Co-Ordinator: Jean-Paul Meyer • Chief Editor: Brent Manley • Editors: Mark Horton, Brian Senior
Lay-out Editor: Katialena Maneta • Photographer: Ron Tacchi

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The View From The Top



Nearly halfway through the round-robin portion of the 12th World Bridge Olympiad, most of the teams looking down from the top of the standings are the ones expected to be there – but there are some potential surprises as the competition enters the fourth day today.

A few teams not usually seen in the contending spots are trying to prove the odds makers wrong.

Those would be Georgia and Lebanon in the Open series and Croatia in the Women's heat, and there are others who could move up with strong showings in the days ahead.

As for the favourites, the holders – Italy in the Open and USA in the Women's – seem in good position to have another run at the championship.

Italy were leading their group in the Open series, and the USA Women's squad was comfortably in qualifying position after nine rounds of play.

Europe has been dominant in both Olympiad series and in the International Senior Cup as more than half of the current contenders make their homes on the continent.

Open series teams are in four groups that will produce the 16 teams that will compete in head-to-head matches. The women are playing in two groups, and the top eight from each will make up the round of 16 for them.

The Seniors do not have a knockout phase for their competition.

VUGRAPH MATCHES

OPEN	ROUND 10 INDONESIA v SPAIN (GROUP D)	10:00
OPEN	ROUND 11 NORWAY v USA (GROUP B)	14:00
OPEN I	ROUND 12 ITALY v NETHERLANDS (GROUP	17:30 C)

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OPEN SERIES RANKING AFTER 9 ROUNDS

GROUP A		GROUP B		GROUP C	i I	GROUP D	
I ITALY	177	I CHINA	193	I ENGLAND	205	I JAPAN	171
2 NETHERLANDS	170	2 U.S.A.	178	2 HUNGARY	173	2 FRANCE	164
3 GEORGIA	168	3 LEBANON	169	3 EGYPT	169	3 SPAIN	162
4 NEW ZEALAND	166	4 GERMANY	168	4 POLAND	168	4 BRAZIL	158
5 ARGENTINA	162	5 INDIA	167	5 ROMANIA	165	INDONESIA	158
6 ICELAND	147	6 TURKEY	164	6 DENMARK	159	6 SWEDEN	157
7 RUSSIA	146	7 NORWAY	154	IRELAND	159	7 PORTUGAL	152
8 SCOTLAND	144	8 ESTONIA	152	8 FINLAND	154	8 GREECE	150
9 CHINESE TAIPEI	142.5	9 AUSTRALIA	140	9 ISRAEL	146	9 SOUTH AFRICA	146
10 LATVIA	141	10 BULGARIA	138	10 MALAYSIA	143	10 PAKISTAN	142
II HONG KONG	138	I I SWITZERLAND	120	I I AUSTRIA	122	11 WALES	137
12 BELGIUM	128	12 MARTINIQUE	105	12 SAN MARINO	116	12 LITHUANIA	122
13 CANADA	114	13 CROATIA	101	13 MEXICO	109	13 BOSNIA/HZVNA	106
14 MOROCCO	104	LUXEMBOURG	101	14 CYPRUS	97	14 BOTSWANA	102
15 BANGLADESH	95	15 CHILE	94	15 VENEZUELA	78	15 BERMUDA	99
16 SERBIA/MNGRO	91.5	16 SINGAPORE	85	16 PHILIPPINES	74	JORDAN	99
17 GUADELOUPE	87	17 KENYA	83	17 REUNION	73	17 CZECH REP.	98
18 MAURITIUS	84	18 TUNISIA	81	18 FR POLYNESIA	64	18 COSTA RICA	71

WOMEN'S SERIES RANKING AFTER 9 ROUNDS

	GROUP A					
-1	I CHINA					
2	FRANCE	176				
3	AUSTRIA	166				
	RUSSIA	166				
5	SWEDEN	156				
6	BULGARIA	153				
7	EGYPT	150				
8	FINLAND	149				
9	BRAZIL	144				
	SWITZERLAND	144				
11	ITALY	139				
12	AUSTRALIA	138				
13	CANADA	137				
14	PAKISTAN	132				
15	SCOTLAND	128				
16	TURKEY	126				
17	INDIA	123				
18	HUNGARY	116				
19	SPAIN	115				
20	MEXICO	74				
21	JORDAN	62				
22	KENYA	53				

	GROUP B					
- [NETHERLANDS	180				
2	CROATIA	173				
3	POLAND	159.3				
4	ENGLAND	158				
5	U.S.A.	155.3				
6	GERMANY	153				
	ISRAEL	153				
8	GREECE	149				
9	JAPAN	148				
10	NEW ZEALAND	135				
П	SOUTH AFRICA	133				
12	DENMARK	131				
13	VENEZUELA	130				
14	INDONESIA	129				
15	ARGENTINA	126				
16	NORWAY	125				
17	IRELAND	116				
18	MOROCCO	108				
19	REUNION	105				
20	WALES	96				
21	KOREA	76				

SENIOR SERIES RANKING AFTER 12 ROUNDS

- 1	NETHERLANDS	240
2	SWEDEN	223.5
3	DENMARK	221
4	ISRAEL	220
5	U.S.A.	218
6	POLAND	211
7	FRANCE	207
8	JAPAN	203
9	TURKEY	202
10	GERMANY	199
П	ENGLAND	195.5
12	CHINESE TAIPEI	194
	PAKISTAN	194
14	CHINA	189
15	SCOTLAND	185
16	NEW ZEALAND	174.5
17	PORTUGAL	174
18	AUSTRIA	173.5
19	WALES	172
20	CANADA	170
21	AUSTRALIA	165
22	BELGIUM	164
23	ITALY	162.5
24	SPAIN	155
25	SWITZERLAND	154
26	IRELAND	130
27	GUADELOUPE	117
28	VENEZUELA	111.5
29	COSTA RICA	65

OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

		GROUP A				
	Match		11	1Ps	٧	Ps
1 1	Argentina	Mauritius	98	26	25	2
2	Bangladesh	Latvia	41	52	13	17
3	Belgium	Italy	23	36	12	18
	Canada	Iceland	27	50	10	20
5	Chinese Taipei	Hong Kong	57	48	17	13
	Georgia .	Guadeloupe	83	10	25	- 1
7	Morocco	Scotland '	30	63	8	22
8	Netherlands	Russia	75	21	25	4
9	New Zealand	Serbia & Montenegro	68	28	23	7

		GROL	JP B			
	Ma	tch	IM	IP s	٧	Ps
10	Switzerland	Australia	17	43	10	20
	Singapore	Bulgaria	75	75	15	15
12	Norway	Chile	68	12	25	4
13	Martinique	China	12	60	5	25
14	Luxembourg	Croatia	51	41	17	13
15	Lebanon	Estonia	63	25	23	7
16	Kenya	Germany	55	33	20	10
17	USÁ	India '	33	13	19	Ш
18	Turkey	Tunisia	58	13	24	6

	GROUP C						
	Mato	h		11	1Ps	VP s	
19	Ireland	Austria		51	43	16	14
20	Hungary	San Marino		37	50	12	18
21	French Polynesia	Denmark		36	77	7	23
22	Finland '	Egypt		28	30	15	15
23	Venezuela	England		27	87	3	25
24	Romania	Israel		49	54	14	16
25	Reunion	Cyprus		21	70	5	25
26	Poland	Malaysia		42	43	15	15
27	Philippines	Mexico		28	Ш	0	25

		GROU	IP D			
Г	Mate	ch	IM	IP s	٧	Ps
2	8 Bermuda	Brazil	44	56	13	17
2	9 Bosnia	Botswana	36	37	15	15
3	0 Costa Rica	Sweden	42	52	13	17
3	l Jordan	Spain	46	56	13	17
3	2 Czech Republic	South Africa	74	43	21	9
3		Portugal	30	26	16	14
3	4 Greece	Portugal Pakistan	72	70	15	15
3	5 Indonesia	Lithuania	65	29	22	8
3	6 Japan	Wales	47	24	20	10

		GROUP	<u> </u>			
	Mat	ch	IM	I P s	٧	/Ps
	Iceland	Argentina	55	59	14	16
2	Hong Kong	Bangladesh	73	46	21	9
3	Guadeloupe	Belgium	28	70	6	24
4	Georgia '	Canada	79	37	24	6
5	Serbia & Mont.	Chinese Taipei	35	57	9.5	19.5
6	Scotland	ltaly '	36	86	5	25
7	Russia	Latvia	41	28	18	12
8	New Zealand	Mauritius	64	54	17	13
9	Netherlands	Morocco	88	23	25	3

