahelt |  |
|  | 18 | $2 \Omega^{*}$ | Pass |
| 49 | All Pass |  |  |
| 28 | Hearts and a minor |  |  |

This was not a triumph for N/S.
One way to improve matters would be for South to double $2 \triangleleft$. Then North would bid diamonds over 4s - how many is a matter for the individual conscience.
Another would be for North to take some action over 44 - perhaps bidding 4NT (perhaps too aggressive) intending to remove partner's possible 5 e to $5 \diamond$, or simply bidding 5 .
North led the ace of diamonds and the defenders took the red aces and two trumps, one down, -50 .

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bilde | Sokolow | Rasmussen | Seamon-Molson |
|  | $1 \$$ | 2 ® $^{*}$ | Dble* |
| 4s | $5 \diamond$ | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

West's optimistic double was no doubt predicated on the hope that East would lead a club and then have an entry to deliver a second ruff in the suit.
When East led the ace of spades, declarer ruffed, cashed the ace of hearts, ruffed a heart, pitched two clubs on the top spades and then tried to cash the ace of clubs. West ruffed and returned a trump, but declarer could cross-ruff her way to eleven tricks and +550 .
Declarer missed a route to an overtrick. After ruffing the opening lead, a top trump confirms the suit is not 4-0. Trumps are drawn and then the queen of clubs leaves East with no good move.
If trumps turn out to be 4-0 declarer is still in no real danger.

With II IMPs under their belts (or should that be saris) the USA gave Denmark a chance to recover some ground on the next deal.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

- AK 83

คA1064
$\diamond$ Q 5

- AJ 10

Q Q 75
$\diamond 85$
$\diamond 109$
$\& Q 5432$

Both teams played in diamonds.
In the Closed Room East was in $3 \diamond$ and could not be prevented from taking nine tricks, + IIO.
In the Open Room the bidding went $1 \diamond$-(Pass)-I 3 -(Pass)-3p-(Pass)-4 $\diamond$-All Pass. I think South led a low club and when North played the ten declarer ruffed and played the jack of hearts. If South had gone in with the queen, declarer would have had no real hope, but when she played low North had to win with the ace. When she played a trump declarer won and played the king of hearts. The appearance of the queen meant she could cash a top diamond and then give up a heart, +130 and an IMP.
Suppose declarer plays a low heart at trick two?
Now if South goes in with the queen and plays another club declarer ruffs and plays a top heart, subsequently ruffing a heart.
If South returns a trump declarer wins in dummy either on this round or the next (depending on North's play) and can run the eight of hearts.
An initial trump lead should defeat $4 \diamond$ - as long as North withholds the queen.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

- AK 93
© JIO
$\diamond A Q J$
- AKQJ

| @ 1742 | N | -108 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 976$ |  | $\bigcirc$ A Q 85 |
| $\diamond 10986$ | W E | $\diamond$ K 542 |
| ¢ 84 | S | -1076 |
|  | - Q 65 |  |
|  | ¢K432 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 73$ |  |
|  | ¢9532 |  |

Both N/S pairs played in 3NT.
In the Closed Room East led the six of clubs and declarer finished with II tricks, +460 .

At the other table, declarer received a diamond lead.
She won with the queen, took four rounds of clubs and then ran the ten of hearts. When it held she turned her attention to the spade suit, cashing the ace, playing low to the queen and then back to the king. Had she finessed the nine, the last spade would have been too much for East, but now there seemed to be no chance of a twelfth trick.
This was the position when declarer played the jack of hearts:


To hold declarer to eleven tricks East must take the ace of hearts and exit with a diamond, West collecting a spade at the end. When she played the queen declarer could win with dummy's king and exit with a heart, forcing a diamond return that put Denmark on the board to the tune of I IMP.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

- AK 643

102
$\diamond 762$
\& Q 92

| - 10852 | N | - 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ AJ 7 |  | $\bigcirc$ Q 64 |
| $\checkmark$ A 10 |  | $\checkmark$ K Q 8543 |
| ¢ K 764 | S | \& A 8 |
|  | - QJ9 |  |
|  | -K9853 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 9$ |  |
|  | \& J 1053 |  |

In the Closed Room West became declarer in 3NT.
North led a spade.
It was the ace.
With the spades blocked declarer scored ten tricks,+630.

