



NEC Bridge Festival

Saturday, February 10, 2001
Bulletin Number 4

Editors: Eric Kokish
Richard Colker

England-Senior Team Heads NEC Cup KO Qualifiers

The England-Senior team (Brian Senior, Glyn Liggins, Joe Fawcett, Espen Erichsen) won the round-robin phase of the NEC Cup, qualifying first for the quarter-finals by almost full match, with 214 VPs. In second place was Sweden (P.O. Sundelin, Johan Sylvan, Bjorn Fallenius, Magnus Lindkvist) with 189 VPs. The complete final round-robin rankings were:

Place	Team	VPs	Place	Team	VPs	Place	Team	VPs
1	5 England-Senior	214	12	14 Chinese Taipei	155	23	20 MEIRIN	132
2	2 Sweden	189	13	4 USA	153	24	29 DREAM	131
3	3 Argentine/Australia	183	14	11 PABF Open	153	25	27 SWAN	130
4	1 GB-Hackett	172.5	15	7 GB-Morris	151.5	26	31 PS-Bridge	128
5	9 Australia	168	16	16 SLAM DUNK	149.5	27	23 APPLE	128
6	10 Indonesia	167	17	25 YOKO	148	28	24 Eucalyptus Village	124
7	6 e-bridge	166	18	13 TERAMOTO	146	29	26 Merry Queens	122
8	15 OHNO	163.5	19	18 GELLER	142	30	28 MAIKA	116
9	12 PABF Women	161	20	32 Yokohama Tornados	137	31	30 Cosmos	115
10	8 Austria	159	21	22 SKOTII	133	32	17 PABF Youth	100
11	21 HANAGUMI	158	22	19 Esperanza	132			

Today's Match Times and Matchups

QF3: 10:00-12:20; **SF1:** 12:40-15:00; **SF2:** 16:00-18:20; **SF3:** 18:40-21:00

Quarter-finals matchups (by end rankings): 1 vs 5; 2 vs 8; 3 vs 6; 4 vs 7.

(Remember, you still have 2:20 to play each 16-deal segment (plus a 5-minute grace period.)

Senior, Hackett, Arg/Aus and Sweden Led in Quarter-finals

At the end of 32 boards, England-Senior leads Australia 104-19, GB-Hackett leads e-bridge 67-58, Argentina/Australia leads Indonesia 87-67, and Sweden leads OHNO 136-40. At the risk of being premature, we offer our congratulations to England-Senior and Sweden and wish good luck to the rest of the participants in their final 16 boards this morning.

NEC Cup Bridge Festival on the Web

The exploits of some of the best bridge players in the world are being chronicled on the World Wide Web. Follow all of the action at the 6th NEC Cup Bridge Festival by surfing to:

<http://www.bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/necfest.html>

– or –

<http://www.jcbl.or.jp>

– or –

<http://www.e-bridgemaster.com>

NEC Cup 2001: CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

A 10 round Swiss, qualifying the top 8 teams to the Knockout phase; no playbacks.

V.P. Scale WBF 16-board scale.

Seating Rights Toss of coin 5 minutes before start of match. Failure will constitute loss of rights.

KO-Phase Seating The winner of a coin toss has the choice of seating in any of the 16-board segments. The loser then chooses any of the remaining segments and the two teams alternate choices until all segments are assigned.

Swiss Pairings For the first and second Swiss matches, pairings will be determined by randomly pairing each of the teams numbered 1-16 with one of the teams numbered 17-32. Subsequent match pairings will be based on current VP totals.

Home and visiting 1st numbered team sits N/S in open room, E/W in closed room.

Tie-Breaks At the end of the Swiss: ties will be broken by the result of the head-to-head match (if one was played) or an IMP quotient otherwise. If more than two teams are involved, Bermuda 2000 Conditions of Contest procedures will apply.

In the Knockout Phase, the team with the higher position from the Swiss will be assumed to have a ½-IMP carryover.

Systems No HUM methods will be permitted in this event.
In the Swiss, no Brown Sticker methods will be permitted.
In the KO Phase, Brown Sticker methods will be permitted only if filed before the start of the Swiss. Written defenses to such methods may be used at the table.

Length of Matches 2 hours and 20 minutes will be allotted for each 16 boards. In addition a 5-minute grace period will be allotted to each team. Overtime and slow play penalties as per Bermuda 2000 Conditions of Contest.

Appeals The WBF Code of Practice will be in effect. The Chief Director will have 12C3 authority. Appeals which are found to be without merit may incur a penalty of up to 3 VPs.

Match Scoring Pick-up slips are to be completed and all match results are to be verified against the official result sheet (posted at the end of each match); score corrections and notifications of appeals will be permitted up until the start of the next session, a session being defined as the start of a group of two matches or segments.

KO Draw The team finishing 1st in the Swiss may choose their opponent from the teams finishing 4th-8th. The team finishing 2nd will have their choice of the remaining teams from the 4th-8th group. And so on.

In addition, before the start of the Knockout Phase and after all quarter-final draws have been determined, the team that finishes 1st in the Swiss chooses their semi-final opponent from any of the other three quarter-final matches.

Rosters of NEC Cup Qualifiers

Team		
Rank	Name	Roster
1	England-Senior	Brian Senior, Glyn Liggins, Joe Fawcett, Espen Erichsen
2	Sweden	P.O. Sundelin, Johan Sylvan, Bjorn Fallenius, Magnus Lindkvist
3	Argentina/Australia	Pablo Lambardi, Pablo Ravenna, Ishmael Del'Monte, Paul Marston
4	GB-Hackett	Paul, Jason, Justin Hackett, B. Mavromichalis, John Armstrong
5	Australia	Barry Noble, Terry Brown, Phil Gue, Mike Prescott, Peter Fordham
6	Indonesia	Henky Lasut, Eddy Manoppo, Santje Panelewen, Robert Parasiani
7	e-bridge	Sam Lev, John Mohan, Jacek Pszczola, Piotr Gawrys, Pinhas Romik
8	OHNO	Kyoko Ohno, Akihiko Yamada, Katsumi Takahashi, Masaru Yoshida, Tadashi Imakura, Masayuki Ino

Terry and the Piracy

<p>Bd: 3 North</p> <p>Dir: South ♠ J762</p> <p>Vul: E/W ♥ KQ42</p> <p> ♦ Q983</p> <p> ♣ 6</p> <p>West East</p> <p>♠ AQ9843 ♠ 10</p> <p>♥ 3 ♥ J</p> <p>♦ 4 ♦ J107652</p> <p>♣ AJ752 ♣ Q10983</p> <p> South</p> <p> ♠ K5</p> <p> ♥ A1098765</p> <p> ♦ AK</p> <p> ♣ K4</p>	
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On this lively deal from Round Seven, Australia's Terry Brown found himself in 5♥ doubled after his Slam dunkian opponents Yasuhiro Shimizu/Kazuo Furuta had competed to 5♣.

