



上海中房置业  
SHANGHAI 2007



# DAILY BULLETIN

## WORLD BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

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# LOOKING FOR A KNOCKOUT PUNCH



Players and officials at the captains' meeting on Saturday

The sprints are over. Now the marathons begin as teams in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Senior Bowl settle in for long matches, starting today with the quarter-final round.

The final day of qualifying on Saturday produced only one newcomer to the top eight in all three championships as South Africa in the Bermuda Bowl replaced Japan, edging out Brazil for the final spot by half of a victory point, achieved on the final deal of the night.

Conspicuous by their absence from the quarter-final round, beginning today, are the 2005 Bermuda Bowl silver medallists, USA 2, captained by Nick Nickell. Two other teams expected to do well – Brazil and Poland – are also out.

In the Bermuda Bowl, the quarter-final matchups are Italy – South Africa, USA 1 – Australia, Netherlands – Sweden and Norway – China SMEG. In the Venice Cup, it will be USA 1- Egypt, Germany – Canada, China Global Times – England and USA 2 – France. Senior Bowl opponents are Canada – Brazil, USA 2 – Italy, Poland – Indonesia and France – USA 1.



### VUGRAPH MATCHES



#### Quarter Final Session 1 (11.00-13.20)

VG:	Table 22	China Global Times - England	(VC)
BBO 1:	Table 2	USA 1 - Australia	(BB)
BBO 2:	Table 44	France - USA 1	(SB)
SWAN*:	Table 3	Netherlands - Sweden	(BB)
OurGame:	Table 21	USA 1 - Egypt	(VC)

#### Quarter Final Session 2 (14.10-16.30)

VG:	Table 1	Italy - South Africa	(BB)
BBO 1:	Table 24	USA 2 - France	(VC)
BBO 2:	Table 41	Canada - Brazil	(SB)
SWAN:	Table 3	Netherlands - Sweden	(BB)
OurGame:	Table 21	USA 1 - Egypt	(VC)

#### Quarter Final Session 3 (17.20-19.40)

VG:	Table 4	Norway - China SMEG	(BB)
BBO 1:	Table 43	USA 2 - Italy	(SB)
BBO 2:	Table 23	Germany - Canada	(VC)
SWAN:	Table 3	Netherlands - Sweden	(BB)
OurGame:	Table 24	USA 2 - France	(VC)

\* This match will be broadcast at 20.00 Chinese time

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## TODAY'S PROGRAM

### Bermuda Bowl

#### Quarter Finals

	Home Team	Visiting Team	Carry-Over
1	Italy	South Africa	0 - 5.7
2	USA 1	Australia	16 - 0
3	Netherlands	Sweden	0 - 3.7
4	Norway	China	8 - 0

### Venice Cup

#### Quarter Finals

	Home Team	Visiting Team	Carry-Over
21	USA 1	Egypt	16 - 0
22	China Global Times	England	0 - 1
23	Germany	Canada	0 - 5.3
24	USA 2	France	0 - 16

### Senior Bowl

#### Quarter Finals

	Home Team	Visiting Team	Carry-Over
41	Canada	Brazil	0 - 3
42	Poland	Indonesia	16 - 0
43	USA 2	Italy	0 - 1.7
44	France	USA 1	0 - 13.7

### Women's Committee Meeting

A very successful Meeting of the WBF Women's Committee was held this week, attended by representatives from the eight WBF Zones under the chairmanship of Anna Maria Torlontano.

The meeting approved the instigation of a **WBF Women's Bridge Festival** to be held on **BBO** for women players all over the world. Full details of this transnational event, which will be staged over five days in April 2008, will be available on the WBF web site in November.

### World Transnational Open Teams Championship

Teams not already pre-registered (i.e., whose names appear on the WBF website as entered for the Transnational Teams) but who wish to play if they do not qualify for the semi-finals of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup or Seniors Bowl, are asked to inform the Hospitality Desk outside the playing area as soon as possible.

It would be helpful if you could PRINT the names of the players in your team and the team name, and hand the list to the Hospitality Desk.

ALL TEAMS – whether or not they are required to pay an entry fee – will need to have a receipt from the WBF in order to participate in the event.

Payments may be made and receipts collected from Mrs Francin in the WBF Office on the 3rd floor. The office will be open for this purpose on:

- Monday: 10 – 12.30 and 14.00 – 18.00

### World Championship Book 2007



The official book of these championships will be available around the end of March. On publication the official retail price will be £22 Sterling plus postage. You can pre-order a copy at the championships at the reduced price of US\$30 (225 Rmb) including surface mail, by seeing Jan Swaan in the Press Room on the third floor of the Convention Centre.

There have been some problems with copies of last year's book being lost in the post. If you bought a copy in Verona and it has still not reached you, speak to Brian Senior in the Daily Bulletin Office, also on the third floor, and I will arrange to send another copy when I get home. I will be looking at a different way of sending out the individual copies this year in the hope of reducing these problems to a minimum.

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The 2007 book will consist of 336 large pages. There will be substantial coverage of all events, including every board of the final and semi-finals of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, with full results listings, Butler rankings, photographs etc. Eric Kokish is taking a year off, alas, so principle analysts will be Brian Senior and Barry Rigal, with guest writers including John Carruthers (Senior Bowl) and Cathy Chua (BB and VC Round Robin stages). If you have a possible hand for inclusion, do feel free to contact John or Cathy, as appropriate.



# RESULTS

## Bermuda Bowl



### ROUND 19

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 Pakistan	Netherlands	44 - 51	14 - 16
2 Egypt	USA 1	7 - 31	9 - 21
3 Chinese Taipei	Ireland	29 - 6	20 - 10
4 Italy	Australia	24 - 13	17 - 13
5 Trinidad & Tobago	South Africa	34 - 36	15 - 15
6 Argentina	Canada	36 - 39	14 - 16
7 Brazil	India	66 - 29	24 - 6
8 Indonesia	USA 2	41 - 36	16 - 14
9 Sweden	China SMEG	27 - 40	12 - 18
10 Norway	New Zealand	30 - 32	15 - 15
11 Japan	Poland	42 - 36	16 - 14

### ROUND 20

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 Indonesia	Norway	35 - 70	7 - 23
2 New Zealand	Sweden	14 - 34	10 - 20
3 China SMEG	Japan	38 - 27	17 - 13
4 Poland	Brazil	41 - 52	13 - 17
5 India	Argentina	58 - 25	23 - 7
6 Canada	Trinidad & Tobago	22 - 55	7 - 23
7 South Africa	Italy	26 - 9	19 - 11
8 Australia	Chinese Taipei	61 - 40	20 - 10
9 USA 2	Netherlands	24 - 23	15 - 15
10 USA 1	Pakistan	41 - 15	21 - 9
11 Ireland	Egypt	35 - 25	17 - 13

### ROUND 21

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 Netherlands	USA 1	26 - 18	17 - 13
2 Pakistan	Ireland	30 - 42	12 - 18
3 Egypt	Australia	38 - 14	21 - 9
4 Chinese Taipei	South Africa	33 - 30	16 - 14
5 Italy	Canada	16 - 30	12 - 18
6 Trinidad & Tobago	India	16 - 37	10 - 20
7 Argentina	Poland	14 - 53	6 - 24
8 Brazil	China SMEG	38 - 26	18 - 12
9 Japan	New Zealand	33 - 34	15 - 15
10 Norway	USA 2	31 - 47	11 - 19
11 Sweden	Indonesia	40 - 43	14 - 16