Pass-(Pass)-3c-(Dble)-Pass-(Pass)-5 $\diamond$ All Pass.
As you can see, there will usually be twelve tricks as South can be squeezed in hearts and clubs. They can only be prevented if West is declarer and North leads a heart, followed by a second heart when in with a spade, breaking up the squeeze.
System having dictated thatWest start with $\mathbf{I} \diamond$ North was
on lead and naturally looked no further than the spade suit. Declarer was on track for twelve tricks, but apparently went wrong in the ending, +600 handing Denmark their second IMP of the match.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

- 72
$\bigcirc 1$
$\diamond A 1098542$
\& A 109

| ¢ A 103 | N | ¢ 964 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 10842 |  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K} 53$ |
| $\diamond$ K | W E | $\diamond 73$ |
| \& K Q J 6 | S | 9 75432 |
|  | ¢ K Q J 85 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 976 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q J 6 |  |
|  | 98 |  |

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Deas | Bekkouche | Palmer <br> Rahelt |  |
| $2 \diamond$ | Dble | Pass | $2 \uparrow$ |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

I am informed that $3 \triangleleft$ was non-forcing, but even so South should have done something over it. +170 .
In the other room the USA sailed into $5 \diamond$ to pick up 10 IMPs.

| Board IO. Dealer East. All Vul. |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| ¢ 104 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ K Q 1062 |  |
| $\diamond$ A Q 10643 |  |
| \% - |  |
| +96 | $N \quad \$ 872$ |
| $\checkmark$ A 95 | W E $\quad$ - 8743 |
| $\diamond 87$ | W E $\quad \diamond \mathrm{KJ} 9$ |
| * A Q 10964 | $S$ ¢ J 75 |
| ¢ AKQJ 53 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ J |  |
| $\diamond 52$ |  |
| 2 K 832 |  |

In the Closed Room N/S stopped safely in 4® for +620 . Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Deas | Bekkouche | Palmer | Rahelt |
|  |  | Pass | 1s |
| 20 | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | 2 |
| Pass | 38 | Pass | 49 |
| Pass | 64 | All Pass |  |

N/S were playing an opening bid of 24 as constructive (IO-I3) so North was able to place her partner with a
decent hand and most probably solid spades.
Had South's king of clubs been a different colour, North's decision would have been vindicated almost immediately.
West led the ace of hearts and then, incredible as it may seem, played the ace of clubs. Game over, +1430 and a welcome gift of 13 IMPs.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.

- 104
$\bigcirc 96$
$\diamond$ J 654
\& J 10763
$\wedge$ AKJ 972
$\diamond$ Q 4
$\diamond 9$
$\& A K Q 8$

| N | - 65 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | QJ107532 |
| W E | $\diamond$ Q 1072 |
| S | - 5 |
| - Q 83 |  |
| $\triangle$ AK 8 |  |
| $\diamond$ AK 83 |  |

\& 942

Both teams reached 4s.
To defeat it South needs to take three red winners and then play the eight of hearts, ensuring a trump trick.
When this did not happen in the Open Room USAll picked up 10 IMPs.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

- J 107
$\bigcirc 5$
$\diamond A 9752$
\& A Q 103
- AK 98542
$\checkmark$ AK 4
$\diamond 3$
\& 76

- Q 63

109862
104

- 854
© QJ 73
$\diamond$ K Q J 86
KJ92
Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Deas | Bekkouche | Palmer | Rahelt |
| l\&* | INT* | Pass | $5 \diamond$ |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

$$
\text { 18 } \quad 17+
$$

INT Both minors
Declarer was not hard pressed to score an overtrick, +950 .
At this vulnerability South was surely bidding $5 \diamond$ in the hope that it would make. I think you could offer long odds that South will have a void and it can only be in spades. Had West bid 54, N/S would have been doing very well to go on to 6 .

Two pairs reached the slam in the Venice Cup, three in the Bermuda Bowl and two in the d'Orsi Trophy. Where the slam was doubled NS racked up +1540 .
I don't have the auction from the other table, but (and the reader may be ahead of me here) the contract was identical, so no swing.
If the bidding were to go 14-(Pass)-Pass-(Dble)-4e$(4 N T)-5 \diamond$ then it would be clear for West to let matters rest.

Board I5. Dealer South. None Vul.
© 765
Q Q 1972
$\diamond 2$

* A 763

4 K 1032

- K 84
$\diamond A 9765$
4

Open Room

| West <br> Deas | North <br> Bekkouche | East <br> Palmer | South <br> Rahelt <br> Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1 \diamond$ | $1 \diamond$ | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \square^{*}$ | Pass |
| $5 \diamond$ | Pass | $6 \diamond$ | All Pass |

North led the five of spades and after South took the ace, the ace of clubs was the setting trick, +50 .


Toby Sokolow, USA2

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bilde | Sokolow | Rasmussen | Seamon-Molson |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | 30 | Pass |
| 3 | Pass | 34* | Dble |
| 3NT | Pass | 4\%* | Pass |
| 4 ${ }^{*}$ | Pass | 4NT* | Pass |
| 5\%* | Pass | 5 | All Pass |

EW were in the slam zone, but they stopped safely for 10 useful IMPs.