Shimizu, who had shown length in both black suits, cashed the ♣A, six, queen, four, and then the ♠A, deuce, ten...

Smooth as Silk, Brown followed with the ♠K. Had he not done so West would have known it was safe to continue spades no matter who held the king. Perhaps Shimizu should have played another spade anyway, but as he didn't Brown's thoughtful contribution paid off.

At the other table Hara/Miyakuni for Slam Dunk climbed all the way to 6♥, where they went two down, not doubled. Australia gained 13 IMPs en route to a 53-12, 24-6 VP win over their contending opponents.

Loser to Potential-Winner Play

Nakitani-san reminds any of you who have been eliminated from the NEC Cup quarter-finals or semi-finals and who wish to play in the Flight A Ouchi Cup final on Sunday to please notify him of your intentions by the end of today's play. Thank you.

Danam Cup Tournament Scheduled for June 30 - July 1

The Danam Cup 2001 Bridge tournament, jointly hosted by the Korean bridge Association and Danam Communications, Inc., Korea, will be held from June 30 to July 1, 2001, at Hotel Lotte World, Chamsil, Seoul, Korea. For details contact:

Mr. Hong-sup Hahn, tel: 82-31-428-2001; fax: 82-31-456-2436; e-mail: hshahn@danam.co.kr

Mr. Bruce Shin, tel: 82-2-790-2973; fax: 82-2-6000-8868; e-mail: yuliya@unitel.co.kr

Round Seven Vugraph Match Report

by Eric Kokish

Great Britain may no longer exist in the world bridge community but we can be sure that there will always be an England. Rumors that Manchester (United and City, too) has applied to become a nation unto itself remain unsubstantiated at press time. Our featured Round-Seven match catches up with the team that calls itself England. No one else has caught up with these guys yet (their IMP total is miles ahead of their nearest rival's). I speak respectfully of **Brian Senior-Espen Erichsen** (who has been near-dead or dying from some horrible flu since his arrival), **Joe Fawcett-Glyn Liggins**. Their rivals: the fierce Ohno team, whose consistency has kept them near the top of the rankings throughout: **Kyoko Ohno-Akihiko Yamada**, **Tadashi Imakura-Masayuki Ino**, **Katsumi Takahashi-Masaru Yoshida**.

I confess that I have played (voluntarily) with partners who would double 1♣ for takeout with the nauseating East hand but never have I freely faced someone who would dare to go where I no went on the second round of bidding, in the thick of a live auction. This piece of indelicacy set in motion a sequence of events that were anything but indelicate, culminating with Erichsen's decision to sell out to 3♥ undoubled with the best hand at the table. He was correct in his assessment that his side could not make a game but he was less correct in his assessment that his opponents were likely to have the trumps and distribution to give them a chance to make what they had bid. Even without a trump lead, Imakura had too much to do and finished with seven tricks: minus 100.

Ohno, like Erichsen, would have opened the bidding had she been given the opportunity to do so, but that didn't mean she could afford to contract for game just because her partner had opened first. If you're still with us, I'm trying to explain why she forced to game with 2♠ but changed her mind over 3♣. Actually, it all makes perfect sense. The defenders played heart, trump to the ace, heart, heart, holding declarer to plus 110. Had someone tried a diamond earlier, declarer would have had to finesse the ♠J before drawing trumps in order to get home. No swing.

Bd: 1	North
Dlr: North	♠ A5
Vul: None	♥ J102
	♦ 74
	♣ KQ10982
West	East
♠ 10643	♠ Q82
♥ AK98	♥ Q765
♦ 2	♦ QJ96
♣ 7543	♣ A6
	South
	♠ KJ97
	♥ 43
	♦ AK10853
	♣ J

Bd: 2	North
Dlr: East	♠ 1098
Vul: N/S	♥ J98
	♦ 92
	♣ 109832
West	East
♠ AQ743	♠ K
♥ AK63	♥ Q7542
♦ J764	♦ K1053
♣ ---	♣ AK5
	South
	♠ J652
	♥ 10
	♦ AQ8
	♣ QJ764

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♣	Dble	Rdbl
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♦
3♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
		1♥	Dble
3♣*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
		1♥	Pass
2♦(1)	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

(1) Heart fit, at least invitational (I'm guessing)

There are surely some lovely bids in those sequences, most of them describing special types of heart raises, but we're not privy to their meanings as we go to press.

6♥ is a good contract, much better if played by East. It deserved to make and Fawcett duly made it with normal but careful play. Club lead to the ace, ♥Q, ♠K, ♥K, spade ruff, ♥A, three spades to discard diamonds: plus 980. That was 11 IMPs to England when Ino scored a disgusted plus 480 in 4♥.

Bd: 3	North	
Dlr: South	♠ J762	
Vul: E/W	♥ KQ42	
	♦ Q983	
	♣ 6	
West		East
♠ AQ9843		♠ 10
♥ 3		♥ J
♦ 4		♦ J107652
♣ AJ752		♣ Q10983
	South	
	♠ K5	
	♥ A1098765	
	♦ AK	
	♣ K4	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
			1♥
1♠	3♣(1)	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

(1) Short clubs, roughly a limit raise

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
			1♥
1♠	2♠(1)	Pass	3♠
4♣	4♥	5♣	5♥

All Pass

(1) Hearts, at least a limit raise

It's true that if you buy badly you might get hurt by bidding twice with the West hand, but it's human nature to bid twice. Right Tadashi-san?