### Ranking after 21 Rounds

1	Italy	375
2	USA 1	362
3	Netherlands	349.5
4	Norway	348
5	Australia	342
6	Sweden	332
7	China SMEG	331
8	South Africa	326.5
9	Brazil	326
10	Japan	323
11	USA 2	321
12	Poland	320
13	Indonesia	312
14	Egypt	311
15	Argentina	301
16	Chinese Taipei	299.5
17	Ireland	293.5
18	Pakistan	292
19	India	285
20	New Zealand	268
21	Canada	263.5
22	Trinidad & Tobago	215.5



Per and Britt Jannerstan at the bridge stall on the ground floor



# RESULTS

## Venice Cup



### ROUND 19

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	USA 2	Philippines	47 - 11	23 - 7
22	Argentina	Denmark	47 - 58	13 - 17
23	Germany	Australia	66 - 29	24 - 6
24	Netherlands	Canada	30 - 27	16 - 14
25	India	USA 1	17 - 73	3 - 25
26	Japan	Guadeloupe	61 - 36	21 - 9
27	China Global Times	South Africa	70 - 21	25 - 4
28	Egypt	Indonesia	43 - 27	19 - 11
29	New Zealand	Brazil	35 - 63	8 - 22
30	France	England	26 - 58	7 - 23
31	Croatia	Jordan	65 - 40	21 - 9

### ROUND 20

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	Egypt	France	59 - 34	21 - 9
22	England	New Zealand	16 - 35	11 - 19
23	Brazil	Croatia	49 - 12	24 - 6
24	Jordan	China Global Times	20 - 40	10 - 20
25	South Africa	Japan	18 - 34	11 - 19
26	Guadeloupe	India	34 - 82	4 - 25
27	USA 1	Netherlands	47 - 22	21 - 9
28	Canada	Germany	31 - 15	19 - 11
29	Indonesia	Philippines	8 - 65	3 - 25
30	Denmark	USA 2	19 - 39	10 - 20
31	Australia	Argentina	47 - 45	15 - 15

### ROUND 21

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	Philippines	Denmark	31 - 16	18 - 12
22	USA 2	Australia	68 - 17	25 - 4
23	Argentina	Canada	39 - 25	18 - 12
24	Germany	USA 1	45 - 22	20 - 10
25	Netherlands	Guadeloupe	64 - 6	25 - 3
26	India	South Africa	27 - 30	14 - 16
27	Japan	Jordan	44 - 18	21 - 9
28	China Global Times	Brazil	37 - 35	15 - 15
29	Croatia	England	28 - 43	12 - 18
30	France	Indonesia	51 - 12	24 - 6
31	New Zealand	Egypt	23 - 35	12 - 18

### Ranking after 21 Rounds

1	USA 1	400
2	Germany	383
3	China Global Times	382
4	USA 2	358
5	France	354
6	Egypt	344
7	Canada	343
8	England	342
9	Netherlands	334
10	Denmark	322.5
11	Brazil	311
	Philippines	311
13	Indonesia	299
14	New Zealand	298.5
15	India	296
16	Australia	284
17	Argentina	282
18	Croatia	281
19	Japan	279
20	South Africa	263
21	Jordan	218
22	Guadeloupe	185



Jan Swaan with some of the journalists in the Press Room



# RESULTS

## Senior Bowl



### ROUND 19

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	China Hong Kong	Sweden	27 - 43	11 - 19
42	Egypt	Thailand	33 - 41	13 - 17
43	Indonesia	Australia	55 - 21	23 - 7
44	Japan	Poland	20 - 69	4 - 25
45	France	Germany	51 - 27	21 - 9
46	Brazil	New Zealand	72 - 19	25 - 3
47	USA 2	Canada	31 - 13	19 - 11
48	Denmark	Guadeloupe	42 - 41	15 - 15
49	Argentina	Italy	40 - 79	6 - 24
50	USA 1	South Africa	81 - 8	25 - 0
51	India	China	61 - 38	20 - 10

### ROUND 20

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	Denmark	USA 1	33 - 22	17 - 13
42	South Africa	Argentina	30 - 66	7 - 23
43	Italy	India	28 - 55	9 - 21
44	China	USA 2	9 - 71	2 - 25
45	Canada	Brazil	23 - 32	13 - 17
46	New Zealand	France	49 - 47	15 - 15
47	Germany	Japan	1 - 44	5 - 25
48	Poland	Indonesia	80 - 26	25 - 3
49	Guadeloupe	Sweden	15 - 54	6 - 24
50	Thailand	China Hong Kong	55 - 17	24 - 6
51	Australia	Egypt	28 - 61	7 - 23

### ROUND 21

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	Sweden	Thailand	21 - 29	13 - 17
42	China Hong Kong	Australia	21 - 74	3 - 25
43	Egypt	Poland	20 - 40	10 - 20
44	Indonesia	Germany	13 - 68	3 - 25
45	Japan	New Zealand	32 - 29	16 - 14
46	France	Canada	24 - 20	16 - 14
47	Brazil	China	29 - 27	15 - 15
48	USA 2	Italy	22 - 27	14 - 16
49	India	South Africa	61 - 27	23 - 7
50	USA 1	Guadeloupe	51 - 7	25 - 5
51	Argentina	Denmark	27 - 17	17 - 13

### Ranking after 21 Rounds

1	Canada	391
2	Poland	368
	USA 2	368
4	France	365
5	Italy	363
	USA 1	363
7	Brazil	351
8	Indonesia	346
9	India	327
10	Australia	325
11	China	318
12	Argentina	311
	Sweden	311
14	Egypt	310
15	Denmark	308.5
16	Japan	303
17	Germany	298
18	Thailand	263
19	China Hong Kong	247
	Guadeloupe	247
21	New Zealand	221.5
22	South Africa	157

### Playing Rooms for the Knockout Stages

**Sunday:** The same as for the Round Robin.

**Monday:** 14 tables (7 matches) will play in the Mandarin Hall, as at present. The teams whose matches are being broadcast on Vugraph (BBO, Swan or OurGame) plus the Vugraph Closed Room, will play on the 5th Floor in the Yangtze River Hall.

From the start of the semi-final, ALL matches will be played in the Yangtze River Hall on the 5th Floor

**Lineup regulations:** For the Quarter Finals Line Ups will be made as for the round robin.

For the semi-finals, lineups will be made on the 5th floor outside the playing room.

Maurizio Di Sacco

# VENICE CUP

# Round 16



**Germany**

v

**USA 2**



## Shortage of IMPs

by Brent Manley

Going into their match on Friday, Venice Cup contenders Germany and USA 2 had decidedly different perspectives. The German women were comfortably in the qualifying range, standing second behind USA 1. Their opponents, on the other hand, were tied with two other teams for the final qualifying spot. With only six matches to go, any loss was potentially disastrous.