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.
© K 42

- K Q 653
$\diamond A 964$
98
- AJ 975
- 1087
J 10
\& 1043

© Q 108
$\subset$ A 4
$\diamond$ Q 532
J 76
$\vee 192$
$\diamond$ K 87
2K K Q 952
Open Room
West
Deas
Pass
North
Bekkouche

| East | South |
| :--- | :--- |
| Palmer | Rahelt |
| Pass | $3 \mathbf{N o}^{*}$ |
| All Pass |  |

3e. Invitational with three-card support
East led the three of diamonds for the seven, ten and ace and declarer played the eight of clubs. When East went in with the ace of clubs declarer was back in the game.
She took the diamond continuation with dummy's king and cashed the top clubs getting rid of the losing diamonds. It looks natural now to play a spade, but declarer continued with the five of clubs and when West ruffed with the eight of hearts, she overruffed and played a heart. East took the ace and tried the queen of diamonds, but declarer could overruff West's ten with the king, draw the outstanding trump and lose only to the well-placed ace of spades, +420 .
Closed Room

| West | North |
| :--- | :--- |
| Bilde | Sokolow |
| Pass | $1 \varnothing$ |
| Pass | Pass |
| $2 \$$ | $3 \varnothing$ |
| $3 \$$ | All Pass |


| East | South |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rasmussen | Seamon-Molson |
| Pass | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| Dble | Rdbl |
| Pass | Pass |

The defenders did nothing foolish and declarer could muster only seven tricks, -200, but 6IMPs to Denmark.
The USA won 4I-3I IMPs, I2.30-6.70 VP, becoming the first team to lower Denmark's colours.

## 



By Brent Manley
At the start of play on Tuesday, USA I was undefeated in the Bermuda Bowl round robin qualifying and sitting comfortably in second place. Their opponents in round seven were USA 2, losers of their first four matches but lying 12 th and still in contention for one of the eight qualifying spots thanks to two big wins in rounds five and six.
Both North-South pairs play a version of Precision: Is is strong and forcing, a $1 \diamond$ opening can be made on a doubleton.
The expectation was for a close match, but it didn't work out that way. In baseball terms, USA 2 hit a home run on the first pitch.

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

|  | Q - |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | PAJ652 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AKQJ 10 |  |
|  | N - AJ932 |  |
| -108764 |  |  |
| $\bigcirc$ KQ 743 |  | $\bigcirc 109$ |
| $\checkmark 632$ | W E | $\checkmark 5$ |
| 9 - | S | 2KJ643 |
|  | - K Q 5 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 8$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark 9874$ |  |
|  | - A 10872 |  |



Steve Weinstein, USA I

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wooldridge | Rodwell | Hurd | Meckstroth |
|  | 18* | 14 | 20 |
| 5 | 6 | All Pas |  |

Joel Wooldridge's aggressive jump to 5 put the pressure on Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell. On a normal trump split - even a 4-I break - Rodwell would have had his chances in the slam on the lead he received. John Hurd started with the A, one of two leads to let the slam through if clubs were 4-I. Rodwell ruffed the A and advanced the Q , covered by the king and ace. Had trumps been $4-1$, Rodwell could have driven out the still pulled trumps by playing the 10 from dummy. The 5-0 trump split could not be overcome, however, and Rodwell was soon conceding one down for minus 50 .

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Levin | Demuy | Weinstein | Kranyak |
|  | $10^{*}$ | 14 | $2 \%$ |
| 44 | 54 | Pass | $6 \%$ |
| 64 | Db | All Pass |  |

Bobby Levin believed his opponents, so he took the save. Unfortunately, it was a phantom and minus 500 was costly. USA 2 was ahead II-0 after one board.
This deal, the fourth of the set, was interesting from declarer's perspective.

## Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul. <br> . AK643 <br> $\bigcirc 102$ <br> $\checkmark 762$ <br> \& Q 92 <br> 

At both tables, the contract was $5 \triangleleft$ by East. Against Weinstein, Kranyak led a low heart, which ran around to the queen. There was nothing more to the play and Weinstein chalked up plus 620.At the other table, the lead was the $\uparrow$ Q. Hurd ruffed the spade continuation and started cashing diamonds. No matter what South discards on the diamonds, East can always take 12 tricks in a diamond contract. In practice, Meckstroth discarded a club at one point, so declarer could cash the A, play a club to the king and ruff a club, establishing the long club in dummy.