Both 4♥ and 5♥ made four — two black aces and a spade ruff. 10 IMPs to England, 21-love after three deals.

Bd: 4	North	
Dlr: West	♠ J863	
Vul: Both	♥ K1096	
	♦ A965	
	♣ 9	
West		East
♠ 1094		♠ A
♥ A83		♥ Q752
♦ QJ1042		♦ 7
♣ 102		♣ AKQJ653
	South	
	♠ KQ752	
	♥ J4	
	♦ K83	
	♣ 874	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	3♣(1)	3NT	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

(1) Deja voodoo?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
Pass	Pass	5♣	All Pass

Only the participants know whether they bid well on this one. Ino was cold for 3NT so Erichsen's bold vulnerable 4♠ was going to be a winner unless he went for 800. He didn't. He won the diamond ead in hand and an the ♥J immediately. A low club now would have enabled the defense to build a

diamond trick and later cash it, but Ino played ♣J, heart. He ruffed away the ♦A but there was no trump promotion accruing from the process and declarer's diamond loser went on a heart. Down just 200.

Perhaps 5♣ is the pressure bid in third seat but it sits badly with me to go past 3NT and bury hearts when there might well be a slam opposite a moderate passed hand. Fawcett did shut everyone out, much as he suspected. He took the opening lead of the ♠Q with the ace and led his diamond up, eight (count), queen, ace. Yamada judged it necessary to switch to hearts but this was not the case. Fawcett judged that Yamada would not play a heart in this position unless it were safe to do so, and so did not play the ♥Q, which would have seen him home. Liggins judged that all this judgment was giving him a headache and left Fawcett to mangle...um, turn his own dummy. Fawcett won the ♥A, ruffed a diamond, crossed to the ♣10, and led a heart, ducked by Yamada, the queen winning. Alas, after all of this, Fawcett could not find a place to put his two losing hearts, and so finished one down: minus 100. 7 IMPs to Ohno, 7-21.

Bd: 5	North		
Dlr: North	♠ Q985		
Vul: N/S	♥ KQ652		
	♦ ---		
	♣ AJ109		
West		East	
♠ J1043		♠ 72	
♥ 7		♥ A1043	
♦ 1098763		♦ AJ2	
♣ 83		♣ Q742	
	South		
	♠ AK6		
	♥ J98		
	♦ KQ54		
	♣ K65		

Open Room

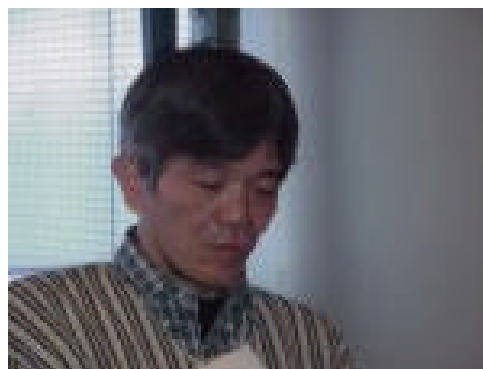
West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

While it needn't be fatal to get to 5♥ with the N/S cards and slam might be possible with a bit of luck and a good guess or two, the fact remains that you'd like to stop at 4♥. Both pairs started the same way, with 3♥ a positive move. Senior, hating his diamond holding in context and with only six hearts in a near-minimum opening, felt free to express a negative opinion, which Erichsen respected. In contrast, Yamada may have felt that it was safe (or even mandatory) to cue-bid once below game. Ohno, with the missing spade control, went past but game, perhaps not sure that her 4♦ cue bid guaranteed a spade control because Yamada had denied one. Which is how they reached 5♥.

Against 4♥, Ino led a club around to the jack. Senior play two rounds of trumps and Ino won to switch to spades. With the club length in the same hand as the heart length, Senior simply played ♣K, ♣A, club ruff, and he eventually lost a spade and another trump: plus 620. That wasn't so easy, really.



Masayuki Ino

Against 5♥, Fawcett led the ♦A, not realizing that there are no mice in the Pacifico. Despite this welcome start, Yamada was hardly home and dry. Trump to the jack, trump to the king and ace, diamond continuation. Yamada decided to discard a club and play for some version of four spade winners, falling back on the club finesse one way or the other, if necessary. The spade suit was not

obliging, however, and Fawcett ruffed away the queen to exit with his remaining trump. Now Yamada could discard his last spade on the $\diamond Q$ if it seemed that there was no squeeze despite all those threat cards, and seek out the $\clubsuit Q$. In the end, Yamada decided to play Liggins for the $\clubsuit Q$, so down he went, covered with flames. 12 IMPs to England, 33-7.

a second spade would have left him with a spade loser. Instead, Ino tried to cash the $\diamond K$, so Senior was able to unblock the $\clubsuit K$ and get out for two down: minus 300.

There was nothing to the play at $5\spadesuit$ once Fawcett led the first trump to dummy's king: plus 650. 8 IMPs to England, pulling away, 41-7.

Bd: 6	North	
Dlr: East	\spadesuit Q108	
Vul: E/W	\heartsuit A109854	
	\diamond 9	
	\clubsuit KJ8	
West		East
\spadesuit K954		\spadesuit AJ7632
\heartsuit J2		\heartsuit Q
\diamond Q82		\diamond AKJ5
\clubsuit A742		\clubsuit Q6
	South	
	\spadesuit ---	
	\heartsuit K763	
	\diamond 107643	
	\clubsuit 10953	

Bd: 7	North	
Dlr: South	\spadesuit J9873	
Vul: Both	\heartsuit 7	
	\diamond A1084	
	\clubsuit KQ7	
West		East
\spadesuit Q		\spadesuit K104
\heartsuit J8642		\heartsuit KQ109
\diamond Q53		\diamond J96
\clubsuit J952		\clubsuit 1083
	South	
	\spadesuit A652	
	\heartsuit A53	
	\diamond K72	
	\clubsuit A64	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
		$1\spadesuit$	Pass
$3\clubsuit(1)$	$3\heartsuit$	$4\diamond$	$4\heartsuit$
Pass	Pass	$4\spadesuit$	Pass
Pass	$5\heartsuit$	$5\spadesuit$	$6\heartsuit$
Dble	All Pass		