Germany took a 1-IMP lead after one board, but that did not last as the Americans scored 10 IMPs on the second deal.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A 6 5 2 ♥ K 3 ♦ A J 7 6 5 ♣ A J	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 9 7 ♥ A Q J 6 ♦ 3 ♣ K 7 5 4 3	♠ K 10 8 ♥ 10 9 8 5 ♦ K 4 2 ♣ Q 8 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Bjerkan	Auken	Sanborn
1♣*	INT*	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♣	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
		3NT	All Pass

1♣ was strong and artificial. INT showed spades and diamonds or hearts and clubs.

Cheri Bjerkan started with a low club, which went to Daniela Von Arnim's jack. A diamond to the king was followed by a diamond to the jack, revealing the good news (the finesse worked) and the bad (the suit broke 4-1). Von Arnim got out of her hand with a low diamond, and when Kerri Sanborn won she cleared the club suit. There was no chance for nine tricks at that point. On the run of the diamonds, Bjerkan simply discarded hearts, holding onto the ace, and waited to get in to cash her good clubs. One down for plus 50 to USA 2.

West	North	East	South
Quinn	Hackett	Picus	Nehmert
1♦	Dble	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	INT	Pass
		3NT	All Pass

Pony Nehmert didn't have much to go on for her opening lead. Hackett had promised suits other than diamonds, so Nehmert started with the lead of the suit in which she held an honor – and it made all the difference in the outcome.

Sue Picus took Barbara Hackett's ♠Q in hand, cashed the ♦K and played a diamond to the jack. She, too, exited with a low diamond to South. Nehmert won the diamond and played a club. Picus rose with dummy's ace, cashed her diamonds and called for the ♣J. Hackett won with the ♣K and returned the ♠9 to the 10, jack and ace. A third round of spades put North in again, and she was forced to play up to dummy's ♥K. Nine tricks were in and USA 2 had a 10-1 lead.

Germany got 5 IMPs back on this deal.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 10 7 2 ♥ K 8 7 5 ♦ A 10 ♣ J 7 5 3	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q J 9 6 5 4 ♥ Q J ♦ 6 ♣ K 10 4 2	♠ A ♥ A 6 4 3 ♦ K J 8 7 5 3 ♣ 8 6
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Bjerkan	Auken	Sanborn
Pass	2♠	Dble	3♣*
3♥	3♠	4♥	4♠
All Pass			

Sanborn's 3♣ was described as showing values in the suit along with spade support. Sabine Auken started with a low heart, which went to the 2 and king. Von Arnim stopped to consider why her partner had underled the ♥A. Eventually she played the ♦A and continued the suit. Instead of ruffing, Bjerkan discarded her other losing heart. That was three tricks to Germany with the trump ace to come. One down.

West	North	East	South
Quinn	Hackett	Picus	Nehmert
Pass	2♠	3♦	3♠
Dble	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Shawn Quinn's double of 3♠ showed the other suits with enough values to compete. Picus won the opening spade lead in hand, played the ♥A and a heart to the king, followed by the ♦A, a diamond to the king and a diamond ruff. She got back to hand with a spade ruff and ruffed another diamond. Her final trick was a spade ruff. That was one down and a modest swing to Germany.

The next board put USA 2 ahead by the score of 17-6.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

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



West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Bjerkan	Auken	Sanborn
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

With 25 high-card points between the North-South hands, you might expect a contract higher than the two level. It worked out very well for USA 2, however.

Auken's opening lead was the ♣J, not the best choice for the defense. Bjerkan ducked to her king. She played a spade to dummy's queen, then cashed dummy's two high diamonds and ruffed a third round. She cashed the ♠A and ♠K and knocked out the ♣A with the 10. She won the heart return in dummy and discarded a losing heart on a good diamond. The defenders got a ruff and a heart, but declarer had plus 170.

West	North	East	South
Quinn	Hackett	Picus	Nehmert
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Quinn started with the ♥Q, ducked. She continued with a heart to the king and ace. After that start, Nehmert could not afford to duck a diamond, playing for a 3-3 break, because that would give East-West three heart tricks, a diamond and the ♣A for one down. If, however, she could locate the ♣J and find the suit splitting in her favor, nine tricks would be available. At trick three, therefore, she led a low club to dummy's 9. When East won the ♣J, the chances for plus 400 were gone. That was a 7-IMP swing to USA 2.

With two boards to go, Germany had closed to within 19-15, and they had a chance to win the match.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Quinn	Hackett	Picus	Nehmert
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	All Pass



Barbara Hackett, Germany

Nehmert started with a low club, ducked to North's king. A club was returned to dummy's ace and Picus played a diamond to her jack. When that held, she cashed the  $\diamond A$  and played a diamond to the king. North discarded a spade on the 13th diamond, and Picus followed with a spade to the 9, 10 and jack. Nehmert played a club to Picus's queen, and a second round of spades left North on play. She could cash her  $\clubsuit J$ , but then she had to play a heart to South's ace. The  $\heartsuit K$  was her seventh trick. Plus 90.

West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Bjerkan	Auken	Sanborn
INT	All Pass		

Von Arnim's INT was 10-12, so North was on lead at this table. A low club went to the 2, 10 and ace. Von Arnim played a diamond to the jack, continuing with a heart to the king. When that held, she could have led a club from hand and scored the queen, but she played a second round of hearts. Sanborn won with the  $\heartsuit A$ , falsecarding, and exited with a club to dummy's queen. Von Arnim had seven tricks at that point if she simply cashed her diamonds, but she played a diamond to the king and a heart to South's queen. When Sanborn played a fourth round of clubs, Von Arnim could choose between discarding the good heart or a low spade. When she chose the spade, Bjerkan played a low spade to Sanborn's king. The  $\spadesuit J$  blotted out dummy's 10 and forced Von Arnim to cover with the queen. The  $\spadesuit 9$  was the setting trick. That was 4 IMPs to USA 2.

Germany still had a chance to tie the match on the final board.



Shawn Quinn, USA 2

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

		$\spadesuit$ 10 2									
		$\heartsuit$ A 9									
		$\diamond$ A J 3 2									
		$\clubsuit$ J 10 9 6 2									
$\spadesuit$ Q J 9	<table border="0"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		$\spadesuit$ A 3
		N									
W			E								
		S									
$\heartsuit$ K 8 7 3	$\heartsuit$ Q J 6 4 2										
$\diamond$ Q 10 7 5 4	$\diamond$ 9 6										
$\clubsuit$ Q		$\clubsuit$ K 7 5 3									
		$\spadesuit$ K 8 7 6 5 4									
		$\heartsuit$ 10 5									
		$\diamond$ K 8									
		$\clubsuit$ A 8 4									

West	North	East	South
Quinn	Hackett	Picus	Nehmert
Pass	Pass	Pass	2 $\spadesuit$
Pass	4 $\spadesuit$	All Pass	

Quinn started with the  $\diamond 4$ , and Nehmert won with the king when Picus played the 9. A diamond went to dummy's jack, and Nehmert played a spade to her king. She got out of her hand with a spade to the jack and ace. Picus switched to a heart, taken in dummy with the ace. Nehmert took her heart pitch on the  $\diamond A$ , then ran the  $\clubsuit J$  to West's singleton queen. Quinn cashed the  $\spadesuit Q$  and exited with a heart, ruffed by declarer, who then cashed the rest of her trumps. In the three-card ending, Picus, holding the  $\heartsuit Q$  and the  $\clubsuit K 7$ , accidentally played the low club. That meant the  $\clubsuit K$  fell under the ace and Nehmert had her game for plus 420.