Bobby Levin, USA I
Declarer simply takes the heart finesse and claims, losing only a spade trick. If South doesn't discard a club, declarer can take the heart finesse, play a club to the ace, club to the king, club ruff, establishing dummy's $\mathbf{N}$ as a threat against South. Declarer then runs trumps, catching South in a clubheart squeeze.
After that push board, USA 2 scored again with clever defense by Hurd and Wooldridge.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.
4 K 10652
$\checkmark 5$
$\diamond$ KJ 108
\% KJ 6

| Q Q J 43 | N | ¢ A 87 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 108 | W E | $\bigcirc$ J 93 |
| $\diamond$ A 73 | W E | $\diamond$ Q 2 |
| 2 A 87 | S | \%Q10532 |
|  | ¢ 9 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AK 7642 |  |
|  | $\diamond 9654$ |  |
|  | \% 94 |  |

The auction was the same at both tables.

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Wooldridge | Rodwell | Hurd | Meckstroth |
| Levin | Demuy | Weinstein | Kranyak |
|  | $1 \mathbf{S}$ | Pass | INT |
| Pass | $\mathbf{2} \diamond$ | Pass | $\mathbf{2} \oslash$ |

All Pass
Wooldridge led a low spade, ducked in dummy. Hurd won the A and continued with a low diamond from his doubleton queen. Wooldridge won the $\diamond A$ and continued the suit. Meckstroth put in dummy's jack, losing to the queen. A club to West's ace allowed him to play a third round of diamonds, ruffed by East for one down.
The opening lead at the other table was the $\uparrow \mathbf{Q}$, covered
by the king and ace. Weinstein also returned his low diamond, but when Levin won he played a low club. Kranyak went up with dummy's king and played three rounds of trumps. When the suit split 3-3, Kranyak was home with eight tricks for plus IIO. It was a 5-IMP gain for USA 2.
USA 2 collected another 6 IMPs when Hurd was allowed to play in 28 (making for plus 90 ) in the open room while Kranyak went plus 140 in $2 \checkmark$ in the closed room.
More IMPs went to USA 2 on the next deal.
Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.
¢ 72
$\bigcirc 1$
$\diamond A 1098542$
\& A 109

| $\triangle$ A 103 | N | ¢964 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark$ Q 10842 |  | - K 53 |
| $\diamond$ K | W E | $\diamond 73$ |
| \& K Q J 6 | S | ¢ 75432 |
|  | ¢ K Q J 85 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A 976 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q J 6 |  |
|  | 9 8 |  |


| West North <br> Wooldridge  | East <br> Rodwell | Hurd | South <br> Meckstroth |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | $3 \diamond$ | 3 | $1 乌$ |

There was nothing to the play, with the singleton trump king in the slot. Plus 620 to USA I.At the other table:

| West <br> Levin | North <br> Demuy | East <br> Weinstein | South <br> Kranyak |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | $3 \diamond$ | 3 | 4 |
| Pass | 58 | Pass | 5 |
| Pass | $6 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

Plus 1370 meant 13 IMPs to USA 2, now leading 36-I. This board was unlucky for USA I.

Board 9 Dealer North. EW Vul.

- 103
$\vee 14$
$\diamond 94$
\% K Q J 9872


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Wooldridge | Rodwell | Hurd | Meckstroth |
|  | 39 | Pass | 3 |
| 3NT | All Pass |  |  |

It's not clear what Meckstroth's $3 \triangleleft$ was meant to convey, but a diamond lead suited Wooldridge just fine. He had an easy 12 tricks on Rodwell's lead of the 2 K . Plus 690.

| West | North |
| :--- | :--- |
| Levin | Demuy |
|  | $3 N^{*}$ |
| $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $6 \diamond$ | All Pass |


| East | South |
| :--- | :--- |
| Weinstein | Kranyak |
| Pass | $4 \dot{9}$ |
| $5 \%$ | Pass |

Demuy's 3NT opener obviously indicated a long minor suit. On the lead of the ek , Levin must have had a sense of impending doom. Indeed, Kranyak ruffed and cashed the \&A for one down. As you can see, because of South's void in clubs and possession of the $4 \mathrm{~A}, 6 \mathrm{NT}$ is cold. That was 13 more IMPs for USA 2. The lead had grown to 49-I. The margin went to 60-I on the next deal.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.
¢ 104
$\bigcirc 96$
$\diamond$ J 654
お的 10763

$$
\text { AKJ } 972
$$

$\diamond$ Q 4
$\diamond 9$
$\&$ AK Q 8

| N |
| :---: |
| W E |
| S |
| ¢ Q 83 |
| $\bigcirc$ AK 8 |
| $\diamond$ AK 83 |
| 9942 |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Wooldridge | Rodwell | Hurd | Meckstroth <br> INT |
| Dbl | 29 | $2 \varnothing$ | Pass |
| 34 | Pass | 49 | All Pass |

Rodwell led the $\% 10$ (Rusinow), taken by Wooldridge with the ace. He ruffed the 88 and played a spade to his jack. When that held and both followed to the sA, Wooldridge claimed plus 420. At the other table, Demuy and Kranyak found a way to defeat the contract.

| West <br> Levin | North <br> Demuy | East <br> Weinstein | South <br> Kranyak <br> INT |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Dbl | Pass | $2 \unrhd$ | Pass |
| $3 \Phi$ | Pass | $4 \Phi$ | Dbl |

## All Pass

Demuy found the killing lead of his doubleton heart. Kranyak won the 8 K , cashed a high diamond, then followed with the $8 \mathbf{A}$ and a third heart. With the 10 in the North
hand, there was nothing Levin could do. He had to lose a trump trick for minus 100. USA 2 had II more IMPs in the bank.
USA I finally managed a useful swing on this deal:
Board I3 Dealer North. All Vul.