(1) Limit spade raise

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
		$1\spadesuit$	Pass
$2\heartsuit(1)$	$3\heartsuit$	$4\heartsuit(2)$	$5\heartsuit$
$5\spadesuit$	All Pass		

(1) Spades, at least invitational

(2) Shortage

Senior/Erichsen judged this one perfectly, thumbing their noses at those who postulate that the five level belongs to the opponents. Senior, trying for one down after $\diamond A$, $\heartsuit Q$, won in dummy and led a club. Imakura went in with the ace to play a second trump. Senior won the ace to take a losing club finesse, and with the clubs blocked

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
			$1NT$
Pass	$2\heartsuit^*$	Pass	$3\spadesuit^*$
Pass	$4\diamond^*$	Pass	$4\heartsuit^*$
Pass	$4\spadesuit$	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
			$1\clubsuit$
Pass	$1\spadesuit$	Pass	$2\spadesuit^*$
Pass	$4\spadesuit$	All Pass	

There are a few strong notrumps that will produce a slam opposite this North hand but the danger in trying for slam is that South might drive to slam with some unsuitable maximums. Erichsen's $3\spadesuit$ showed a minimum notrump with four spades, so Senior's $4\diamond$ was very pushy. What he needed was a method to show his heart shortage, but even then, he needed a perfecto for slam. Trying for slam without being able to make it clear what sort of hand was needed to make one is always a

dangerous idea, and I suspect that Senior was relieved when Erichsen let him out at 4♠. There were two trumps and a diamond to lose so 4♠ was the limit. Plus 620 at both tables. No swing.

Bd: 8	North	
Dlr: West	♠ 1074	
Vul: None	♥ A973	
	♦ 1053	
	♣ J76	
West		East
♠ Q9652		♠ 83
♥ K		♥ 65
♦ 987		♦ KQJ6
♣ KQ93		♣ A10842
	South	
	♠ AKJ	
	♥ QJ10842	
	♦ A42	
	♣ 5	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
Pass	Pass	1NT(1)	Dble
Rdbl(2)	Pass	2♣	Pass(3)
2♠	Pass*	Pass	4♥

All Pass

(1) 10-12; (2) Puppet to 2♣, one-suiter

(3) Forcing pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
2♠(1)	Pass	3♣(2)	3♥

All Pass

(1) Spades and a minor, weak

(2) Pass or correct

Johnny, go to the blackboard and spell “macho” — “Ino” spells “macho,” sir. Is it the system or its advocates who get top billing in this vignette? For better or for worse, Ino/Imakura created a scenario in which Erichsen thought he would buy a good dummy. In a way, he did, but it was not obvious when Senior’s hand appeared that this was necessarily so. Imakura stayed off the fatal spade lead and started with two rounds of clubs. Erichsen ruffed and tried a low diamond, ducking Imakura’s nine, which held the trick. A third round of clubs eliminated that suit for Erichsen, and now it was open to him to draw trumps, cash ace-king

of spades, ace of diamonds, and exit with a diamond. Ino, out of spades, would then also be out of Schlit. Instead Erichsen (“I feel worse and worse as the day goes on”) played ace and another diamond immediately. He had to lose a spade later for one down: minus 50.

Try as I might, I can’t bring myself to think kindly of the efforts of our friends Liggins and Fawcett. Even without stooping to a further discussion of “macho” in this rag, describing the West hand as a weak two-suiter is questionable and bidding only 3♣ with the jam-worthy East hand would not convince anyone that England’s Olympians are anxious to run with the lions. The upshot was that Ohno/Yamada stopped in 3♥ (4♣ would have driven Ohno to 4♥, of course), made three, and gained 5 IMPs, 12-41.

Bd: 9	North	
Dlr: North	♠ KJ9765	
Vul: E/W	♥ 52	
	♦ 1085	
	♣ 87	
West		East
♠ A32		♠ 84
♥ J3		♥ K1084
♦ J963		♦ KQ2
♣ J964		♣ K1052
	South	
	♠ Q10	
	♥ AQ976	
	♦ A74	
	♣ AQ3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
	2♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
	2♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣(1)	Pass	4♠

All Pass

(1) Minimum, poor suit

I guess we can understand why North wouldn’t want to open 3♠, even at the delicious

vulnerability, but it's a question of perception. My psychiatrist tells me that anyone would open 2♠ and that my thoughts of 3♣ are related to a childhood resentment of my mother. Maybe he's right.



Tadashi Imakura

With the ♠K and ♣K onside, 4♠ made. Senior managed an overtrick when the defenders led trumps, took the first, and allowed him to ruff out the hearts. 1 IMP to England, 42-12.

Bd: 10	North		
Dir: East	♠ QJ94		
Vul: Both	♥ A754		
	♦ K1054		
	♣ 4		
West		East	
♠ 32		♠ 1076	
♥ J10932		♥ KQ86	
♦ QJ2		♦ 96	
♣ J93		♣ Q1065	
	South		
	♠ AK85		
	♥ ---		
	♦ A873		
	♣ AK872		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Ericksen
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♠

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Dble	6♠

All Pass

Both Wests led the ♦Q ("Dincha see my double of 4♥, partner?") so the play was comfortable for both declarers in 6♠, but they would have made it on a heart lead also. Ohno made seven, Ericksen six. 1 IMP to Ohno, 13-42.

Bd: 11	North		
Dir: South	♠ A93		
Vul: None	♥ 986		
	♦ 10953		
	♣ Q42		
West		East	
♠ 65		♠ J1082	
♥ K10754		♥ AQJ3	
♦ AJ8		♦ KQ6	
♣ A97		♣ 85	
	South		
	♠ KQ74		
	♥ 2		
	♦ 742		
	♣ KJ1063		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Ericksen
			Pass
1♥	Pass	2♠(1)	Pass
2NT(2)	Pass	3♥(3)	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

(1) Any spinter or BAL ♥ raise 11-14

(2) Inquiry; (3) No SPL, 11-14

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
			Pass
1♥	Pass	2♦(1)	Pass
2♥(2)	Pass	4♥	All Pass

(1) Hearts, at least invitational; (2) Minimum

Dull 4♥; interesting bidding. Two routine 420s.