West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Bjerkan	Auken	Sanborn
Pass	Pass	1 $\heartsuit$	1 $\spadesuit$
2NT*	Pass	3 $\heartsuit$	All Pass

Von Arnim's 2NT was a limit raise of hearts. Sanborn started aggressively with the  $\diamond K$ , which held. When Sanborn continued the suit, Auken played dummy's queen. Bjerkan won the  $\diamond A$  and switched to the  $\spadesuit 10$ , ducked to South's king. Auken won the spade return in hand and played a club. Sanborn won the  $\clubsuit A$  and played a third round of spades, Bjerkan ruffing with the 9 $\heartsuit$ . Auken over-ruffed with the jack, and she was in a position to get out for down one, good enough to tie the match. When she played the  $\heartsuit Q$  from hand, however, Bjerkan won with the ace and gave her partner a diamond ruff with the 10 $\heartsuit$ . That was down two and 6 IMPs to Germany, who lost a close match 23-21.





# What Might Have Been

by Phillip Alder

Board 14 of round 10 maybe gave three declarers a chance to make four hearts doubled.

This is what they saw (rotated for convenience):

Dealer South. None Vul.

**Dummy**

♠ Q 9 7 6 2  
♥ 4 3 2  
♦ 2  
♣ J 9 6 3



**Declarer**

♠ A 5 4  
♥ A J 10 9 8 7 5  
♦ A 3  
♣ 7

West	North	East	South
			1♥
2NT	Pass	4♦	4♥
Dble	All Pass		

West overcalls two notrump to show a minor two-suiter, then doubles to indicate a strong hand. East, after some anguished moments, passes.

West leads the ace of clubs, then tries to cash the king of clubs. After ruffing, how would you continue?

The deal was bid 66 times. Five hearts doubled was the contract 18 times, five hearts escaped undoubled once, and four hearts doubled was played three times. (At almost every other table, five diamonds doubled or undoubled was the spot, although once it was five clubs doubled, and twice six diamonds doubled.)

This was the full deal:

Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ Q 9 7 6 2  
♥ 4 3 2  
♦ 2  
♣ J 9 6 3



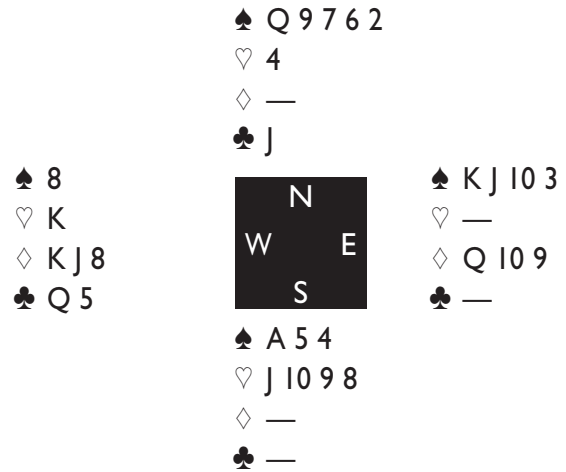
♠ A 5 4  
♥ A J 10 9 8 7 5  
♦ A 3  
♣ 7

♠ 8  
♥ K Q  
♦ K J 8 5 4  
♣ A K Q 5 4

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

For his double, West presumably has two trumps and, therefore, 1=2=5=5 shape. If West has the singleton king of spades, you will lose only one spade, one heart and one club. If West has any other spade singleton, you can endplay East.

After ruffing the second club, cash the heart ace and diamond ace, ruff your diamond in the dummy, and trump another club in your hand. That gives this position:



Lead a low spade, covering West's eight with dummy's nine (or, if he plays the ten or jack, cover with dummy's queen). East is caught.

One declarer did win ten tricks in five hearts doubled, Nikica Sver from Croatia, who was sitting North. She received friendly defense. East led a club, West winning and shifting to her heart king. Declarer won with South's ace and returned the heart jack ... and East signaled with the spade ten!



## Bidding or Play?

by Patrick Jourdain

In the early days of the major bridge tournaments the card-play skills of the best gave them a greater advantage over the weaker teams than they had in the bidding. Advances in bidding technique amongst the top players, combined with better judgment, swung the pendulum to the current view that “bridge is a bidder’s game.” When so many are skilled card-players you expect fewer swings in declarer play, whereas differences in system or bidding judgment guarantee swings in the auction.

Some swings are ascribed to skill when really they are luck (e.g. you miss/bid a thin game because of your precise notrump range that partnerships with a slightly different range might bid/miss; or you make/fail in a game/slam which is close to the correct odds for bidding it or not).

But in the last few years, watching vugraph at European and World Championships, I have come to the conclusion that the pendulum has swung again, and that card-play and defence are now making more of an appearance in “chuck” analysis.

Bidding advancements (some would say “changes,” not rating them advancements), such as lighter openings/overcalls and pre-emptive raises in competitive bidding have spread so far down that even the old ladies in my local club bid more than the experts of twenty years ago. But the gap in card play and, in particular, defence, between the top teams and the lower-placed ones has, in my opinion, widened at European and World Championships.

Here is one example from Round 13 here:

Board 20 Dealer West; All Vul.

♠ 8										
♥ Q										
♦ A K 9 6 4 3 2										
♣ A 6 4 2										
<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>			N		W		E		S	
	N									
W		E								
	S									
♠ A Q 6 3										
♥ 9 5										
♦ J 10 5										
♣ K Q 9 8										

At most tables North opened 1♦ and East overcalled 4♥. What were the swings in bidding and play, and were they luck or skill? The contracts reached were 5♦, 5♣, 6♦ and 6♣.

Think first of the influence of system. On Vugraph Dano de Falco opened two diamonds (constructive), influencing Guido Resta’s choice of bidding five diamonds over the intervention. De Falco Passed and there was no problem in the play.

When North opened 1♦ systemic knowledge of how many diamonds this shows influence the later choices by both South and North. Luck or skill?

What about the play? The declarers in six clubs stood no chance, those in five diamonds never failed. But there were play swings in both six diamonds and five clubs.

Where East led a top heart and switched to a spade declarers in six diamonds rose with the ace and went down. Where East led two top hearts, declarer ruffed, drew trumps, tested the clubs, finding West with four, and had the option of taking the spade finesse for the 12th trick, or of playing to squeeze West in the blacks. Luck or skill?

But what about the declarer who failed in five clubs? That was definitely a matter of skill. East led two rounds of hearts. How do you play?

Declarer ruffed and cashed two rounds of trumps one of which included the ace. Fatal! The full layout was this:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 8		♠ K J 7 4									
♥ Q		♥ A K 8 7 6 4 2									
♦ A K 9 6 4 3 2		♦ 8									
♣ A 6 4 2		♣ 3									
♠ 10 9 5 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ J 10 3											
♦ Q 7											
♣ J 10 7 5											
♠ A Q 6 3											
♥ 9 5											
♦ J 10 5											
♣ K Q 9 8											

When the trumps proved to be 4-1 it mattered not whether North switched to diamonds at once as, after West ruffs the third diamond, there is no entry to the suit.