The contract at both tables was $4 \bigcirc$ by South. When Meckstroth was declarer, West led the $\$ 5$ to East's ace.The $\Phi$ Q continuation was won by the king. At trick three, Meckstroth led a low heart to the IO, jack and queen. The © ${ }^{\text {I }}$ was ruffed in dummy, and Meckstroth played a low heart from dummy, playing low from his hand. The trump ace was the last trick for the defense. On a club switch, Meckstroth can just run the suit, overruffing if East ruffs in, with a late entry via dummy's fourth trump.
At the other table, Demuy got a diamond lead, which he took in hand, pitching a spade from dummy. He cashed the other high diamond for another spade pitch, then played a club to the ace, pitched a diamond on the ek and played a spade to his king and Levin's ace. Kranyak ruffed in dummy when Levin returned the $\diamond \mathbf{Q}$, following with the $>8$ to Levin's 10 . Kranyak ruffed the spade return with dummy's last trump and tried the 9 . Weinstein ruffed with the master trump and cashed the 9 A for one down and 12 IMPs.
Except for a 3-IMP swing to USA 2 on the final board, that was it for the scoring. The surprising outcome was 63-13 for USA 2, good for 19.16 victory points to 0.84 for USA I. The big win helped USA 2 to move up to 1 Ith in the round robin standings with 12 more matches to play.


Jeff Meckstroth, Donna Compton (NPC) and Eric Rodwell, USA I

## Venice Cup Round 8

By Brian Senior
I had planned a detailed match report but, when BBO crashes deep into the session and you have other duties so that you have not watched every board as it happened, the lost data causes something of a problem.
USAI won the match by 46-I 4 IMPs, I7.03-2.97 VPs, with the bulk of the points coming on three deals in what was otherwise a very quiet and low-scoring set. On the first deal, the French E/W pair went for -I 400 in a six-one fit in $5 \diamond$ doubled. Their N/S pair managed +480 in their heart game but that was worth 14 IMPs to USAI. The score had moved on only to 22-I4 in favour of USAI after 13 deals, but the Americans had two big gains still to come.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

$\triangleleft 1065$
\& AKJIO 873

## s AKQ 4 <br> - A Q 987 <br> $\diamond$ K J 8 <br> 2



| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Levin | Cronier | Wolpert | Willard |
| - | - | Pass | Pass |
| 18 | 2\% | 28 | Pass |
| 29 | 3\% | Pass | Pass |
| 4\% | Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5 | Pass |
| 5 | All P |  |  |

In the other room, the French West went one down in $4 \checkmark$. Here, Jill Levin saw a free raise from Jenny Wolpert and also a diamond cuebid (and was East's pass over 3e also encouraging, given that her partner had committed the partnership to at least the three level?), and that was sufficient to persuade her to ask for key cards, quickly signing off on finding only one.
Benedicte Cronier kicked off with two rounds of clubs so Levin ruffed the second round with the heart nine, cashed the ace of hearts, then crossed to dummy by overtaking the jack of diamonds with the queen to lead a heart to her seven. This was a good news-bad news situation, in that the
heart held but the four-one split came to light, putting the contract in considerable jeopardy. With a third round of clubs due to force her when she played another round of trumps, Levin had to find a layout that would allow her to make. She cashed three rounds of spades, being pleased to see South follow three times, then played king of diamonds followed by her last diamond to the ace. When that suit too broke favourably, she was home. Levin played the thirteenth diamond and South was powerless to take more than one more trick; +450 and II IMPs to USAI.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Levin | Cronier | Wolpert | Willard |
| INT | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{2 0}$ | Pass |
| $2 \odot$ | Pass | $3 \%$ | Pass |
| $3 \odot$ | Pass | $3 N T$ | Pass |
| $4 \%$ | Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $4 \odot$ | Pass | $6 \%$ | All Pass |

The French E/W pair explored slam possibilities but stopped in 5\%, making 12 tricks for +620 . Wolpert started with Stayman then bid a natural and forcing 3\% Levin showed the fifth heart and, appreciating that her partner must have some slam interest to follow this route, went on with $4{ }^{2}$ e over 3 NT . After an exchange of cuebids, Wolpert trusted that her partner must have spade control to have gone on so jumped to the club slam.
Sylvie Willard led the seven of diamonds to the ten, queen and ace. Wolpert followed the odds, leading a low club to the king then running the ten. That meant no trump loser and, though the spade was offside, she had a discard for the fourth spade on the heart ace even had the ten not fallen on the second round. USAI scored +1370 and gained I3 IMPs to complete a very useful win against another major challenger.