			GROL	JP B			
		Ma	atch	ı	IMPs		
Ш	10	Australia	Estonia	58	61	14	16
Ш	П	Bulgaria	Croatia	69	45	20	10
Ш	12	Chile	China	15	115	0	25
Ш	13	Germany	Turkey	35	56	- 11	19
Ш	14	India '	Tunisia	61	52	17	13
Ш	15	Kenya	Switzerland	41	68	9	21
Ш	16	Lebánon	Singapore	85	31	25	4
Ш	17	Luxembourg	Norway	31	55	10	20
	18	Martinique	USA '	20	77	4	25

		GROUP C				
	Match		- II	MP s	٧	Ps
19	Poland	Austria	32	44	13	17
20	Philippines	San Marino	18	88	2	25
21	Mexico	Denmark	12	54	6	24
22	Malaysia	Egypt	49	50	15	15
22 23	Cyprus	Egypt England	17	101	0	25
24	Israel	Finland	48	60	13	17
25	Ireland	French Polynesia	29	24	16	14
26	Venezuela	Hungary Reunion	31	103	2	25
27	Romania	Reunion	67	29	23	7

			GROUP	D			
l		Ma	itch	IMPs		VPs	
Ш	28	Botswana	Bermuda	37	61	10	20
П	29	Wales	Bosnia	58	24	22	8
Ш	30	Sweden	Brazil	36	25	17	13
Ш	31	Spain	Costa Rica	96	28	25	2
Ш	32	South Africa	Jordan	67	41	20	10
Ш	33	Portugal	Czech Republic	70	23	24	6
Ш	34	Pakistan	France .	36	27	17	13
Ш	35	Lithuania	Greece	16	90	- 1	25
	36	Japan	Indonesia	88	51	23	7

	GROUP A						
Match		IM	IP s	٧	VPs		
I Argentina	Georgia	58	37	19	Ш		
2Bangladesh	Chinese Taipei	76	39	23	7		
3Belgium	Canada '	25	67	6	24		
4Guadeloupe	Scotland	39	58	Ш	19		
5Hong Kong	Russia	38	43	14	16		
6lceland	New Zealand	47	41	16	14		
7ltaly	Netherlands	46	45	15	15		
8Latvia	Morocco	63	63	15	15		
9Mauritius	Serbia & Montenegro	62	38	20	10		

		GROUF	9 В			
	1	Match	IM	1Ps	٧	Ps
	10Australia	China	53	56	14	16
	I I Bulgaria	Chile	46	70	10	20
	12Croatia	Turkey	15	93	I	25
	13Estonia	Tunisia	57	22	22	8
	14Germany	Switzerland	78	28	25	5
	15India ´	Singapore	75	26	25	5
	16Kenya	Norway	13	107	0	25
	17Lebánon	Martinique	47	34	18	12
ł	18Luxembourg	USA	15	94		25

	GROUP	С			
	Match	II.	1Ps	٧	Ps
19Austria	Israel	40	39	15	15
20San Marino	Ireland	16	56	7	23
21Denmark	Hungary	H	77	2	25
22Egypt	Hungary French Polynesia	114	Ш	25	0
22Egypt 23England	Finland '	55	52	16	14
24Cyprus	Romania	15	87	2	25
24Cyprus 25Malaysia	Reunion	51	23	21	9
26Mexico	Poland	29	102	- 1	25
27Philippines	Venezuela	44	56	13	17

(GROUF	P D			
2	Mat 28Bermuda 29Bosnia 30Botswana 31Brazil 32Costa Rica 33Jordan 34Czech Republic			1Ps 67 68 62 59 107 62 67	10 9 11 15 0 5	Ps 20 21 19 15 25 25 23
	35France 36Sweden	Greece Wales	57 19	28 31	21 13	9

WOMEN'S TEAMS RESULTS

ROUND 7

		GROU	JP A			
	Ma	ıtch	IM	I P s	٧	Ps
40	Egypt	Australia	48	24	21	9
41	China	Austria	39	26	18	12
42	Canada	Brazil	42	47	14	16
43	Kenya	Bulgaria	19	67	4	25
44	Turkey	Finland	37	29	17	13
45	Switzerland	France	34	59	9	21
46	Sweden	Hungary	30	52	10	20
47	Spain	India '	59	26	23	7
48	Scotland	Italy	31	55	9	21
49	Russia	Jordan	51	26	21	9
50	Pakistan	Mexico	94	12	25	0

		GROUF	В			
	Ma	tch	IM	P s	٧	Ps
50	England	Bye	0	0	18	0
51	Indonesia	Argentina	66	25	24	6
52	Greece	Croatia	39	34	16	14
53	Germany	Denmark	23	51	8	22
54	Wales '	Ireland	35	29	16	14
55	Venezuela	Israel	21	51	8	22
56	USA	Japan	31	27	16	14
57	South Africa	Korea	32	51	Ш	19
58	Reunion	Morocco	67	69	15	15
59	Poland	Netherlands	16	59	5	25
60	Norway	New Zealand	45	57	12	18

ROUND 8

		GROUP A				
		Match	- IN	1Ps	٧	Ps
40	Australia	Finland	35	32	16	14
41	Austria	Egypt	38	9	22	8
42	Brazil	China	22	46	9	21
43	Bulgaria	Canada	30	14	19	11
44	France	Turkey	80	13	25	- 1
45	Hungary	Switzerland	25	57	7	23
46	India	Sweden	25	30	14	16
47	Italy	Spain	45	33	18	12
48	Jordan	Scotland	12	76	2	25
49	Mexico	Russia	10	43	7	23
50	Pakistan	Kenya	61	16	25	5

	GROUP B						
	Match			IMPs		٧	Ps
50	Norway	Bye		0	0	18	0
51	Argentina	Ireland		28	24	16	14
52	Croatia	Indonesia		42	33	17	13
53	Denmark	Greece		40	45	14	16
54	England	Germany		61	25	23	7
55	Israel	Wales '		68	19	25	4
56	Japan	Venezuela		5	60	3	25
57	Korea	USA		20	51	8	22
58	Morocco	South Africa		24	64	6	24
59	Netherlands	Reunion		61	46	18	12
60	New Zealand	Poland		48	39	17	13

ROUND 9

	GROUP A	\			
M	atch	IM	1Ps	٧	Ps
40Jordan	Australia	12	58	5	25
41 Italy	Austria	25	26	15	15
42Indía	Brazil	32	12	20	10
43Hungary	Bulgaria	39	42	14	16
44France	Canada	30	51	10	20
45Finland	China	25	34	13	17
46Kenya	Egypt	5	58	3	25
47Turkey	Mexico	48	41	16	14
48Switzerland	Pakistan	30	41	13	17
49Sweden	Russia	44	45	15	15
50Spain	Scotland	15	41	9	21

	GROUP B						
Match	Match			\	VP s		
50Indonesia	Bye	0	0	18	0		
5 I Netherlands	Árgentina	70	39	22	8		
52Morocco	Croatia	47	32	18	12		
53Korea	Denmark	20	72	4	25		
54Japan	England	36	55	Ш	19		
55Israel	Germany	26	52	9	21		
56Ireland	Greece '	55	27	22	8		
57Wales	New Zealand	51	28	20	10		
58Venezuela	Norway	30	55	9	21		
59USA	Poland [*]	20	36	10,25	18,25		
60South Africa	Reunion	42	5	24	6		

Notice to Transnational Mixed Teams

There is now limited space for any new teams to enter the Transnational Mixed Teams, and entries that have not been registered in advance will be taken on a strictly first come – first served basis. Teams wishing to register should come to the WBF Office as soon as possible, at the times listed below.