If you think about the 4-1 break before you play trumps then you will realise that laying down the king and queen first solves the problem. When the suit proves to be 4-1 you switch to diamonds. West ruffs the third round and plays a heart but you ruff in the South hand and draw West’s last trump with the ace, ending in the right hand to enjoy the rest of the diamonds.

Note that if declarer’s error at trick three was to lay down the ace of trumps, then there is still recovery when East shows out on the second round. You play low from the South hand, letting West win the trick! Then a third heart can be ruffed in the North hand, you cross to the ace of spades, draw the last trump, and, provided you don’t block the diamond suit, it will run quite happily.



# BERMUDA BOWL

# Round 14



**Egypt**

v

**Italy**



by Phillip Alder

After round 13, Italy was lying second and Egypt eighth equal. So it was an important encounter for the north Africans in particular.

First, here is an opening-lead problem. You pick up:

- ♠ K 9 7
- ♥ Q J 4
- ♦ K 9 5 2
- ♣ J 4 2

On your left, the dealer opens one notrump (15-17), then shows spades in answer to Stayman. The responder jumps to four spades. Which card would you choose?

The "exciting" match resulted in nine flat boards. Four more gave Italy 5 IMPs and Egypt 2. The other three featured big swings. The first came on board three.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ K 10 6					
	♥ 10 8 6 5					
	♦ K 5					
	♣ A K 10 7					
♠ A J 8 5 4 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	♠ 9 7 2	
N						
W     E						
S						
♥ J 4		♥ A K				
♦ J 9 7		♦ A Q 8 6				
♣ J 2		♣ 9 5 4 3				
	♠ Q					
	♥ Q 9 7 3 2					
	♦ 10 4 3 2					
	♣ Q 8 6					

West	North	East	South
Duboin	El Ahmady	Bocchi	Sadek
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♥ (a)	Dble (b)	3♥
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
Pass	4♥	Dble	All Pass

- (a) Four-card heart support
- (b) Card-showing



West	North	East	South
Samir	Fantoni	Amiry	Nunes
2♦ (a)	Pass	2♥ (b)	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

- (a) Multi -- weak two in either major
- (b) Pass or correct

Giorgio Duboin (West) decided not to open two spades second in hand at unfavorable vulnerability. But he got his side into the auction on the second round. Later, it was a strange decision by Walid el Ahmady to bid four hearts after they had nudged the Italians into three spades. (Perhaps he expected partner to have a slightly better hand, but Tarek Sadek had not made a game-try over Norberto Bocchi's card-showing double.)

Declarer lost one spade, two hearts and two diamonds to go down two.

The Egyptians had the auction to themselves. Against four spades, Fulvio Fantoni (North) led the club ace, cashed the club king, and played a third club, ruffed by declarer, Ahmed Samir. West tried his best, cashing the spade ace, taking dummy's two heart winners, then leading a trump toward his hand. But his luck was out. North took two spade tricks and had a safe heart exit. Now West should have played a low diamond to dummy's queen and escaped for down one, but he led the diamond jack, covered by the king and ace, to go down two.

Plus 300 and plus 200 gave Italy 11 IMPs.

They did even better on the very next deal.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ K 9 7					
	♥ Q J 4					
	♦ K 9 5 2					
	♣ J 4 2					
♠ A 5 4 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	♠ Q 10 8 3	
N						
W     E						
S						
♥ A 8 5		♥ 10 6 3				
♦ A 7 6		♦ J 10				
♣ A 7 5		♣ K Q 8 3				
	♠ J 6					
	♥ K 9 7 2					
	♦ Q 8 4 3					
	♣ 10 9 6					

West	North	East	South
Duboin	El Ahmady	Bocchi	Sadek
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Samir	Fantoni	Amiry	Nunes
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

This all came down to the opening lead. In the Open Room, el Ahmady chose a trump. Declarer took South's jack with his ace and played a trump back. North jumped in with his king and shifted to the heart queen, but it was too late. West won in his hand, pulled the missing trump and ran the clubs to discard a heart loser. Duboin lost one spade, one heart and one diamond.

In the Closed Room, Fantoni led the heart queen. Declarer won with his ace, cashed the spade ace and played another spade. Taking no chances, Fantoni won with his king, took the heart jack and played another heart. Claudio Nunes (South) won with his king and shifted to a diamond. Soon thereafter Samir conceded down one.

Plus 620 and plus 100 gave Italy 12 IMPs.

Egypt's only good result came two deals later:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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



Norberto Bocchi, Italy

West	North	East	South
Duboin	El Ahmady	Bocchi	Sadek
		1♣	Pass
2♣ (a)	Pass	2NT (b)	Pass
3♦ (c)	Pass	3♥ (d)	Pass
3♠ (e)	Dble	Pass	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

- (a) Forcing with clubs or balanced
- (b) Five-plus clubs and four-plus diamonds
- (c) Natural!
- (d) Heart stopper, no spade stopper
- (e) Half a spade stopper

West	North	East	South
Samir	Fantoni	Amiry	Nunes
		1♣	Pass
1♦	1♠	2♦	2♠
Dble	3♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

In the Open Room, Bocchi and Duboin found out that they had no spade stopper, and because they were in a game-forcing auction, got to five diamonds. Then Sadek made a well-timed double.

North led his singleton club. Declarer won in the dummy, played a trump to his ace, and took the losing heart finesse. South shifted to a low spade, North winning and playing a spade back to South's ace. Surprisingly, South did not return a club. Instead, he led a heart to dummy's ace. But declarer, not being psychic, ran the diamond six to North's queen. Duboin still had a club to lose, so went down three.


Samir's doubles showed extra values, and Reda Amiry did very well to pass the second.

East led the club ace and shifted to the diamond seven, West winning with his king and cashing his ace, under which East signalled with the nine. Getting the message, West switched to a heart, East taking his ace and returning the jack. Declarer drew trumps but still had a heart to lose. The defenders took two hearts, two diamonds and one club for down one.

Plus 800 and plus 100 gave Egypt 14 IMPs.

The final score was Italy 28 Egypt 16, which converted to 18-12 in victory points.

**CALLING ALL JOURNALISTS**



The annual General Meeting of the IBPA will be on Monday, 8th October at 12 noon in the WBF meeting room on the 3rd floor.

# SENIOR BOWL Round 18



Poland

v

France



*by Brian Senior*

When Poland met France in Round 18 of the Senior Bowl, both were in the qualifying positions but still with some work to do to ensure qualification. A good win in this match against a direct contender would go a long way towards securing a place in the knockout stages, while a heavy defeat would put either team in serious danger of missing out.