## The Squeeze That Worked and Not <br> By Micke Melander

When Japan played Sweden in Round 8 of the Bermuda Bowl 29 IMPs were shared on two boards, all coming from squeezes.


Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Sylvan | Tanaka | Wrang | Yokoi |
| $2 \diamond$ | Dble | Rdbl | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ | Pass | Pass | $3 \oslash$ |
| Pass | $3 N T$ | Pass | $4 \varrho$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Despite the 5-I trump split declarer was not hard pressed to record eleven tricks, +450 .
Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Chen | Warne | Furuta | Bergdahl |
| $3 \diamond$ | $3 N T$ | Pass | $4 \diamond *$ |
| Pass | $4 \infty$ | Pass | $6 N T$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

Furuta led the ten of hearts, which was taken by dummy's king. With plenty to think about Warne considered the possibility of developing a squeeze against East. After a spade to the ace and a spade to the queen, West discarding a heart, declarer continued with the jack of spades, West and declarer pitching hearts as East won with the king.
Declarer took the spade return in dummy as he and West again discarded hearts. When he continued with the ace and king of diamonds and the queen appeared we can guess that it was a happy declarer who crossed to his hand in diamonds and cashed the ace of hearts, squeezing East in clubs and spades. When East discarded a club, the remaining spade went from dummy and declarer could cash four club tricks, giving Sweden 13 IMPs.
It won't help East to duck the jack of spades. As long as declarer cashes the ace and king of diamonds, East will be squeezed when declarer later cashes the ace of hearts when discarding a spade allows declarer to enter dummy
with a club to set up another trick in spades.
Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.


Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sylvan | Tanaka | Wrang | Yokoi |
| INT | Pass | 2®* | Pass |
| 24 | Pass | 2NT* | Pass |
| 3\% | Pass | $3 \diamond$ | Pass |
| 38 | Pass | 30 | Pass |
| 4\% | Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $4 \bigcirc$ | Pass | 69 | All Pass |

INT 14-I6, (semi) BAL(I5-17 vul may have 5-card M
$2>4+4$
It seems that 2 NT started some sort of relay sequence, but astonishingly the section of the convention card headed subsequent auction contains no information.
Declarer received a spade lead that went to the two, eight and his queen. He crossed to dummy's king of hearts and finessed the ten of clubs, which lost to North's queen whereupon he got a club return, which he won with the king in hand. After ruffing a heart declarer cashed the two top diamonds, ruffed a diamond and ruffed a second heart before drawing the last trump in the hope of catching South in a show-up squeeze with the king of spades and the queen of hearts. When that wasn't the case he had to concede one down.

Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chen | Warne | Furuta | Bergdahl |
| INT | Pass | 2\%* | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 3 ** | Pass |
| 3 | Pass | 4\% | Pass |
| $4 \diamond$ | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 6\% | All Pass |  |  |
| 2\% St | , might not | a major |  |

The immaculately completed convention card of the Japanese pair contains this line:
INT-2\&-2 -2 =ask length of \& strength: Reverse minor showing
So one can infer that $3 \diamond$ showed clubs.
South kicked off with the ten of spades, which declarer comfortably covered with the jack and North won with the king and returned a heart. But it was all over now, since declarer won with the king and had now three spades, two hearts, two diamonds and just had to make the correct guess in clubs to score five club tricks and make his contract. When he continued with a club to the king and finessed North for the queen it was a 16 IMP swing to Japan who won the match 50-38 IMPs.

## 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, next to the vugraph theatre on the second floor.
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Brian Senior

USAI v. Brazil, Bermuda Bowl, Round 5
Board 2 Dealer East. N/S Vul.

- 9
$\bigcirc 1076$
$\diamond$ KJ 62
- AJ964

| - K 75 | N | - AQJ84 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - A 8432 |  | QQJ95 |
| $\checkmark$ A 94 | W E | $\checkmark$ Q 3 |
| - KQ | S | -82 |
|  | -10632 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc \mathrm{K}$ |  |
|  | $\diamond 10875$ |  |
|  | 210753 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Salomao | Levin | Brum | Weinstein |
|  |  | 14 | Pass |
| 28 | Pass | 38 | Pass |
| $3{ }^{3}$ | Pass | 4 | Pass |
| 64 | All Pass |  |  |

The slam is all about handling the heart suit. Having said that, South led a club to the ace and North returned the suit. Declarer drew four rounds of trumps, advanced the $₹ \mathrm{~J}$ and later finessed the nine, being the percentage play due to the 4-I trump break. Well done, Paulo Roberto Brum. The board delivered Brazil II IMPs when Nickell and Katz made $4 \checkmark$ with an overtrick in the other room.
Virtually every pair who reached slam played $6 \bigcirc$ - and there was no reason to guess trumps, since the spade break had not come to light.