"If he did what I think he did, he'll never guess what I'm about to do."

Bd: 12	North
Dir: West	♠ KJ7
Vul: N/S	♥ AK832
	♦ 1082
	♣ 52
West	East
♠ Q98	♠ 10643
♥ 4	♥ 1097
♦ AQJ97	♦ 6543
♣ AJ64	♣ 97
	South
	♠ A52
	♥ QJ65
	♦ K
	♣ KQ1083

Bd: 13	North
Dir: North	♠ 975
Vul: Both	♥ AQ3
	♦ 10943
	♣ A93
West	East
♠ Q4	♠ AK832
♥ 87	♥ 1052
♦ AK5	♦ 762
♣ K87654	♣ J2
	South
	♠ J106
	♥ KJ964
	♦ QJ8
	♣ Q10

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
1♦	1♥	Pass	4♥

All Pass

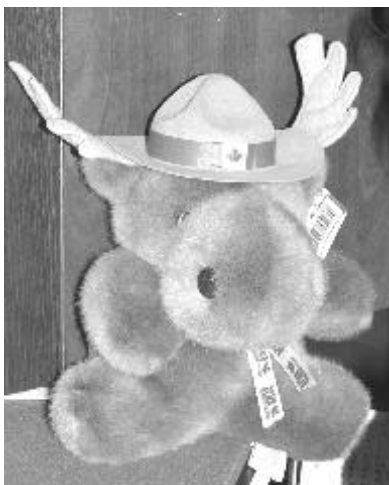
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
1♦	1♥	Pass	3♦(1)
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥

All Pass

(1) Primary heart support, at least invitational

As South needs only ace-king-sixth of hearts and ace-third of clubs for an excellent slam, perhaps 4♥ is the wrong bid, but why should North have a perfecto? The declarers lost two aces. Another push, at plus 650.



Women's Team Mascot
Proof of ominous Canadian
influence, or...just coincidence?

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	All Pass		

With only four cards in the majors, Imakura decided to back his judgment and threw it in. Alas, 2♣ was makeable and, more important, buyable. Plus 90 for Liggins. 3 IMPs to England, 45-13.

Bd: 14	North
Dir: East	♠ 10
Vul: None	♥ J84
	♦ AQ87
	♣ AK986
West	East
♠ Q92	♠ 8543
♥ AK10972	♥ Q
♦ K6	♦ J1092
♣ 54	♣ J1073
	South
	♠ AKJ76
	♥ 653
	♦ 543
	♣ Q2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
		Pass	Pass
1♥	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
		Pass	Pass
1♥	2♣	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Stop me before I start to discuss the merits of a 2♣ overcall with that North hand. Thanks, Rich.

But 2♣ is surely the normal action. What happens next is a combination of style and personality. Yamada, who could envision a scrambling line of play for Ohno, passed 2♠ before something worse befell him. Ohno made four when Liggins cashed the ♥A and switched to a club. Ohno won in dummy and passed the ♠10. Liggins won and led a second club. Ohno drew trumps, finessed in diamonds and developed the long club: plus 170.



Brigitte Mavromichalis

Senior, thinking of weak (short) spades (no weak two) and a bit of help for clubs, retreated to the “safety” of his not-so-long suit, but Erichsen had just the right sort of hand to think that 3NT would have a play. Over 3♥ Senior must have wondered why he bothered to get out of bed that morning. Believing he needed a full stopper to bid 3NT he retreated, etc. to 4♣. The defense started with Imakura overtaking the ♥Q to continue with the ace and deuce. Ino ruffed with his trump trick (“How could I know this, Masayuki-san?”) and

exited with the ♦J to the king and ace. Senior ran his trumps. Imakura discarded the ♥10 first, then two lower hearts. Ino discarded the ♦2 and then...the ♦10, keeping his small spades to protect his partner’s putative doubleton queen. That would have been thoughtful defense if Imakura had started with the king-eight-third of diamonds but here Senior cashed the ♦Q and claimed: plus 130. 1 IMP to Ohno, 14-45.

Bd: 15	North
Dlr: South	♠ J93
Vul: N/S	♥ 9842
	♦ Q73
	♣ AQ3
West	East
♠ Q10842	♠ AK76
♥ 5	♥ A10763
♦ AK62	♦ 9
♣ J42	♣ 1065
	South
	♠ 5
	♥ KQJ
	♦ J10854
	♣ K987

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣(1)	Pass	3♠	All Pass

(1) Help suit trial bid

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
			Pass
1♠	Pass	4♦(1)	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

(1) Splinter raise

Had Imakura made any other try but 3♣, Ino would not have considered signing off at 3♠, and indeed, the combined club holding was as bad as it could be. Unfortunately, the rest of his hand was so good that he might have hedged with a return try (his raise had strongly suggested four-card support) or simply bounced to game and apologized later. I have lots of sympathy for Ino’s principled

decision, however. In my opinion, Imakura should not have put that sort of pressure on his partner and should simply have bid game, but I am willing to admit that this idea won't suit everyone.

When Liggins opened the West hand, reaching game was not an issue. England won the board 450 to 170 and gained 7 IMPs, 52-14.

Bd: 16	North	
Dir: West	♠ AK962	
Vul: E/W	♥ A8	
	♦ 972	
	♣ 1043	
West		East
♠ Q8		♠ J53
♥ J765		♥ Q94
♦ A64		♦ QJ53
♣ AQ76		♣ KJ5
	South	
	♠ 1074	
	♥ K1032	
	♦ K108	
	♣ 982	

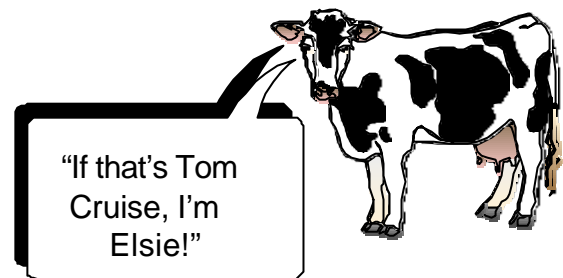
Open Room/Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Imakura	Senior	Ino	Erichsen
Liggins	Yamada	Fawcett	Ohno
1♣	1♠	1NT	2♠
All Pass			

2♠ had to fail at both tables. No swing at minus 50.