Poland started as though they wanted to confirm qualification as quickly as possible.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 9 8 ♥ — ♦ K Q 10 7 6 ♣ A K Q 9 7 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 7 4 3 ♥ K ♦ J 3 2 ♣ J 10 8 6 3	♠ A Q 6 ♥ A 10 8 7 4 3 2 ♦ A 9 5 ♣ —
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Piganeau	Klukowski	Py	Jeziro
1♥	2NT	Pass	Pass
3♥	4♥	Dble	3♣
Pass	Rdbl	Pass	Pass
Pass	5♣	All Pass	4NT

West	North	East	South
Pochron	Vanhoutte	Omernik	Grenthe
1♥	4NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	Dble	5♣
			All Pass

It seems strange that 5♣ should be doubled at the table where West opened 1♥ but was then shut out of the auction unable to show his extra values, while it was left undoubled at the table where West bid freely up to the three level, vulnerable against not. Unfortunately, the table recorders do not appear to have done their jobs properly and we have been unable to discover the details of the play. What we know is that both Wests led the ace of hearts, crashing East's king and forcing dummy to ruff. From here, Aleksander Jezioro, for Poland, managed to get out for two

down undoubled; -100. At the other table, Patrick Grenthe was four down doubled; -800, so 12 IMPs to Poland.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 6 5 2 ♥ — ♦ A K Q J 5 ♣ K 6 4 3 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 9 7 3 ♥ Q 9 8 7 5 3 ♦ 8 ♣ A 10	♠ Q 4 ♥ A K 10 6 ♦ 10 9 6 ♣ J 9 8 7
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Piganeau	Klukowski	Py	Jeziro
1♦	1♥	INT	2♥
3♣	3♥	5♣	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Pochron	Vanhoutte	Omernik	Grenthe
1♦	1♥	Pass	2♥
3♣	3♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

After identical starts to the two auctions, Jean-Marie Py, for France, bid INT with the East cards while Kazimierz Omernik passed, an odd choice. At both tables, South



Jozef Pochron, Poland

raised to 2♥ and West introduced the clubs, showing a genuine two-suiter in the process. Julian Klukowski, for Poland, now simply competed with 3♥, while Philippe Vanhoutte made a game try by bidding 3♦.

Py jumped to 5♣, while Omernik again stayed silent with the East cards, and Grenthe accepted the game try. Now Omernik sprang to life with a double, ending the auction.

Omernik led the jack of clubs, which solved Vanhoutte's problem in that suit, picking up a full round of honours. However, he lost three trump tricks plus a diamond to be one down; -200.

Meanwhile, 5♣ was hopeless in the other room. Though North/South had bid and supported hearts, Klukowski appreciated that dummy would turn up with heart strength facing shortage, so he led a low spade. Patrice Piganeau put up the queen, not that it mattered, and Jezioro won with the ace, cashed the ♠J and switched to a diamond. There was no way to avoid losing two trump tricks, so Piganeau was two down for another 200 to Poland and 9 IMPs. The Poles led by 21-0 after four boards.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

<b>West</b> Piganeau	<b>North</b> Klukowski	<b>East</b> Py	<b>South</b> Jezioro
1♠	3♥	Pass	1♦
All Pass			4♥

<b>West</b> Pochron	<b>North</b> Vanhoutte	<b>East</b> Omernik	<b>South</b> Grenthe
1♠	2♦	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♦

Why Klukowski had to jump to 3♥, I cannot tell you – even if they play 2♥ as non-forcing, which I cannot find on their convention card, it looks normal enough to bid 2♥. Anyway, Jezioro raised to game, so the Poles were in a slightly unusual and unsuccessful spot.

Py led his spade to the queen and ace, so when Piganeau got in with the king of hearts, he could cash the ♠K and give Py a ruff, after which the ace of clubs was the setting trick; -100.

At the other table, Vanhoutte could make a transfer response of 2♦ over the 1♠ overcall. Grenthe had no reason to break the transfer, so just converted to 2♥, where he wanted to play facing a non-forcing hand-type. Now Vanhoutte continued with a 2♠ cuebid. Grenthe showed the extra diamond length, and now Vanhoutte closed proceedings with 3NT.

Omernik led the five of clubs. Vanhoutte had little option but to close his eyes and put up the king. When he opened them again, he found that he had won the trick and had nine tricks; +600 and 12 IMPs to France.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

<b>West</b> Piganeau	<b>North</b> Klukowski	<b>East</b> Py	<b>South</b> Jezioro
1♥	2♣	2♥	1♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥	Dble	All Pass	Pass

<b>West</b> Pochron	<b>North</b> Vanhoutte	<b>East</b> Omernik	<b>South</b> Grenthe
1♥	Dble	Pass	1♦
2♣	Pass	Rdbl	1♠
		2♥	All Pass



Patrice Piganeau, France

Vanhoutte doubled the 1♥ overcall, then went quietly, Omernik choosing to show a constructive heart raise by redoubling before bidding 2♥, which ended the auction. The contract just made for +110.

At the other table, Klukowski bid 2♣ with the North hand, then followed through with 2♠ over 2♥. Despite being warned of the potential for a bad break in his side-suit, Piganeau took the push to 3♥ and Klukowski doubled, passed by Jezioro. It seems to me that Klukowski did a lot of bidding on that North hand. The contract just made for +730 and 12 IMPs to France.

Again, we do not have the play records. If you are finding this report frustrating to read, maybe you could remind your team-scorer that she or he should be entering details of the play as well as the auction. I know most are doing an excellent job but ...

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ Q ♥ 3 ♦ AK9432 ♣ KJ954	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AK1042 ♥ KJ ♦ 7 ♣ A10763
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ J53 ♥ Q9754 ♦ J1086 ♣ 2										
	♠ 9876 ♥ A10862 ♦ Q5 ♣ Q8										

West	North	East	South
Piganeau	Klukowski	Py	Jezioro
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Dble
6♣	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Pochron	Vanhoutte	Omernik	Grenthe
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass

Py's jump raise to 4♣ was forcing and offered an opportunity for Piganeau to cuebid. Instead, he just took control before bidding the small slam on finding that he was facing two aces. Klukowski led a heart, so the defence got its trick, but there was nothing to the play; +920.

Omernik chose to raise clubs via fourth suit. When Jozef Pochron repeated the clubs, Omernik jumped to 5♣, which does not look to be nearly a strong enough action to me. Sure enough, Pochron passed and the slam was missed. Again the lead was a heart; +420 but 11 IMPs to France.

Having conceded the first 21 IMPs in the match, France had replied with 43 of their own while conceding just one overtrick IMP. France won by 43-22 IMPs, 20-10 VPs, consolidating their position in the top eight.

## Not Much Help

by Barry Rigal

This deal from round five had previously been reported with declarer bringing home ten tricks after a defensive error. Debbie Rosenberg for USA I made her game with very little help from the defence.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ K9 ♥ 942 ♦ K1063 ♣ K982	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J42 ♥ AKJ1073 ♦ A52 ♣ 7
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ A876 ♥ 65 ♦ J4 ♣ QJ1064									
		♠ Q1053 ♥ Q8 ♦ Q987 ♣ A53									

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

In the match between Australia and USA I in the Venice Cup, Debbie Rosenberg as North won the lead of the club queen (yes, a spade lead might have done the trick, but God had dealt East what looked like a better alternative) and drew trumps in three rounds (carefully pitching a diamond from dummy as East threw a club). Then declarer advanced the spade jack. West won and played a top club.