Pre-registered teams MUST come as soon as possible to the WBF Office during the opening hours listed below to confirm their entry and pay any outstanding entry fee

The office will be open for Transnational entries and for pre-registered teams to confirm their entries between: 10.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 17.00 hours

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS

	ROUND 9								
	Match	IM	1Ps	٧	VPs				
60	Italy	Bye	0	0	18	0			
61	New Zealand	England	46	8	25	0 5 7			
62	Netherlands	Chinese Taipei	42	12	23	7			
63	Germany	Belgium	32	8	21	9			
64	Ireland '	Poland	8	33	8	22			
65	USA	Portugal	41	7	24	6			
66	Wales	Austria	42	14	22	6 8			
67	Venezuela	Turkey	32	40	13	17			
68	Denmark	China [']	38	17	21	9			
69	Switzerland	Israel	0	57		25			
70	Costa Rica	Sweden	13	67	2	25			
71	Japan	Spain	32	20	18	12			
72	Canada	Scotland	31	5	22	8			
73	Australia	Pakistan	8	27	10	20			
74	France	Guadeloupe	70	4	25	0			

	ROUND I	0			
Match	IM	IP s	٧	VPs	
60Belgium	Bye	0	0	18	0
61 Pakistan	France	9	19	10	18
62 Austria	USA	24	33	13	17
63 Portugal	New Zealand	22	33	12	18
64 Chinese Taipei	Switzerland	23	9	19	П
65 Venezuela	Denmark	19	40	9	21
66 Guadeloupe	Costa Rica	24	27	14	16
67 Israel	Japan	12	45	6	24
68 Spain	Netherlands	9	59	3	25
69 Scotland	Germany	26	16	18	12
70 Italy	Canada '	24	44	10	20
71 China	Ireland	46	14	23	7
72 Sweden	Australia	49	5	25	4
73 Poland	Turkey	10	21	12	18
74 England	Wales	15	31	Ш	19

		ROUND II				
	Match		IN.	1Ps	٧	Ps
60	Scotland	Bye	0	0	18	0
61	Canada	Belgium	20	41	9	21
62	Netherlands	Israel	23	43	10	20
63	Denmark	Poland	25	32	13	17
64	Germany	Italy	40	15	22	8
65	New Zealand	Austria	54	21	24	6
66	Japan	Chinese Taipei	9	27	10	20
67	Costa Rica	Pakistan .	10	53	4	25
68	Wales	Portugal	16	33	10	20
69	Switzerland	Spain	31	20	18	12
70	Turkey	China	28	29	15	15
71	Australia	Guadeloupe	59	8	25	2
72	USA	England	7	59	2	25
73	France	Sweden	25	7	20	10
74	Ireland	Venezuela	34	31	16	14

		ROUND 12				
	Match		IN	1Ps	V	Ps
60	USA	Bye	0	0	18	0
61	Poland	Ćhinese Taipei	20	25	14	16
62	Canada	Wales	43	- 1	25	4
63	Pakistan	Italy	28	14	19	П
64	Venezuela	Israel	18	24	14	16
65	Ireland	England	7	29	9	21
66	Costa Rica	Netherlands	0	64	0	25
67	Portugal	Turkey	25	Ш	19	П
68	China	Spain	9	19	12	18
69	Germany	New Zealand	45	2	25	4
70	Guadeloupe	Scotland	- 1	40	5	25
71	Austria	Denmark	- 1	22	7	21
72	France	Japan	4	3	15	15
73	Australia	Switzerland	3	37	6	24
74	Belgium	Sweden	14	30	Ш	19

Play	ing times
Open and Women's	: :
Round 10	10.00
Round 11	14.00
Round 12	17.30
Seniors:	
Round 13	10:45
Round 14	13:30
Round 15	15:45
Round 16	18:00

Changes in starting times

The program for the Seniors on Saturday and Sunday has been changed as follows:

On Saturday there will be three matches with starting times of 13.30, 15.45 and 18.00.

On Sunday there will be two matches with starting times of 10.45 and 13.30.

After these two matches, the Seniors' meeting will start at 15.15. For the Women's series, the starting time for the final three rounds on Saturday have been changed to 11.00, 14.00 and 17.00.

World Championship Book 2004



The official book of these 2004 World Championships will be published around the end of March, price £22-00. You can order a copy in

advance during the championships at the special reduced price of US\$30-00 or 25 Euros, inclusive of surface mail, by going to the Press Room and filling in one of the forms available there and handing it, along with your preferred currency, to Jan Swann, who is in charge of the Press Room.

As always, the chief analysts will be Eric Kokish, Brian Senior and Barry Rigal. The book will consist of 336 large pages, and will feature every deal of the finals and semi-finals of both Open and Women's events, plus extensive coverage of the earlier stages, and also the Senior, University and Transnational events. There will be a full listing of all the teams taking part, a full results service, and many photographs.

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

ROUND 10

GROUP A			GROUP B			GROUP C			GROUP D		
- [Belgium	Argentina	10	Luxembourg	Australia	19	Mexico	Austria	28	Bermuda	France
2	Serbia & M'gro	Bangladesh	П	Lebanon	Bulgaria	20	Malaysia	San Marino	29	Bosnia	Czech Rep.
3	Scotland	Canada	12	Kenya	Chile	21	Cyprus	Denmark	30	Botswana	Jordan .
4	Russia	Chinese Taipei	13	India	China	22	Israel	Egypt	31	Brazil	Costa Rica
5	New Zealand	Georgia	14	Germany	Croatia	23	Ireland	England	32	Greece	Sweden
6	Netherlands	Guadeloupe	15	USA	Estonia	24	Hungary	Finland	33	Indonesia	Spain
7	Morocco	Hong Kong	16	Turkey	Martinique	25	Venezuela	Fr Polynesia	34	Japan	South Africa
8	Mauritius	Iceland	17	Tunisia	Norway	26	Romania	Philippines	35	Lithuania	Portugal
9	Latvia	Italy	18	Switzerland	Singapore	27	Reunion	Poland	36	Pakistan	Wales

	ROUND I										
	GROU	PA		GRO	UP B		GRO	UP C		GRO	JP D
1	Argentina	Netherlands	10	Australia	India	19	Fr Polynesia	Austria	28	Czech Rep.	Bermuda
2	Bangladesh	Morocco	- 11	Bulgaria	Germany	20	Finland	San Marino	29	Jordan	Bosnia
3	Belgium	Mauritius	12	Chile	Estonia	21	England	Denmark	30	Costa Rica	Botswana
4	Canada	Latvia	13	China	Croatia	22	Venezuela	Egypt	31	Wales	Brazil
5	Chinese Taipei	Italy	14	Kenya	Turkey	23	Romania	Hungary		Sweden	France
6	Georgia .	Iceland	15	Lebanon	Tunisia	24	Reunion	Ireland '	33	Spain	Greece
7	Guadeloupe	Hong Kong	16	Luxembourg	Switzerland	25	Poland	Israel	34	South Africa	Indonesia
8	New Zealand	Scotland	17	Martinique	Singapore	26	Philippines	Cyprus		Portugal	Japan
9	Russia	Serbia M'gro	18	Norway	USA	27	Mexico	Malaysia	36	Pakistan	Lithuania

ROUND 12								
GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D					
I New Zealand Argentina Netherlands Bangladesh Morocco Belgium Amauritius Canada Latvia Chinese Taipe Italy Georgia Iceland Guadeloupe Serbia & M'gro Hong Kong	10 Australia Lebanon 11 Bulgaria Kenya 12 Chile India 13 China Germany 14 Croatia Estonia 15 Luxembourg Turkey 16 Martinique Tunisia 17 Norway Switzerland	19 Austria Malaysia 20 San Marino Cyprus 21 Denmark Israel 22 Egypt Ireland 23 England Hungary 24 Finland Fr Polynesia 25 Mexico Romania 26 Philippines Reunion	28 Bermuda Bosnia 29 Botswana Sweden 30 Brazil Spain 31 Costa Rica South Africa 32 Jordan Portugal 33 Czech Rep. Pakistan 34 France Lithuania 35 Greece Japan					
9 Scotland Russia	18 Singapore USA	27 Poland Venezuela	36 Indonesia Wales					

SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM

ROUND 13		D 13	ROUND 14		ID 14	ROUND 15			ROUND 16		
61	Belgium	Pakistan	610	China	Chinese Taipei	610	China	Germany	61	Canada	Poland
62	Denmark	Portugal	62	Guadeloupe	Belgium [']	62	Ireland	Australia		Pakistan	Netherlands
	New Zealand	Bye	63	Germany	Usa	63	Scotland	Austria		Guadeloupe	Switzerland
63	Austria	Íreland	64	Pakistan [*]	Scotland	64	Belgium	England		Sweden	Japan
64	Wales	Germany	65	Australia	Japan	65	Denmark	Costa Rica		New Zealand	Spain
65	Chinese Taipei	Venezuela	66	Costa Rica	Switzerland	66	Venezuela	Canada	66		Israel
66	Switzerland	France	67	Venezuela	Spain	67	Israel	New Zealand	67		France
67	Israel	China	68	Canada	New Zealand	68	Switzerland	Sweden		Вуе	China
68	Netherlands	Australia	69	England	Denmark	69	Italy	Portugal	68		Chinese Taipei
69	Italy	Guadeloupe		France	Netherlands		Netherlands	Guadeloupe	69		Denmark
	Usa	Canada	71	Portugal	Ireland	71	Chinese Taipei	Wales		Germany	Venezuela
71	Japan	Costa Rica		Turkey	Austria	72	Spain	Usa	71	England _.	Scotland
72	Scotland	Sweden		Sweden	Italy		Poland	Bye		Portugal	Belgium
	Turkey	England	74	Poland	Israel	73	Japan	Pakistan		Austria	Italy
74	Spain	Poland		Bye	Wales	74	Turkey	France	/4	Costa Rica	Turkey