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# LYON - the place to be in August 2017 World Bridge Teams Championships 



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The French Bridge Federation looks forward to welcoming you to the:

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

## RESULTS

## Venice Cup

## Round 10

| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 21 CHINA | DENMARK | 45 | 25 | 15.00 | 5.00 |
| 22 ITALY | USAI | 53 | 38 | 13.97 | 6.03 |
| 23 SOUTH AFRICA | NETHERLANDS | 16 | 31 | 6.03 | 13.97 |
| 24 EGYPT | PAKISTAN | 32 | 24 | 12.29 | 7.71 |
| 25 NEW ZEALAND | GUADELOUPE | 46 | 23 | 15.56 | 4.44 |
| 26 ENGLAND | CHINESE TAIPEI | 60 | 19 | 18.21 | 0.79 |
| 27 BRAZIL | AUSTRALIA | 22 | 41 | 5.20 | 14.80 |
| 28 JAPAN | FRANCE | 44 | 8 | 17.59 | 2.41 |
| 29 INDIA | POLAND | 5 | 52 | 1.13 | 18.87 |
| 30 JORDAN | USA2 | 12 | 43 | 3.12 | 16.88 |
| 31 CANADA | VENEZUELA | 49 | 21 | 16.42 | 2.58 |


| Round \| |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| 21 DENMARK | ITALY | 10 | 67 | 0.23 | 19.77 |
| 22 USAI | SOUTH AFRICA | 69 | 21 | 18.97 | 1.03 |
| 23 NETHERLANDS | EGYPT | 40 | 19 | 15.19 | 4.81 |
| 24 PAKISTAN | NEW ZEALAND | 13 | 43 | 3.27 | 16.73 |
| 25 GUADELOUPE | ENGLAND | 1 | 74 | 0.00 | 20.00 |
| 26 CHINESE TAIPEI | AUSTRALIA | 25 | 40 | 6.03 | 13.97 |
| 27 CHINA | JAPAN | 56 | 3 | 19.43 | 0.57 |
| 28 FRANCE | INDIA | 98 | 11 | 20.00 | 0.00 |
| 29 POLAND | JORDAN | 47 | 9 | 17.85 | 2.15 |
| 30 USA2 | CANADA | 49 | 21 | 16.42 | 3.58 |
| 31 VENEZUELA | BRAZIL |  | 32 | 9.69 | 10.31 |

d'Orsi Trophy

| Round 10 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| 4I SWEDEN | BULGARIA | 45 | 16 | 16.58 | 3.42 |
| 42 NEW ZEALAND | POLAND | 21 | 56 | 2.55 | 17.45 |
| 43 USA2 | INDONESIA | 45 | 39 | 11.76 | 8.24 |
| 44 CHINA | GUADELOUPE | 39 | 41 | 8.39 | 10.11 |
| 45 INDIA | AUSTRALIA | 19 | 30 | 6.96 | 13.04 |
| 46 USAI | BRAZIL | 94 | 13 | 20.00 | 0.00 |
| 47 CHILE | CANADA | 0 | 81 | 0.00 | 20.00 |
| 48 EGYPT | IRELAND | 49 | 25 | 15.74 | 4.26 |
| 49 PAKISTAN | NORWAY | 34 | 36 | 9.39 | 10.61 |
| 50 JAPAN | AUSTRIA | 50 | 22 | 16.42 | 3.58 |
| 51 TUNISIA | ENGLAND | 4 | 71 | 0.00 | 20.00 |


| Round \| |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| 4I BULGARIA | NEW ZEALAND | 27 | 39 | 6.72 | 13.28 |
| 42 POLAND | USA2 | 11 | 13 | 9.39 | 10.61 |
| 43 INDONESIA | CHINA | 18 | 50 | 2.97 | 17.03 |
| 44 GUADELOUPE | INDIA | 14 | 36 | 4.62 | 15.38 |
| 45 AUSTRALIA | USAI | 34 | 31 | 10.91 | 9.09 |
| 46 BRAZIL | CANADA | 41 | 69 | 3.58 | 16.42 |
| 47 SWEDEN | EGYPT | 34 | 28 | 11.76 | 8.24 |
| 48 IRELAND | PAKISTAN | 42 | 43 | 9.69 | 10.31 |
| 49 NORWAY | JAPAN | 40 | 37 | 10.91 | 9.09 |
| 50 AUSTRIA | TUNISIA | 57 | 49 | 12.29 | 7.71 |
| 51 ENGLAND | CHILE | 43 | 42 | 10.31 | 9.69 |