Rosenberg ruffed, led a spade to the ten, ruffed a club – that was why it was necessary to keep a third club on the board – and played a spade to East's ace as West pitched a diamond, to reach this ending:

♠ — ♥ — ♦ K106 ♣ 8	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ — ♥ 7 ♦ A52 ♣ —
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ 8 ♥ — ♦ J4 ♣ J									
		♠ 10 ♥ — ♦ Q98 ♣ —									

When East exited with a club, Rosenberg ruffed and decided to play West for the king of diamonds. So she pitched the winning spade from dummy and led a diamond to the four, eight and ten, endplaying West to lead a diamond round to the queen for her contract.

# BERMUDA BOWL

# Round 18



**China SMEG**

v

**Norway**



by Mark Horton

It was just about standing room only for the important round 18 clash between two of the teams occupying qualifying spots in the race to the knockout.

To the disappointment of the home supporters it was Norway who made the early running – although the speed of play in the Closed Room barely rose above a snail's pace.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 10 6 5 3 ♥ 7 3 2 ♦ Q 2 ♣ A Q 10 9	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A J 8 7 4 2 ♥ 9 8 6 4 ♦ 4 ♣ K 5	♠ K ♥ A J 10 ♦ A K J 10 8 6 ♣ J 8 6
	N											
W		E										
	S											

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Salensminde</i>	<i>Zhuang</i>
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass	2NT	Pass

South led the queen of hearts. Declarer won and played a club to the nine. North won and played back a heart, and when South played a third heart, declarer had the rest, +460.

With East as declarer only a double dummy lead of the queen (or nine) of spades would defeat 3NT. North wins with the ace and switches to a heart, South winning and playing a second spade. When that holds, a club switch leaves declarer with no hope.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhao</i>	<i>Tundal</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Groetheim</i>
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass	3♦	Pass

With West as declarer, North's lead of the nine of hearts was fatal.

Rather than risk an avalanche of spades, declarer went up with dummy's ace, cashed six diamonds and took the losing club finesse. North cashed the ace of spades, and when South failed to unblock the queen, declarer made another trick at the end, but that was still one down, -50 and 11 IMPs to Norway.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ A Q 6 ♥ A 10 8 7 4 3 2 ♦ A 9 5 ♣ —	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 9 8 ♥ — ♦ K Q 10 7 6 ♣ A K Q 9 7 4	♠ J 7 4 3 ♥ K ♦ J 3 2 ♣ J 10 8 6 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Salensminde</i>	<i>Zhuang</i>
1♥	4NT*	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		5♣

For the second time on VuGraph in the Championships, we saw a player overcall an opening bid with 4NT.

It was not exactly a triumph.

West led the ace of diamonds and continued with the nine. Declarer won in dummy and cashed a top trump, West discarding the eight of hearts. There was nothing declarer could do to avoid three down, -500.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhao</i>	<i>Tundal</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Groetheim</i>
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	4♣	Dble	All Pass
2♥	Both majors 2-8		

When 3NT was doubled, North ran to his longest suit – and although that was also doubled it was worth 5 IMPs.

China SMEG gave their supporters something to cheer about on the next deal:



Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 6 5 2 ♥ — ♦ A K Q J 5 ♣ K 6 4 3 2	♠ K 9 7 3 ♥ Q 9 8 7 5 3 ♦ 8 ♣ A 10 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> <span>S</span> </div> ♠ A J 10 8 ♥ J 4 2 ♦ 7 4 3 2 ♣ Q 5	♠ Q 4 ♥ A K 10 6 ♦ 10 9 6 ♣ J 9 8 7
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Shi	Salensminde	Zhuang
1♦	1♥	INT	2♥
3♣	3♥	Dble	All Pass

I cannot tell you if it is a good idea to bid 3♣ on the West cards, but that and the possession of some very good looking trumps may have influenced East's decision to double 3♥.

West won the diamond lead and tried to cash a second trick in the suit. Declarer ruffed, played the seven of hearts – and ran it when East followed with the six.

East won the next heart and played a diamond, declarer ruffing and playing a heart. East won and exited with a spade. That speeded play up, +730.

If East had exited with a heart, declarer would have had more than one way to get home. For instance he might have won, unblocking one of dummy's spades and then played a spade to the ace and run the ten of spades. East would win but would have to play a club and declarer could not go wrong.



Ulf Haakon Tundal, Norway

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zhao	Tundal	Fu	Groetheim
1♦	1♥	INT	2♥
3♣	3♥	3NT	All Pass

The Norwegian pair did their best by bidding up to 3♥, but this time East preferred to bid 3NT.

South led the jack of hearts. Declarer won and ran the nine of clubs. North took the ten and played a second heart. Declarer finessed the ten and played another club.

North won and switched to a spade. That was two down, -200.

One whimsical idea struck me. Suppose East wins the second heart with his ace and plays a club. When North wins with the ace, might he not play a low heart, assuming South must have the ten?

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ Q J 2 ♥ Q 6 4 ♦ A 10 9 8 7 ♣ 7 4	♠ K 6 ♥ J 10 ♦ 6 5 4 2 ♣ A Q 9 8 6 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> <span>S</span> </div> ♠ A 9 4 3 ♥ A K 9 3 ♦ K ♣ K J 10 3	♠ 10 8 7 5 ♥ 8 7 5 2 ♦ Q J 3 ♣ 5 2
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Shi	Salensminde	Zhuang
Pass	3♣	Pass	1♣
All Pass		Pass	6♣

West led the queen of spades. Declarer won in dummy and played a diamond. West won and played back a diamond, so declarer was able to ruff, cash one top trump and play on cross-ruff lines, +920.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zhao	Tundal	Fu	Groetheim
Pass	2♥*	Pass	1♣*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	2♠*
Pass	4♣	Pass	3♦*
All Pass		Pass	6♣

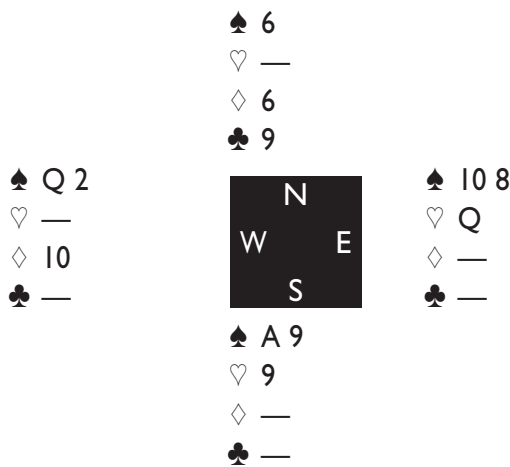
- 2♥ 8+, 5/4, 4/5 minors
- 2♠ Relay
- 2NT 5♣, 4♦, 8-11
- 3♦ Slam try in ♣

The play was more or less identical at this table after the same opening lead of the queen of spades, no swing.

6♣ is an excellent contract, virtually cold unless a trump is led. In that case West can play a second trump when in with the ace of diamonds, preventing the crossruff. This happened at three tables in the Venice Cup and declarer relied on the heart finesse, going one down.

As my forte is not mathematics (as my fan well knows), I cannot tell you if that is the best line, but it is not the only one.