England won the match 52-14, 24-6 in VP, dealing Ohno a serious blow and leaving their qualification at issue where they had been among the leaders all the way.



"Oh,...I think I just see Tom Cruise"



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- ♠ Play the Life Master Pairs (Day 1 & Day 2): 2 CD-ROM set from Larry Cohen; retail value \$60,
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Round Eight Vugraph Report

by Rich Colker

As day two of the NEC Cup drew to a close, the Australia team (**Barry Noble, Terry Brown, Phil Gue, Mike Prescott, Peter Fordham**) found themselves among the event leaders while England-Senior (**Brian Senior, Glyn Liggins, Joe Fawcett, Espen Erichsen**) was leading the field. This was the Aussies' opportunity to show that they were a team to be reckoned with while for England-Senior it was time to flex some muscle and show the field what they were made of against a stalwart foe. It wouldn't take long for the first blood to be drawn.

reckoned with. Fordham crossed to the $\diamond A$ and accurately played a trump to the eight and king, losing only three tricks; minus 100. In the Closed Room Senior took the auction a bit slower and walked the clubs to the three level, buying the contract there. On a low diamond lead Senior tried to find out more about the trump position by playing four rounds of diamonds. When Gue refused to ruff the fourth round Senior misguessed trumps by playing low to the queen. But that was still plus 110 and 5 IMPs to England-Senior.

Bd: 17	North
Dlr: North	\spadesuit Q1065
Vul: None	\heartsuit ---
	\diamond Q4
	\clubsuit AQ109832
West	East
\spadesuit K83	\spadesuit AJ42
\heartsuit Q1073	\heartsuit AJ8
\diamond 976	\diamond 10832
\clubsuit J76	\clubsuit K5
	South
	\spadesuit 97
	\heartsuit K96542
	\diamond AKJ5
	\clubsuit 4

Bd: 18	North
Dlr: East	\spadesuit 8432
Vul: N/S	\heartsuit 875
	\diamond KJ
	\clubsuit QJ32
West	East
\spadesuit AKJ6	\spadesuit 1095
\heartsuit 4	\heartsuit AK2
\diamond 10765	\diamond A9843
\clubsuit AK104	\clubsuit 98
	South
	\spadesuit Q7
	\heartsuit QJ10963
	\diamond Q2
	\clubsuit 765

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
	5 \clubsuit	Dble	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
	1 \clubsuit	Dble	1 \heartsuit
Pass	2 \clubsuit	Pass	2 \heartsuit
Pass	3 \clubsuit	All Pass	

This looked like a good time to have a bash and Fordham thought he was just the man for the job. Fawcett had just enough to take exception to Fordham's aggression and chose the right ace to lead to back his judgment—the $\spadesuit A$. When Liggins encouraged Fawcett continued with a second spade to the king and Liggins found the heart shift as Fordham ruffed. Now only trumps had to be

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
		1 \diamond	Pass
1 \spadesuit	Pass	1NT	Pass
2 \diamond^*	Pass	2 \spadesuit	Pass
3 \diamond	Pass	3 \heartsuit	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
		1NT	Pass
2 \clubsuit^*	Pass	2 \diamond^*	Pass
3 \diamond^*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Liggins-Fawcett had a careful auction to 3NT and Prescott led the obvious but effective $\heartsuit Q$. Fawcett ducked one round (guarding against seven-two hearts but losing one of his overtricks), won the second, and tried a low diamond. Fordham won

the jack and returned a heart, but when diamonds split two-two Fordham claimed the rest; plus 460. In the Closed Room Brown opened a weak notrump and after a brief visit with Mr. Stayman (sorry, but we can't report to you what Gue's 3♦ bid meant—perhaps heart shortness?) E/W also ended in 3NT. The play was the same as in the Open Room and the match had seen one of the few push boards of the set. Still England-Senior 5, Australia 0.

Bd: 19	North		
Dlr: South	♠ QJ1094		
Vul: E/W	♥ 10743		
	♦ A73		
	♣ A		
West		East	
♠ K3		♠ A87	
♥ J86		♥ AK95	
♦ Q1086		♦ K542	
♣ J962		♣ 108	
	South		
	♠ 652		
	♥ Q2		
	♦ J9		
	♣ KQ7543		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
Pass	1♠	Dble	2♣
2♦	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
Pass	Pass	Dble	3♣
3NT	All Pass	Pass	Pass

The Open Room held a mildly competitive auction as Liggins-Fawcett bought the hand for 3♦. Fordham led his singleton ♣A and shifted to the ♠Q. Fawcett won in hand and played the ♣10 to Prescott's queen, then won the spade return and tried the ♣J. Fordham would have done better to pitch but he ruffed with the ♦7 forcing Fawcett's king. Next followed a spade ruff and a third club as Fordham pitched and Fawcett ruffed low. Now all that remained was to play a diamond to the nine,

ten and ace. Somehow Fawcett managed to lose another trick (we presume he played for ten-doubleton of hearts with Prescott and led dummy's jack). Plus 110. In the Closed Room Erichsen chose to preempt in clubs which propelled his vulnerable opponents into a thin 3NT. Gue won the opening ♠Q lead in dummy and played a diamond to the king and a diamond back to the jack, queen and ace. He won the spade return, crossed to dummy with a diamond, and passed dummy's ♥J to the queen. The defense then cashed three spades and the ♣A for two down, minus 200. 7 more IMPs to England-Senior, leading now 12-0.