WOMEN'S TEAMS PROGRAM

	ROUND 10									
	GRO	JP A		GROUP B						
40	India	Australia	51	Korea	Argentina					
41	Hungary	Austria	52	Japan	Croatia					
42	France	Brazil	53	İsrael	Denmark					
43	Finland	Bulgaria	54	Ireland	England					
44	Egypt	Canada	55	Indonesia	Germany					
45	Kenya	China		Bye	Greece					
46	Turkey	Italy	56	Wales	Morocco					
47	Switzerland	Jordan	57	Venezuela	Netherlands					
48	Sweden	Mexico	58	USA	New Zealand					
49	Spain	Pakistan	59	South Africa	Norway					
50	Scotland	Russia	60	Reunion	Poland					

	ROUND II									
	GROU	PA	GROUP B							
40	Australia	Austria	51	Argentina	Croatia					
41	Brazil	Turkey	52	Denmark	Wales					
42	Bulgaria	Switzerland	53	England	Venezuela					
43	Canada	Sweden	54	Germany	USA					
44	China	Spain	55	Greece	South Africa					
45	Egypt	Scotland	56	Indonesia	Reunion					
46	Finland	Russia	57	Ireland	Poland					
47	France	Pakistan	58	Israel	Norway					
48	Hungary	Mexico		Japan	New Zealand					
49	India	Jordan	60	Korea	Netherlands					
50	Italy	Kenya		Morocco	Bye					

ROUND 12

	GROU	PA	GROUP B				
40	France	Australia	51	Israel	Argentina		
41	Finland	Austria	52	Ireland	Croatia		
42	Egypt	Brazil	53	Indonesia	Denmark		
43	China	Bulgaria	54	Greece	England		
44	Kenya	Canada		Bye	Germany		
45	Turkey	Hungary	55	Wales	Japan		
46	Switzerland	India	56	Venezuela	Korea		
47	' Sweden	Italy	57	USA	Morocco		
48	S Spain	Jordan	58	South Africa	Netherlands		
49	Scotland	Mexico	59	Reunion	New Zealand		
50	Russia	Pakistan	60	Poland	Norway		

No smoking

Smoking is prohibited in ANY lobby area other than the area near the hotel's main reception desk. Smoking is also prohibited in any areas of the Congress Centre, including the Press and Bulletin rooms, the WBF Main Office, the Scoring and Results Room and the VuGraph Auditorium.

Violations of this policy will subject you to a fine of 2VPs. Continued violations will result in the player being prohibited from playing and the team not being admitted to the playing area.

NOTICE

WBF Seniors Committee
Annual Meeting
Thursday 28 October 2004

WBF Meeting Room on L2 at 20.00

Agenda

- 1) Format of WBF Senior events
- 2) Age limits
- 3)Any other business

Those entitled to attend:

WBF Committee members, Senior team Captains, NBO Presidents.

Dr Nissan Rand Chairman, WBF Seniors Committee

The International Bridge Press Association

CALLING ALL JOURNALISTS

The Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony is to be held on Monday, Nov. 1 at 9am in the WBF Meeting room

(Past the closed room. End room nearest to balcony)



One for Ripley's

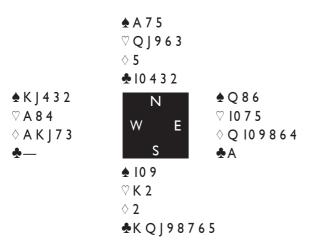
Forrest Gump's well-known box of chocolates analogy certainly has application to bridge – from one event to the next, you never know what you're going to get.

Take this deal, with several bizarre features, from the eighth round of the Senior Bowl in which Canada opposed Japan.

First there was South, holding a robust eight-card suit - and never making a peep (an excellent decision, as it turned out). Then there was Jonathan Robinson's experience playing a I-0 fit at the five level. At least the one was the ace.

Here is the deal and the auction (Robinson was East):

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
			Pass
♠	Pass	INT	Pass
3◊	Pass	5♣	Pass
Pass (!)	Pass		

Robinson's INT was a one-round force, and his 5♣ was meant to be a splinter – shortness in clubs and great diamond support. Imagine his surprise and chagrin when his partner, guessing that Robinson had a boatload of clubs, decided let him play there.

Robinson managed four tricks for minus 700 – and it could have been a lot worse if not for a great opening lead by teammate John Carruthers at the other table.

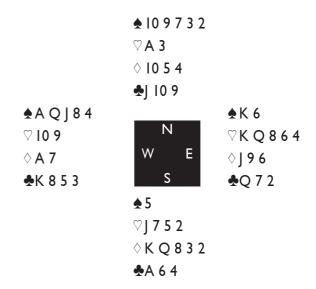
Carruthers considered the South hand worth an opening, so he started with $4\frac{4}{2}$, doubled by West. North extended the preempt by bidding $5\frac{4}{2}$, and when East freely bid 5° , West raised him to six.

Carruthers found the killing lead of a heart – the 2, in fact, which cost a trick and I IMP, but it was the only lead to defeat the slam. Obviously, looking at all the cards, the $\heartsuit K$ defeats the slam two tricks (the suit was blocked after the low heart lead), but had he not found the killing lead, the team would have lost 19 IMPs for minus 700 at one table and minus 1370 at the other. The good lead held the loss to 12, and gave Robinson a story he call tell for a long time – including his bad luck with that brutal 8-4 trump split.

Egyptian One-Two

Egypt have a strong squad in the Open series and must have a good chance to at least reach the knockout stages. In Round 6 they achieved an important 24-6 VP victory over Denmark. These two deals had a major part to play in that success.

Board 7. Dealer South, All Vul.



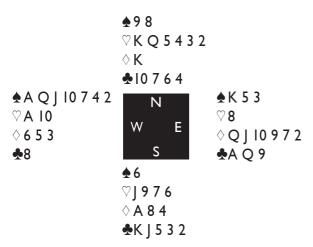
West	North	East	South
	Heshmat		Nadeem
			Pass
l ♠	Pass	2♡	Pass
2NT	Pass	3 ♣ (i)	Pass
3NT(ii)	All Pass		

- (i)Enquiry
- (ii) Minimum, not three hearts

Against 3NT, Mohamed Heshmat led the jack of clubs, which ran to declarer's king. Declarer played a heart to the king then, needing to retain the extstyle K as a later entry to the hearts, tried the effect of ducking a club, with the possibility that the ace might be doubleton with South. That was all the opportunity that Heshmat required. He won the club and switched to the ten of diamonds, for the jack, queen and ace. When declarer now tried a second heart, Heshmat won the ace and played a second round of diamonds. Tarek Nadeem had four diamond winners plus the ace of clubs and that was down three for +300 to Egypt.

In the other room, 3NT was made with an overtrick so Egypt picked up 14 IMPs

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
El Ahmady		Sadek	
•		I ♦	Pass
I♠	2♡	2♠	4 ♣ (i)
4NT	5♡	5 ♠ (ii)	Pass
6♠	All Pass	. ,	

- (i)Hearts and clubs
- (ii)Two key cards, no ♠Q

Under pressure in the auction, Waleed El Ahmady and Tarek Sadek reached what appears to be a hopeless slam. North led the king of hearts and El Ahmady played quickly, ∇A , $\triangle A$ then $\triangle J$ to dummy's king, followed by the $\Diamond 2$ off the table. South was taken in by this and convinced himself that his partner held the $\triangle Q$ and that declarer might have the bare king of diamonds. I am not convinced that this analysis stands up to inspection, as it seems to leave West with a whole string of small clubs and nothing resembling a 4NT bid followed by a raise to slam, but that hardly matters. The bottom line was that El Ahmady had created an illusion in his opponent's mind and South fell for it. He went up with the ace of diamonds and there was an almighty crash as the bare king appeared from North – contract made!

That was +980 for Egypt and another 14 IMP swing as 6♠ was also bid at the other table, where it failed by a trick

Let this be a warning to you to beware this Egyptian team.

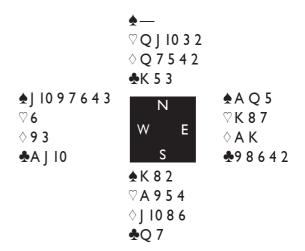


Da Capo

by David Burn

In an attempt at more comebacks than Frank Sinatra, this deal from round 2 makes its third appearance in the Bulletin:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



After the queen of hearts and a heart continuation, ruffed by declarer, the two lines compared in yesterday's edition both involved ruffing and playing a spade, putting up the ace when North shows out.