| Round 12 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| 41 USA2 | BULGARIA | 14 | 22 | 7.71 | 12.29 |
| 42 CHINA | POLAND | 17 | 61 | 1.45 | 18.55 |
| 43 INDIA | INDONESIA | 21 | 32 | 6.96 | 13.04 |
| 44 USAI | GUADELOUPE | 68 | 23 | 18.66 | 1.34 |
| 45 CANADA | AUSTRALIA | 13 | 52 | 2.03 | 17.97 |
| 46 CHILE | BRAZIL | 32 | 33 | 9.69 | 10.31 |
| 47 EGYPT | NEW ZEALAND | 33 | 27 | 11.76 | 8.24 |
| 48 PAKISTAN | SWEDEN | 18 | 78 | 0.00 | 20.00 |
| 49 JAPAN | IRELAND | 34 | 51 | 5.61 | 14.39 |
| 50 TUNISIA | NORWAY | 30 | 56 | 3.91 | 16.09 |
| 51 ENGLAND | AUSTRIA | 2 | 41 | 2.03 | 17.97 |

## Bermuda Bowl

| Round 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| 1 | SINGAPORE | CHINA | 33 | 32 | 10.31 | 9.69 |
| 2 | USA2 | UAE | 45 | 53 | 7.71 | 12.29 |
| 3 | DENMARK | NEW ZEALAND | 44 | 13 | 16.88 | 3.12 |
| 4 | BULGARIA | SOUTH AFRICA | 48 | 23 | 15.92 | 4.08 |
| 5 | CANADA | USAI | 13 | 23 | 7.20 | 12.80 |
| 6 | EGYPT | ENGLAND | 13 | 17 | 8.80 | 11.20 |
| 7 | FRANCE | JORDAN | 35 | 12 | 15.56 | 3.44 |
| 8 | JAPAN | BRAZIL | 60 | 22 | 17.85 | 2.15 |
| 9 | GUADELOUPE | AUSTRALIA | 38 | 16 | 15.38 | 4.62 |
| 10 | POLAND | SWEDEN | 21 | 0 | 15.19 | 4.81 |
|  | ARGENTINA | INDIA |  | 38 | 6.96 | 13.04 |


| Round 12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| 1 | DENMARK | CHINA | 51 | 41 | 12.80 | 7.20 |
| 2 | BULGARIA | UAE | 72 | 20 | 19.34 | 0.66 |
| 3 | CANADA | NEW ZEALAND | 12 | 40 | 3.58 | 16.42 |
| 4 | EGYPT | SOUTH AFRICA | 18 | 59 | 1.79 | 18.21 |
| 5 | JORDAN | USAI | 15 | 57 | 1.67 | 18.33 |
| 6 | FRANCE | ENGLAND | 14 | 70 | 0.31 | 19.69 |
| 7 | JAPAN | USA2 | 7 | 57 | 0.84 | 19.16 |
| 8 | GUADELOUPE | SINGAPORE | 23 | 45 | 4.62 | 15.38 |
| 9 | POLAND | BRAZIL | 19 | 1 | 14.60 | 5.40 |
| 10 | ARGENTINA | AUSTRALIA | 50 | 24 | 16.09 | 3.91 |
| 11 | INDIA | SWEDEN | 18 | 64 | 1.23 | 18.77 |


| Round I |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Match |  |  | IMPs |  | VPs |  |
| 1 | CHINA | USA2 | 59 | 12 | 18.87 | 1.13 |
| 2 | UAE | DENMARK | 25 | 56 | 3.12 | 16.88 |
| 3 | NEW ZEALAND | BULGARIA | 49 | 47 | 10.61 | 9.39 |
| 4 | SOUTH AFRICA | CANADA | 30 | 34 | 8.80 | 11.20 |
| 5 | USAI | EGYPT | 30 | 19 | 13.04 | 6.96 |
| 6 | ENGLAND | JORDAN | 54 | 10 | 18.55 | 1.45 |
| 7 | SINGAPORE | JAPAN | 20 | 44 | 4.26 | 15.74 |
| 8 | BRAZIL | GUADELOUPE | 26 | 25 | 10.31 | 9.69 |
| 9 | AUSTRALIA | POLAND | 4 | 44 | 1.91 | 18.09 |
| 10 | SWEDEN | ARGENTINA | 53 | 7 | 18.77 | 1.23 |
| 11 | INDIA | FRANCE | 34 | 30 | 11.20 | 8.80 |

## Electronic Surveillance Equipment

In order to access the playing rooms you will have to pass through an electronic screening device.
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