Bd: 20	North		
Dlr: West	♠ A85		
Vul: Both	♥ A98		
	♦ A105		
	♣ J1075		
West		East	
♠ Q93		♠ J1076	
♥ KQJ72		♥ 543	
♦ 9		♦ QJ87	
♣ K863		♣ Q4	
	South		
	♠ K42		
	♥ 106		
	♦ K6432		
	♣ A92		

Open/Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
1♥	Pass	2♥	All Pass

West may have only five top losers in 2♥ but it is difficult to identify eight sure winners. With trumps breaking three-two declarer can count on four trump tricks, one club, and one spade. On a non-trump lead the total can be increased to seven by ruffing a club in dummy, but that still leaves declarer one trick short. In the Open Room Fordham accurately led a low trump and Liggins wisely gave up on the illusion of a club ruff in dummy and continued trumps. He won the trump return and turned his attention to spades. The ♠9 rode around to Prescott's king and he returned the ♠4 to the queen and ace. Fordham played the ♣J, queen, ace and Prescott returned the ♣9. Liggins won the king and was able to enter dummy with

his third spade and cash the fourth for his seventh trick; minus 100. In the Closed Room Senior also found the good low trump lead and Gue tried a club to the queen and ace. Two rounds of trumps followed and Gue then turned to spades, running his queen to Erichsen's king. The spade return was ducked and the third spade won by Senior who cashed the $\diamond A$ and continued with a second diamond to the queen and king. Gue could ruff or not but he still had to lose two more tricks and ended two down, minus 200. England-Senior now led Australia, 15-0.

Bd: 21	North		
Dir: North	\spadesuit KJ104		
Vul: N/S	\heartsuit 964		
	\diamond AQ864		
	\clubsuit 2		
West		East	
\spadesuit 52		\spadesuit A9	
\heartsuit 1073		\heartsuit Q5	
\diamond K95		\diamond J103	
\clubsuit 108653		\clubsuit AKJ974	
	South		
	\spadesuit Q8763		
	\heartsuit AKJ82		
	\diamond 72		
	\clubsuit Q		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
	Pass	1 \clubsuit	1 \spadesuit
2 \clubsuit	4 \clubsuit	5 \clubsuit	Dble

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
	Pass	1 \clubsuit *	2 \clubsuit *
Pass	4 \spadesuit	All Pass	

There's something to be said for South showing both majors immediately if he has such a bid available, even with a hand of intermediate strength, but here 1 \spadesuit worked just as well as Fordham had a big spade fit and was able to drive to game. Fawcett took the 5 \clubsuit save and Prescott accurately doubled as 800 was available as more than adequate return for his 650. But along the way 800 became 500 when he cashed his two high hearts at tricks one and two and then

switched to...a spade. Now Fawcett could draw trumps and avoid the diamond ruff; minus 500. In the Closed Room Erichsen wisely showed both of his suits over 1 \clubsuit (Polish; artificial, could be as short as zero, which explains why Gue failed to "raise") and Senior proceeded directly to 4 \spadesuit . When Brown led the $\clubsuit A$ the rest was immaterial and Senior came home with eleven tricks for plus 650. 4 more IMPs to England-Senior, increasing their lead to 19-0.

Bd: 22	North		
Dir: East	\spadesuit K82		
Vul: E/W	\heartsuit AK4		
	\diamond KJ8743		
	\clubsuit K		
West		East	
\spadesuit 975		\spadesuit J6	
\heartsuit J103		\heartsuit Q9652	
\diamond Q10		\diamond 9652	
\clubsuit AQ984		\clubsuit 107	
	South		
	\spadesuit AQ1043		
	\heartsuit 87		
	\diamond A		
	\clubsuit J6532		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
		Pass	1 \spadesuit
Pass	2 \diamond	Pass	2 \spadesuit
Pass	3 \heartsuit	Pass	3NT
Pass	4 \spadesuit	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
		Pass	1 \spadesuit
Pass	2 \diamond	Pass	2 \spadesuit
Pass	3 \spadesuit *	Pass	4 \spadesuit
All Pass			

It's hard to love that 1 \spadesuit child but in the modern game such births are de rigeur. Liggins started the $\heartsuit J$ against 4 \spadesuit and Prescott won, cashed the $\diamond A$, and exited with the $\clubsuit K$ to the ace. Liggins continued hearts as Prescott won, cashed the $\diamond K$, ruffed a diamond as the queen fell, and eventually drew trumps on the way to ten tricks; plus 420. In the Closed Room Erichsen also received the $\heartsuit J$ lead and immediately played the $\clubsuit K$. He won the

heart continuation, crossed to the $\diamond A$, ruffed a club, cashed the $\diamond K$, ruffed a heart, and tried to ruff a second club as Brown overruffed and returned another trump. So plus 420 became the match's second push and the score remained: England-Senior 19, Australia 0.



Joe Fawcett

plus 110. Senior won the $\heartsuit K$ immediately and played a trump to the king, then continued with the queen. The defense cashed their hearts but no trump promotion was possible and Senior ended with nine tricks for plus 140 and one more IMP to bring his team's lead to 20-0.

Bd: 23	North		
Dir: South	\spadesuit KQJ983		
Vul: Both	\heartsuit 1063		
	\diamond 10		
	\clubsuit AK9		
West		East	
\spadesuit A74		\spadesuit 1052	
\heartsuit 975		\heartsuit KQJ8	
\diamond 942		\diamond AKJ6	
\clubsuit J743		\clubsuit 106	
	South		
	\spadesuit 6		
	\heartsuit A42		
	\diamond Q8753		
	\clubsuit Q852		

Open/Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
			Pass
Pass	1 \spadesuit	Dble	1NT
Pass	2 \spadesuit	All Pass	

Against both 2 \spadesuit contracts East led the $\diamond A$ and shifted to the $\heartsuit K$ at trick two. Fordham ducked, won the $\heartsuit J$ continuation, and played a spade to...the eight and ten. Fawcett cashed the $\heartsuit Q$ and played the thirteenth heart for a possible trump promotion but five tricks was the defense's limit;

Bd: 24	North		
Dir: West	\spadesuit AQJ8		
Vul: None	\heartsuit AKQ82		
	\diamond 1063		
	\clubsuit J		
West		East	
\spadesuit K103		\spadesuit 65	
\heartsuit J643		\heartsuit 75	
\diamond 952		\diamond KJ8	
\clubsuit A102		\clubsuit KQ9654	
	South		
	\spadesuit 9742		
	\heartsuit 109		
	\diamond AQ74		
	\clubsuit 873		