On the actual lie of the cards, it works to continue spades, later playing South for one of the club honours. But this would fail if North had both club honours, since South would win the second spade and play a club. In this case, you can succeed only by ruffing the third heart, cashing the diamonds, and taking a club finesse to endplay North.

It may be better to eliminate the red suits before playing a spade. When North shows out, you put in the queen of spades. South wins and plays a black card. If this is a club, you put in the ten to endplay North regardless of his club holding; if a spade, you win in dummy and lead a club to the ten.

Grazie David, Editor.

Lost bag

Ron Klinger requests that whoever took his WBF bag by mistake please return it to the Press Room. If some of the contents are no longer in it, please return the hand records from the 2004 Australian Swiss Pairs

Be Prepared

By Linda Lee (Canada)



If bridge is really a sport, then it's logical that bridge players can learn from other athletes how to prepare for an event such as the World Bridge Olympiad.

Some people no doubt believe that sports psychologists are only a small step above witchdoctors,

but many elite athletes are now using them to improve their performances.

Before this Olympiad I decided to work with one. I will find out during this event how much it has helped.

What is the goal of this type of preparation? There are several: to manage performance anxiety, to achieve peak performance, to manage all the problems that can occur when you are playing.

The techniques that we worked on included relaxation techniques, clearing the decks, visualization, goal setting, pre-game preparation and developing specific plans to handle in-game "situations."

Are you having trouble sleeping during the tournament? Are you over-anxious before your play? Relaxation can help. I was rather surprised when the psychologist (who generally worked with track and field athletes and tennis players) was able to describe exactly the physical symptoms I experience before a session.

The symptoms are universal and cross all sports. They are caused by the release of four different hormones and are part of your body's "fight or flight" mechanism. They signal that your body is ready for what is to come. In order to perform at your best, you have to control these feelings, but not eliminate them completely — it's important to be keyed up and ready, just not too much.

Here is a brief summary of a few of the techniques I learned that you may be able to put to immediate use.

I. Are there any extraneous problems that are affecting your game? These may be difficulties with relationships, job problems, family problems or even team problems. You definitely don't want to let these issues affect you while you play.

Try to imagine some kind of locked box. This might be a chest, a safe — whatever works for you. It should have a lock and you should be able to open it later. Take all your problems one by one and mentally put them into the box. When this is all done, lock the box. Promise yourself that later you will go and open the box and remove the problems again. You are not abandoning them, just putting them aside for now.

2. If you need to relax, start with focusing on your breathing. You breathe from your diaphragm, in through

your nose and out through your mouth. Anyone who has studied yoga will be familiar with a variety of breathing techniques. While this is going on you visualize something calming: a color, a scene. Then you walk through a relaxation script. It seems to work best if someone else runs through the script for you, although you can do it for yourself.

The one we worked on involves progressively relaxing parts of your body starting from your head and working down to your toes. You can buy tapes of relaxation scripts at major bookstores. With a lot of practice, you learn what it feels like to relax and you can reach this state quickly when you need to. In general, relaxation is something that does require practice.

- 3. Goal setting is also helpful. Why are you here? Why are you playing in this event? When you set goals, don't just set team goals. You don't have control over achieving these goals and this can be frustrating, so set some individual goals too. Is having fun one of your goals? Surprisingly perhaps, it wasn't one of mine. When things are most frustrating, remembering your goals may help. When you have to make choices, think about your goals: they may help you to make decisions.
- 4. Visualization is used in preparation for all sports. Familiarity makes situations easier to handle. You can prepare yourself for what is to come by visualizing it in advance.

Visualizing yourself doing well may help you to believe in yourself. Believing you can do something is a good part of actually doing it – posse quam possunt, as Virgil put it ("They can because they think they can."). Worried about fighting back when you are down in a match? Visualize yourself in that situation, and you will be more ready to deal with it when it happens.

5. Have some plans to deal with problem situations. What will you do when you have had a bad result? Let's say that you are angry at partner or yourself for making a serious error. Coaches in all sports teach the same basic approach: a) allow yourself to express anger; b) move to a neutral state; c) set up for the next hand.

At the bridge table you need a way to express anger: this might be writing something down on your scorecard, or talking to yourself, or getting up and getting some water.

Now blow the mental whistle or take a deep breath — use whatever 'Stop' signal works for you. Time to let go. Put it out of your mind. Then start to prepare for the next hand.

It is a good idea to have a similar plan for dealing with other problems that may occur — for example, your feelings when you have a series of bad results. Your plan might include dealing with the anger, remembering your goals, relaxation and then resetting.

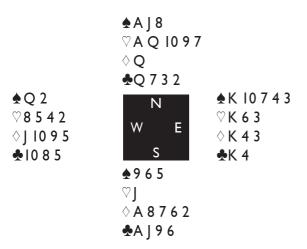
My experience so far with sports psychology is limited, but I believe that it will help me perform better in bridge competition, and I intend to work more on it in the future.

Nice Defense

by Alan Sze

In the 5th round encounter in Group A between tournament favourites Italy and underdogs Hong Kong, the match turned out to be a closely contested one. Witness this fine defense by the Hong Kong players in the Open Room:

Board 19. Dealer South, E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Wan	Fantoni	Zen	Nunes
			2♦
Pass	2♡	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Zen for Hong Kong led the four of spades after South showed an unbalanced hand in diamonds (9 to 13 high card points) and North revealed an opening hand in hearts (South denying support). Declarer took the queen of spades with the ace and played a club to the jack. For lack of something better to do with his dull collection, Wan decided to false card with the eight. Declarer then played the jack of hearts and overtook it with the queen but Zen cooperated in the good works by ducking non-chalantly.

Now declarer had a real problem in communications and perhaps should have played on hearts anyway - because even if clubs played for four tricks, there were still only eight. Instead, he chose to play the club queen, hoping to smother West's ten. This did not happen, so dejectedly, he played the third club. Wan took the trick and returned a spade, of course. Zen exited with a diamond after cashing the spades and declarer had to concede a second under-trick to the defense. In the Closed Room, Lai of Hong Kong made 3NT on the friendlier lead of a diamond to the queen and it was plain sailing from then on. It was 10 IMPs to Hong Kong.

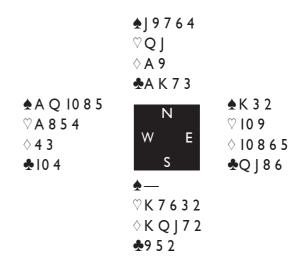
Despite this pick up, Hong Kong lost the match narrowly, by 14-16 in VPs.

A visit to the Dentist

By Barry Rigal

Marcelo Caracci of Chile faced a significant challenge on this deal from the third round of the Open series in the World Bridge Olympiad – and he was up to it. His opponents were Steve Weinstein and Robert Levin of the USA.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



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

Levin, East, started with the ♠2, and Caracci made his first good play, discarding a club from dummy instead of ruffing.

Weinstein won the $\triangle A$ and also made a good play, continuing with the $\triangle 5$ instead of shifting to a club.

Caracci made his second good play, inserting the 6, forcing the king, which was ruffed in dummy. Caracci played a heart to the queen and continued with the jack, taken by Weinstein with the ace. Weinstein then correctly played the ♠Q to tap the hand with the long trumps again.

When Caracci cashed dummy's $\heartsuit K$, Weinstein was left with the last trump, but Caracci showed his accurate reading of the deal by cashing the $\triangle A$ and $\triangle K$ (dentist's coup), then played the $\lozenge A$ and a diamond to the king. When he continued with the $\lozenge Q$, Weinstein had no good choices. If he discarded a spade, Caracci would simply play another winning diamond.

When Weinstein ruffed the diamond, he was forced to play a spade from the 10-8 into Caracci's J-9. After getting everything else right, Caracci wasn't going to go wrong in the two-card ending.

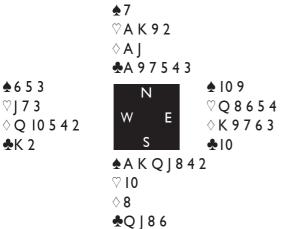
SENIORS

USA v Sweden

ROUND 8

After seven rounds of the Seniors competition, Sweden headed the table while USA were close behind near the front of the chasing pack. The match began quietly with two flat boards but then exploded into life with two big swings.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Bell	Hallen	Miles	Backstrom I♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass All Pass	5NT	Pass	7♠
West	North	East	South
Ekberg	Robison	Alfredsson	Onstott 4♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

For USA, John Onstott opened 4♠ and Jim Robison simply punted the small slam, trusting the trump suit to be

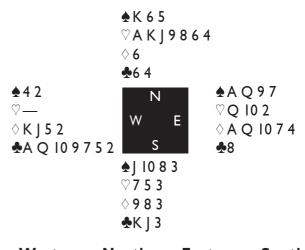


Sture Ekberg, Sweden

decent at this vulnerability. After a diamond lead, Onstott drew trumps and took the club finesse for his overtrick; a painless +1460.