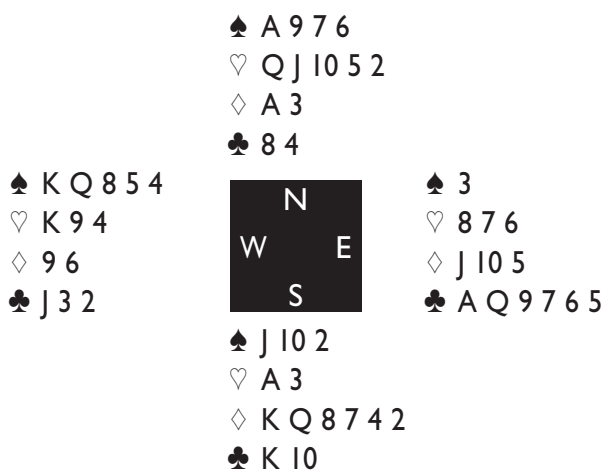
Suppose declarer plays to ruff two diamonds in hand and two hearts in dummy. If the queen of hearts falls (as it does here), you are home and if it does not, you may achieve a squeeze. For example, just give East the queen of hearts – this will be the three-card ending:



When declarer plays the last trump East has to discard a spade. The nine of hearts goes from the South hand, and West has no answer.

Giovanni Watulingas of Indonesia played along those lines to bring home the slam in the match against New Zealand (they stopped in 5♣ in the other room.)

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Salensminde</i>	<i>Zhuang</i>
1♠	2♣*	Dble	1♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	2♥*
All Pass			4♥
2♣	Invitational in ♥		
2♥	Maybe 2♥		

West led the two of clubs. East won with the ace and switched to the three of spades. Declarer after winning with the ace, played a heart to the ace and a heart. West won, cashed a spade and gave East a ruff, +100.

If North had bid 2♠ over 2♥, then both 3NT and 4♠ would also have been in the picture.

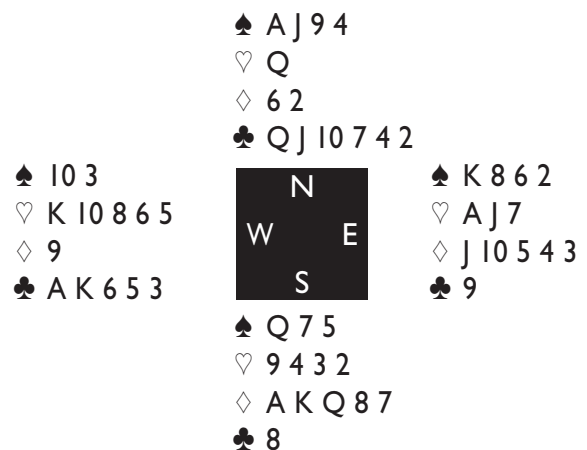
### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhao</i>	<i>Tundal</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Groetheim</i>
Pass	2♦*	Pass	INT
Pass	2♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

The Norwegians reached 3NT – a contract that could not be defeated as the cards lay.

West led the three of clubs and declarer took his tricks, +600 and 12 IMPs to Norway.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Salensminde</i>	<i>Zhuang</i>
1♥	Dble	Pass	1♦
4♥	Pass	2♦*	Dble*
Pass	5♦	Dble	4♠
			All Pass

I will leave you to use your own adjective to ascribe to South's imaginative bid of 4♠.

West led the ace of clubs and switched to the nine of diamonds. Declarer won and played a spade to the jack and king. East cashed the ace of hearts and led the jack of diamonds. Declarer had nowhere to go, down three, -800.

**Closed Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Zhao	Tundal	Fu	Groethem
		Pass	1♦
1♥	Dble	2♦*	Dble
2♥	3♣	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

The Norwegians were able to stop at a safe level, so although the contract was two down, -200 was enough to earn them 12 IMPs.

Norway were assured of an important win but China SMEG reduced the margin just before the end:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

**Open Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Brogeland	Shi	Salensminde	Zhuang
	1♣	1♥	1♠*
2♥	2NT	Pass	3♣
All Pass			
1♠ Denies 4♠			

There was nothing to the play, declarer losing a spade and two hearts, +130.

**Closed Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Zhao	Tundal	Fu	Groethem
	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The spotlight was on West. When he led the ten of hearts, China SMEG had dodged that particular bullet and the contract was swiftly two down, -200 and 8 IMPs.

Norway won 42-26 IMPs, 19-11 VP – leaving China SMEG to face an anxious last three rounds.

**The 26th Annual Jordanian International Bridge Festival**

16-19 November, 2007

**Venue:**  
Kempinski Hotel, Amman

**Program:**  
Friday November 16th 1700 Open Pairs 1  
Saturday November 17th 1100 Open Pairs 2  
Saturday November 17th 1800 Open Pairs 3  
Sunday November 18th 1700 Open Teams 1  
Monday November 19th 1500 Open Teams 2  
Generous prizes to be won  
Reservation and further details:

**The Jordan Bridge Federation**

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Email: dzaferjarar@gmail.com  
Kempinski – Amman  
Free phone: 00 800 42 631355 (Europe)  
1 800 426 3135 (N.America)  
00 9626 5200202 Jordan (paid phone)  
Reservations: amman@kempinski.com  
www.kempinski.com

**A Curiosity**

Notice anything about the West hand on this deal from round 19?

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Yes – all the pips are even-numbered. What are the odds against that happening?

The WBF looks forward to welcoming you to the  
**First World Mind Sport Games**  
**Beijing**

**3 – 18 October 2008**

This great new event is to be held under the auspices of IMSA (the International Mind Sports Association). Following meetings held in Shanghai, it has been decided that the World Mind Sport Games will include not only a Junior Teams, Pairs and Individual Championship but will also include the Open and Women's Teams, formerly the World Teams Olympiad.

All member countries of the World Bridge Federation have been informed about the Junior Event and asked **to select and train a National Youth Team** to compete in the **Junior Teams, Pairs and Individual Championships** to be held during this fantastic event. We hope to have **one competing team per member country**, and it is very important that as many Federations as possible are represented. It is hoped that considerable financial support for the Junior players will be available, including **full board accommodation and possibly the transport costs**. We count on your support to ensure the success of this event.

We hope that all member countries will also send teams (one per country) to compete in the **Open and Women's series**, for what was the **World Teams Olympiad** but will now be held as part of the **World Mind Sport Games**. This championship will, we are sure, prove to be the challenging and exciting event it has always been in the past, and we look forward to seeing many of the players here in Shanghai joining us

once again in Beijing. It should be noted that small federations who send a Junior team may also be able to receive some support for their Open or, more particularly, for their Women's team.

In addition, the World Bridge Team Games will be held, consisting of the **World Senior International Cup** and the exciting **World Transnational Teams Championship**. The World Senior International Cup will be open, as normal, to one team per member country and will be held from 3 – 18 October.

The World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship will be open to players from all member countries of the WBF provided they are members in good standing with their Federations, and will be staged during the second week, giving the players the opportunity not only of participating in a great tournament but at the same time allowing them to enjoy the tense atmosphere and excitement of the closing stages of the World Mind Sport Games.