For Sweden, Lars Backstrom opened I.A. According to his partner's explanation, the 44 rebid showed good spades but no club fit. Anyway, whatever the subtleties of that call, Hans-Olof Hallen checked on key cards then invited seven, and Backstrom was sufficiently impressed with his black-suit holdings to accept the invitation. Leo Bell led a trump and Backstrom won, drew a few more rounds, pitching clubs from the dummy, then led the queen of clubs. When Bell played low without a flicker, Backstrom went up with the ace and was one down in his 'laydown' grand slam; -100 and 17 IMPs to USA.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Bell	Hallen	Miles	Backstrom
Pass	4♣	Dble	4♡
6♣	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Ekberg	Robison	Alfredsson	Onstott
♣	Ι♡	Dble	2♡
. –	. ,		

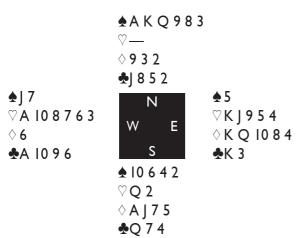
Bell saw no sensible opening bid on the West cards so passed to await developments. Those developments proved to be a 4♣ opening on his left, showing a heart suit with one hole in it, and a double from partner, Marshall Miles. What the American agreement for this double was, I am not sure, but I would have thought it was normal for it to be take-out of hearts. If so, Miles must have felt rather uncomfortable when his partner leapt to 6♣ over Backstrom's conversion to 4♥, but what could he do about it?

The club slam proved to be no problem for Bell. He ruffed the heart lead, crossed to a top diamond and took the finesse of the queen of clubs. When the clubs proved

to be three-two with the king onside, there was just a club to be conceded, the second spade going on the long diamond; +1370.

Ekberg opened a quiet $1 \clubsuit$ as West and Jim Robison overcalled $1 \heartsuit$. Lars Alfredsson made a negative double and Onstott raised hearts. Now Ekberg made a slightly cautious $3 \clubsuit$ rebid and Robison jumped to $4 \heartsuit$. A penalty double from Alfredsson concluded proceedings. Perfect defence nets six tricks for down three, but that is difficult to achieve on this deal and the contract was actually two down for -300 but 14 IMPs to USA, who had taken a grip on the match with 31 IMPs in two deals.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Bell	Hallen	Miles	Backstrom
10	l ♠	3♠	4♠
5♣	Pass	5◊	Dble
5♡	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Ekberg	Robison	Alfredsson	Onstott
Pass	I♠	Dble	2NT
4♡	4♠	5♡	Pass
Pass	5♠	Dble	All Pass

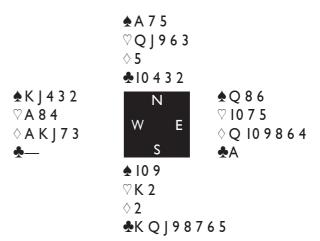


Jim Robison, USA

Bell opened the West hand with $I \heartsuit$ and Miles made a splinter raise over the $I \clubsuit$ overcall. When Backstrom competed with $4 \spadesuit$, Bell was willing to show his club control and East/West did well from here to settle for $5 \heartsuit$, making exactly for +650.

Ekberg was not willing to open at the one level with 9 HCP, nor at the two level when holding a poor main suit and two aces. At his table it was North, Robison, who opened the bidding with $1 \triangleq$ and Alfredsson doubled. Onstott showed a constructive spade raise and Ekberg had an easy $4 \heartsuit$ bid. When Robison went on to $4 \triangleq$, Alfredsson in turn went on to $5 \heartsuit$ but then doubled when Robison bid his spades one more time. With eleven tricks the linmit in a heart contract, taking 500 out of $5 \triangleq$ was the best that East/West could do, though it cost them 4 IMPs.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Bell	Hallen	Miles	Backstrom
			♣
I♠	2♡	2♠	3♣
4♠	5♣	Dble	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Ekberg	Robison	Alfredsson	Onstott
			4♣
Dble	5♣	5◊	All Pass

Backstrom opened the South hand with I♣ and a fierce competitive auction developed, ending in 5♣ doubled. It appears that there should be a loser in each suit in this contract but, after cashing a top diamond, Bell played a second round rather than switch to a spade. He had seen his partner encourage diamonds, rather than make a suit preference signal for spades, but I am still unconvinced that a spade switch was not correct – maybe partner had not signalled spades, but he had equally not signalled hearts, and a spade switch would never cost unless East held the ♡K, irrespective of the position of the ♠Q.Anyway, whatever the rights or wrongs of the defence, the contract escaped for down one; -200.

Onstott opened 4. and Robison raised to 5. over the take-out double. Alfredsson tried 5. and was left to play there. That made in some comfort after a club lead and Sweden had 9 IMPs, their only significant gain of the set. USA won the match by 42-10 IMPs, 23-7 VPs, and moved to joint top of the standings, while Sweden slipped to fifth. That may be the end of this match, but it is by no means the end of the story of Board 23. We will read elsewhere about the Canadian Seniors' exploits on the deal in question, but here let's take a look at what happened when Israel met Denmark, also in the Seniors.

West Levit	North Lund	East Kaminski	South Moller 4♣
Dble 6♢	5♣ All Pass	5◊	Pass
West	North	East	South
Norris	Schwartz	Dahl	Romik Pass
I♠	Pass	2♦	4♣
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
6◊	All Pass		

Steen Moller opened with a club pre-empt and Yeshayahu Levit doubled for take-out. When Peter Lund raised to 5♣, Amos Kaminski tried 5♦ and Levit raised to slam. After a club lead, Kaminski could win, draw trumps and knock out the ace of spades to come to an easy twelve tricks; +1370.

There are a couple of books about entitled '25 Conventions You Should Know' and '25 More Conventions You Should Know', both published by the excellent Master Point Press of Canada. I would like to write '25 Conventions You Would Be Better Off Never Having Heard Of'. My 25 would include Namyats. Here, Pinhas Romik could not open 4♣ because that would have shown a good 4♥ bid and, as he did not deem I♣ to be appropriate, passed as dealer. At his next turn he made a pre-emptive overcall of 4♣ and his opponents bid to 5♦, where they were about to play until Adrian Schwartz saved in 6♣. Now Georg Norris went on to the diamond slam.

Romik had to find a lead. His partner had not doubled West's 5 cuebid, suggesting that he did not have the ace of clubs, yet had been willing to save in 6 nisking that his opponents might go on to 6. He should, therefore, have some defence somewhere. Romik decided that a club lead would achieve nothing and that he should attack, leading from strength. His logic led him to put the king of hearts on the table and the slam was defeated when it would have made on any non-heart lead! Very nicely done and 16 IMPs to Israel, helping them to an 18-12 VP win in an important match in this championship.

Championship Diary

Yesterday we left you with a number of posers.

Why is the king of hearts the only king without a moustache?

Most standard English playing cards used today derived from the original French models produced in the mid-16th century. For the purpose of mass production, the earliest cards were printed using woodblocks. Disfiguring occurred over the centuries as unskilled block makers distorted the original designs, resulting in hands, symbols of office and other attributes losing their meaning. Among the many distortions that took effect, the king of hearts not only lost his moustache, but the axe he was originally holding became a sword.

The two ever presents at the Olympiads are Alan Truscott & Jaime Ortiz Patiño.

Germany's Sabine Auken & Daniela von Arnim have appeared in five consecutive Olympiads: 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004. Who can top that?

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk the founder of the Turkish Republic and its first President, stands as a towering figure of the 20th Century. Among the great leaders of history, few have achieved so much in so short a period, transformed the life of a nation as decisively, and given such profound inspiration to the world at large. He is regarded as the father of his country, but it was not named after him.

Watching the Arsenal v Manchester United game on Sunday we were asked by Ron Tacchi which country is named after a football club. That was an easy one for Justin Hackett, 'Why, it must be the United Kingdom!'

There is much debate in the Bulletin Room about the merits of Dan Brown's book The Da Vinci Code. David Burn, coach of the England Open team said 'A book that once I had put it down I couldn't pick up again.'

While relating to David Stern the story of how I managed to get ten tickets for the Saturday of a test match between England & Australia at the end of the I989 World Junior Championships with less than one day's notice, Alan Truscott mentioned that in I934 his father had taken him to the Oval to watch the same two teams. Unfortunately the ground was full but, undeterred, they simply got on a tram and went round and round the ground for the whole day! Ponsford & Bradman both made double hundreds, and England lost by 562 runs.



ESTORIL 2005



PORTUGAL WILL HOST THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS WORLD BRIDGE EVENT IN 2005

Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl World Transnational Open Teams Championships 22nd October - 5th November 2005

The Championships

The Opening Ceremony will be on Saturday 22nd October 2005. The Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup Round Robin will start on Sunday 23rd and finish on Saturday 29th, with the final stages starting on Sunday 30th.

The Seniors Bowl will also start on Sunday 23rd and will end before the start of the Transnational Open Teams on Monday 31st October.

The Awards Ceremony will be on Saturday 5th November.

Details of Registration and Schedule of Play will be published when they are available



The Quarter Final will start on Thursday, late afternoon, the Semi-Final will be played on Friday and the Final will be held on

Saturday.

The venue

An internationally known resort, Estoril, "the land of kings and fishermen", has all the facilities required to host the Bermuda Bowl 2005.

The Estoril Coast, striking a harmonious blend between the delights of the land and the enchanting beauty of the sea, deserves being talked about time and time again.

It is close to the capital, it is Portuguese and it is fantastic!

Its climate is one of Nature's great-

est blessings. It is never too hot or too cold, the humidity is always at a comfortable level and there is enough variation between the beaches in the south of that zone and the Sintra mountains in the north.

Here you will find the perfect combination to enjoy an event like the World Bridge Championships in 2005: an atmosphere that is both relaxed and sophisticated, combined with inexpensive, modern, ample and well equipped facilities serviced by highly trained staff.

The international Lisbon Airport is just a half-hour drive away, and with good road access, modern telecommunications, a wide variety of hotels of different categories at a walking distance from the playing area, restaurants ranging from the simplest ones where you can get fish practically from the sea, to the most sophisticated ones, a variety of sporting activities from swimming, sailing, surfing to golf, tennis, name what you like (no snow skiing, sorry), the largest Casino in Europe, we believe that these are just some aspects to convince you how right is our choice!

The play will take place in the Estoril Conference Centre, an ideal very modern complex designed as a medium-sized centre to enable it to host conferences, exhibitions and indoor events with class and the welcoming atmosphere that is the trademark and the image of quality characteristic of Estoril.

(www.estorilsintra.com)

World Transnational Open Teams

The 5th World Transnational Open Teams Championship is a prestigious and most enjoyable event. Being Transnational, it is open to teams composed of players coming from different countries, nominated by their National Bridge Organisation and approved by the WBF Credentials Committee.

It is a great opportunity for players to participate in a wonderful bridge tournament while at the same time having an unique opportunity to experience all the atmosphere and excitement of the final stages of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and watch some of the greatest players of the world in our vugraph presentation. Players wishing to compete in this Championship should contact their NBO and request nomination by the end of July 2005. There is no quota, and NBOs may nominate as many teams as they wish to compete in this great tournament. Players eliminated from the Round Robin of the Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup, as well as those from the Seniors Bowl, will be able to enter the World Transnational Open Teams Championship free of charge.

The World Transnational Open Teams will take place during the second week, starting in the late afternoon on Monday 31st October. The format will be Swiss Teams. It is normally played as 10-board matches (3 or 4 per day) but the exact format will depend on the number of teams entered.

OPEN

Sweden v Japan

ROUND 5

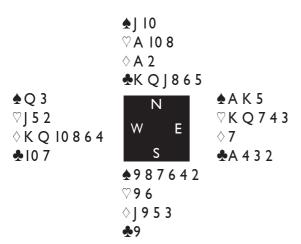
A musical joke

Cultured bridge writers (alas, not this one) know of a piece by Mozart entitled A Musical Joke because the ending is three flat notes.

That could sum up the fifth-round Open series match between Japan and Sweden. With a comfortable lead near the end, the strong Swedish team dropped 23 IMPs over the final three boards to lose a close match 31-28.

Sweden earned the first significant swing of the match on this deal.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Takano	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
Pass	2♣	2♡	Pass
3♡	Pass	4♡	All Pass

Tadashi Teramoto (East) might have made the heart game but, after winning the club opening lead with the ace, he played three rounds of spades, discarding dummy's losing club. North ruffed and erred by playing the \heartsuit 10, but Teramoto also erred by playing low, allowing the 10 to force dummy's jack. Now when Teramoto played the \diamondsuit K, Johan Sylvan won the ace and played a second club, allowing P.O. Sundelin's \heartsuit 9 to score. That was plus 100 for North/South.

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
	INT	2♡	2♠
2NT	3♣	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

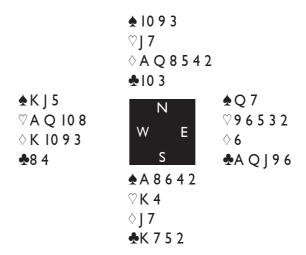
Tadashi Imakura did a lot of bidding with the South hand, even considering that his partner opened a strong INT. Peter Fredin's 2NT was intended as a relay, apparently with the intention of introducing his diamond suit.

Imakura was lucky not to be doubled. Fredin started with the ♦K, taken in dummy. The ♣K was next. Magnus

Lindkvist won the $\clubsuit A$ and got out with the $\heartsuit K$. Declarer won the $\heartsuit A$ and took a heart pitch on the $\clubsuit Q$. When he played the $\lozenge 2$ from dummy, Lindkvist ruffed and cashed his top spades. He picked up his partner's $\spadesuit Q$ in the process, but South was left with two losing diamonds for two down and 7 IMPs to Sweden, now leading 8-1.

Japan missed a chance for a nice gain three boards later.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Takano	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
			1 🖈
Pass	2♠	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Sylvan led a low diamond to the jack and king, and Hideki Takano played a low spade to the queen and ace. A diamond was returned to the 10 and queen, and the $\Diamond A$ was cashed. A second round of spades went to the West hand, and declarer played a low club to the queen, ducked by Sundelin. Now the successful heart finesse made a second club finesse unnecessary; Plus 630 to Japan.



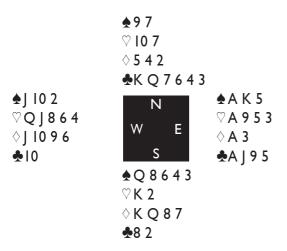
Johan Sylvan, Sweden

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	lmakura
			Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♡	Pass	4♡	All Pass

The opening lead was the ♠10 to South's ace. Fredin falsecarded with the jack and took the second spade in dummy. He then played a heart to the ace and cashed the ♠K, pitching dummy's diamond. He then took the losing club finesse, and Tadashi Imakura had the opportunity to give Fredin a big problem by playing a fourth round of spades. Had Fredin not guessed to ruff with the trump queen, he would have gone down. Imakura, however, returned a low club to dummy, and there was no further problem for Fredin; Plus 620 and a push.

Board 10 featured bidding accidents by both sides, but Sweden escaped unscathed while Japan paid a heavy price.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
		I ♣	Pass
I ♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♣	Dble	4NT	All Pass

No doubt $4\clubsuit$ was meant to show shortage. In any event, the Swedes missed the cast-iron 4% contract, playing a tenuous 4NT instead. Fortunately for the team, Lindkvist managed 10 tricks. The opening lead was the $\clubsuit 8:10$, queen, ace. He continued with the % A and a heart to South's king. The $\clubsuit 2$ was next, and Ino made the good play of inserting the 6 instead of playing the king, which would have given Lindkvist 10 easy tricks. Lindkvist won the $\clubsuit J$, played a heart to dummy and passed the $\diamondsuit 9$ around to South's queen. Imakura did not read his partner's $\diamondsuit 5$ accurately, switching to a low spade from the queen. That gave declarer 10 tricks and a nervous plus 630

In the Closed Room, the wheels came off in the auction for Takano and Teramoto.

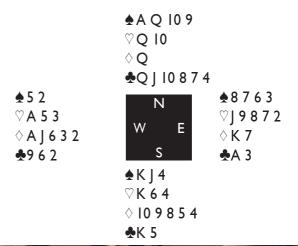
West	North	East	South
Takano	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
		2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Takano's first bid was a transfer, and the response obviously was some sort of super-acceptance. Takano tried to retransfer, then apparently was convinced by the 4♠ bid that East had started with a long spade suit. The 3-3 fit did not play well.

Sundelin started with the $\lozenge K$. Teramoto won the $\lozenge A$ and fired one back. Sundelin won the $\lozenge Q$ and played a third round of the suit, East discarding a low heart. Teramoto then tried a heart finesse. Sundelin won the $\heartsuit K$ and played a fourth round of diamonds, ruffed by Sylvan with the $\clubsuit 9$. Teramoto pitched a club rather than overruff with a spade honor, and the $\clubsuit Q$ was taken by East with the ace. A low club was ruffed in dummy, and declarer tried the spade finesse. Sundelin won and returned the suit, and soon it was over. Minus 300 and 13 IMPs to Sweden, now leading 22-5.

Going into the final three deals, Sweden was leading 28-8. Then disaster struck.

Board 18. Dealer East, N/S Vul.





Magnus Lindkvist, Sweden

West	North	East	South
Takano	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
		Pass	Pass
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

Sylvan lost three tricks for plus 130. In the Closed Room, Fredin and Lindkvist had the chance for a huge plus score, but it turned into a major minus.

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
		Pass	Pass
1♦	2♣	Dble	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Dhle	All Pass		

Fredin hit on the killing lead of a low heart from the West hand. Imakura put in the 10 and won the king when Lindkvist played the jack. Imakura started on clubs right away, and the defenders had a total of eight tricks for plus 1100. When Lindkvist won the \clubsuit A, however, he returned the \heartsuit 2, which appeared to confuse Fredin, who pictured South with the \diamondsuit K, therefore placing East with the \clubsuit K. Had Lindkvist returned the \heartsuit 9, suggesting a sequence and a source of tricks, Fredin likely would have avoided the play he actually made — a spade. The grateful declarer claimed 10 tricks and plus 950 at that point for a 13-IMP gain instead of a 14-IMP loss.

The next deal was also a disappointment for the Swedes.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

West	North	East	South
Takano	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
			Pass
Pass	I♡	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

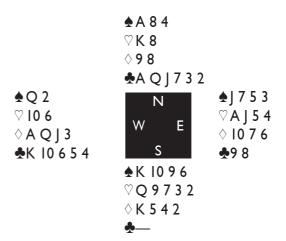
Sylvan had no trouble taking 10 tricks in this contract for plus 130. In the Open Room, Ino and Imakura were much more aggressive.

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
			Pass
Pass	10	♠	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The favourable lie of the club suit meant that Ino was destined to make his contract, and indeed he finished with an overtrick for another 7 IMPs to Japan.

The final deal of the set, although it represented a gain of only 3 IMPs for Japan, nevertheless was interesting and typified the Swedes' missed chances in the set.

Board 20. Dealer West, All Vul.



West	North	East	South
Takano	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
♣	Pass	10	Passs
INT	2♣	All Pass	

Sylvan played well to land the awkward contract. Teramoto started with a low spade to the 9, queen and ace. Sylvan played the ♣A and ♣Q to Takano's king. A spade was returned to the jack and ace, and Sylvan played a



Hideki Takano, Japan

heart to the king and ace. East switched to the $\lozenge 10$, and declarer put up the king. He ruffed the third round of diamonds, played a heart to the queen and ruffed a heart, then exited with his spade. West could ruff, but in the two-card ending was forced to lead from the $\clubsuit 10$ 6 into declarer's $\clubsuit Q$ 7 – plus 90 for North/South.

The auction took a different turn in the open room.

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
I ♦	2♣	Dble	All Pass

Interestingly, after East starts the defense with a low diamond and West wins the jack, the only card to guarantee defeat of the contract is a low spade from the doubleton queen. That, of course, is a double dummy play, and Fredin did not find it. He switched instead to the $\heartsuit 10$, and declarer made the correct play of the king. East won the $\heartsuit A$ and played the $\diamondsuit 10$ and another diamond, ruffed by declarer. The contract was now cold if declarer played correctly: heart to the queen, spade to the ace, $\clubsuit A$, $\clubsuit Q$ to West's king. Declarer could then ruff the $\diamondsuit A$, cash the $\clubsuit J$, play a spade to dummy's king and make his $\clubsuit 7$ en passant by playing a heart from dummy in the two-card ending.

Declarer did not play correctly, however, giving the defenders a chance to defeat him. After ruffing the third round of diamonds, Ino played a heart to the queen and followed with another heart, giving Fredin a chance to discard a spade. Ino then played the \$8\$ to the king, followed by another heart from dummy.

At that point, if Fredin had ruffed in with the 10 or king, the contract would have been defeated. Fredin, however, ruffed with a low trump. Ino overruffed with the $\clubsuit 7$, leaving him with the $\spadesuit A$ 4 and the $\clubsuit A$ Q J. He could not be prevented from taking three more tricks for plus 180 and a 3-IMP gain instead of a 3-IMP loss.



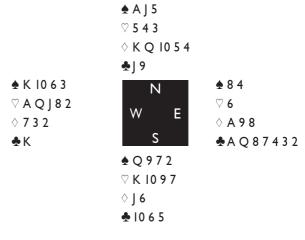
Tabashi Imakura, Japan

Little Fish are Sweet

by Mark Horton

Small boards can provide a story as on this deal from Round 5. First up we have the Vugraph match between Sweden and Japan.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	Sout
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
			Pass
I♡	Pass	INT	All Pass

South led a spade and declarer put up the king, which lost to the ace. North switched to the king of diamonds and continued with a low diamond to South's jack. South continued the defence with a spade to his partner's jack and North played a third diamond. South discarded a small club, so declarer could win and claim the rest.

West	North	East	South
Takano	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
			Pass
IŸ	Pass	♠	Pass
INT	Pass	3♣	All Pass

Three Clubs is easy enough, but declarer was the architect of his downfall. He won the opening lead of the king of diamonds with the ace, crossed to the king of clubs, cashed the ace of hearts and took a ruffing heart finesse, discarding a diamond. Now South could play another diamond and score a trump promotion for one down. Oops.

In the match between Cyprus and Malaysia, Colin Morley, representing the former, was more ambitious:

West	North	East	South
Morley		Morley	
IΫ	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Colin, realising that his team was well behind in the match, decided a small subterfuge was in order. Unluckily, despite giving the matter a lot of thought, North eventually led the king of diamonds and declarer finished four down. You might say the operation was a success, but the contract died.

Appeal No. 2

(released)

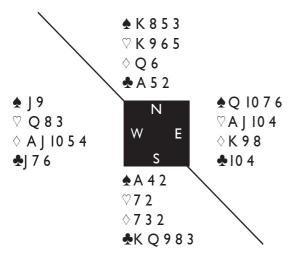
Hungary v. Mexico

Appeals Committee:

J. Gerard (Chair), E. d'Orsi, G. Endicott, D. Morse, N. Rand

Open Teams Round 3

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Honti	Herrera	Dzilaqy	Resk
	♣	Pass	2♦
Double	3♣	3♦	All Pass

Comments:

 $2\Diamond$ = S>W 9-11 with clubs N>E 11-12 with clubs

Contract:

30, played by East

Result: Seven tricks, NS - 100

The Facts:

At the end of the play East summoned the director to complain that had he been given the explanation his partner had received he would have found the $\Diamond Q$ and made the contract.

The Director:

After a number of enquiries, ruled that East had received a correct explanation of opponents' agreement.

Ruling: table score stands.

Relevant Laws: 40, 75.

East/West appealed.

Present: The E/W players and their Captain.

The Players:

Confirmed their complaint to the tournament director. By the time that declarer had to decide where to look for $\Diamond Q$ this was the only honour card that he had not seen. He relied on the explanation given to him, having previously seen opponents open on 9 and again on 10 HCP.

The Committee:

Noted that for lack of space in a tightly written card there was no point count written for the 2° bid. Listened to the director's explanation of the manner in which he had formed his opinion that North's explanation was the correct one. The committee accepted that the director had good grounds for his ruling and decided it had heard nothing in the evidence to gainsay this.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit: Returned. The merit in the appeal consisted in the question as to whether the way in which the Director had judged the North explanation to be right was satisfactory.

In a separate decision, the committee noted the absence of the Mexican pair. It is stated in the General Conditions of Contest that all players at the table shall attend an appeal hearing unless they receive permission not to attend from the committee via the director.

The committee issued a warning to the Mexican team that they may be penalized if they are in breach of this regulation again.

ONLINE VUGRAPH

Bidding and play records of all matches featured in both vugraph theatres are available on internet at:

www.bridgebase.com

Eventually you will find online Vugraph of more than a hundred matches of the 2004 Istanbul Bridge Olympiad. Hit counts have already been excellent and it is hoped that a new record will be set during the Championships.