Open/Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
Pass	1 \heartsuit	2 \clubsuit	Dble
3 \clubsuit	4 \spadesuit	All Pass	

Both N/S pairs reached the good 4 \spadesuit which was cold on the lie of the cards. But don't tell that to Fordham, who tried to contend with foes both real and imagined. He ruffed the second club and played off the top hearts, overruffing Fawcett on the third round. he then led a spade to the...ace and ruffed another heart, then played a trump expecting Fawcett to hold the $\spadesuit K$ for his 2 \clubsuit overcall. But when Liggins showed up with that card plus another and tapped Fordham with the third club the defense came to four tricks for down one, minus 50. In the Closed Room Senior took a more optimistic approach to the play. He began as had Fordham with the top three hearts but after overruffing the third round played a spade to his...queen. When that held he ruffed another heart and repeated the spade finesse to score an overtrick; plus 450. Another 11 IMPs to England-Senior as they increased their lead to 31-0 over

Australia. The match was becoming rather one-sided.

Bd: 25	North
Dlr: North	♠ KJ109874
Vul: E/W	♥ 106
	♦ 7
	♣ 972
West	East
♠ ---	♠ A653
♥ J7	♥ AQ9
♦ AKQJ542	♦ 863
♣ Q1083	♣ AJ5
	South
	♠ Q2
	♥ K85432
	♦ 109
	♣ K64

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
	3♠	Pass	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♦*	Pass	4NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
	3♠	Pass	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Liggins' 3NT bid may not be as odd as it looks at first glance, since partner is likely to hold a spade stopper when South does not raise. We presume that 4♣ and 4♦ were cue-bids, but then why did Fawcett not continue with 4♥, after which E/W might have reached the cold 6♦? 4NT was not what you would call an elegant contract, but it did have the merit of being cold. When Fordham led the ♥10 Liggins rose with the ace, crossed to hand with a diamond, and rode the ♣10 to Prescott's king. When he failed to cash his ♥K Liggins took the rest of the tricks for a scary plus 490. Gue chose to balance with a less imaginative 4♦ and Brown cue-bid to show strength. But Gue could not find any way to express interest (4NT may have been ace-asking) and so settled for 5♦, which made six, for a 2-IMP loss. England-Senior 33, Australia 0.

Bd: 26	North
Dlr: East	♠ 10962
Vul: Both	♥ Q107653
	♦ K5
	♣ K
West	East
♠ KQ4	♠ A7
♥ 94	♥ KJ82
♦ Q1083	♦ J96
♣ 5432	♣ 10976
	South
	♠ J853
	♥ A
	♦ A742
	♣ AQJ8

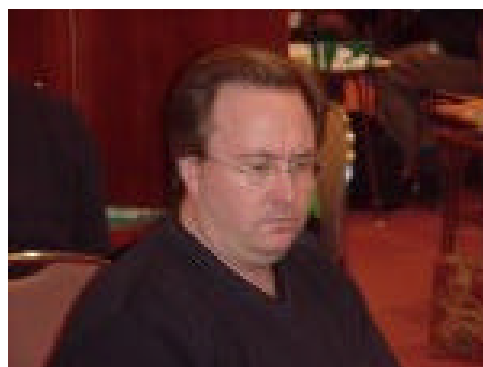
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

All roads lead to 4♠ and only a small trump lead from the king-queen-third will beat it. Right. Prescott won the diamond lead in hand, unblocked the ♣K, and cashed four rounds of clubs. He then ruffed two diamonds in dummy. Erichsen received the same lead and immediately embarked on the diamond-ruffing program after unblocking the ♣K. A pair of plus 620s. No swing. Still 33-0.



Glyn Liggins

Bd: 27	North
Dir: South	♠ 109
Vul: None	♥ KJ4
	♦ K1073
	♣ Q862
West	East
♠ AQJ86	♠ 32
♥ AQ963	♥ 1087
♦ A	♦ J9542
♣ J5	♣ A43
	South
	♠ K754
	♥ 52
	♦ Q86
	♣ K1097

disclosing their methods both on their convention cards and at the table. In the play Erichsen led the ♣10 and Brown won the ace and finessed the ♠Q, cashed the ♠A, and ruffed a spade as Senior pitched a diamond. A diamond to the ace was followed by another spade ruff, Senior throwing his last diamond, the king. Brown now exited with a club as Erichsen rose with the king and played a third diamond, ruffed and overruffed. The defense had to come to one more trump trick so Brown came home with plus 420. 2 more IMPs to England-Senior, increasing their lead over Australia to 35-0.



Brian Senior

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
			Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
			Pass
1♣*	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Liggins-Fawcett bid briskly to 4♥ and Liggins received the ♦7 lead. He won perforce and led a club to the ace, a spade to the queen, cashed the ♠A, and ruffed a spade when Fordham, after a long pause, discarded a club. A diamond ruff was followed by another spade ruff (Fordham discarding another club, but this time more in tempo), another diamond ruff, and yet another spade ruff. When Prescott could not overruff Fordham was marked with the king-jack of hearts. Liggins ruffed another diamond and exited with a club to endplay Fordham for a twelfth trick; plus 480.

We cannot explain the auction in the Closed Room but E/W's system notes say that 1♥ was natural, 0-5. They also suggest that 1NT would have shown 5/3+ in the minors but perhaps Brown considered his hand too good to classify as 0-5. At any rate, if 1♥ is the "system" response with this type of hand then E/W must do a better job in

This was getting serious.

Bd: 28	North
Dir: West	♠ AQ108
Vul: N/S	♥ A982
	♦ Q6
	♣ Q72
West	East
♠ J954	♠ K73
♥ J10	♥ K7543
♦ KJ1085	♦ 43
♣ K8	♣ 1094
	South
	♠ 62
	♥ Q6
	♦ A972
	♣ AJ653

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

Fordham-Prescott were playing 14-16 notrumps but Prescott oddly drove to game. In the Closed Room Senior, playing 15-17 notrumps, opened 1♥ and passed the 1NT response. Something is wrong here. Either this hand fell into a system crack or South should be allowed to bid 2♣. Against Fordham's 3NT Fawcett led the♥5 to the ten and ace. Fordham lost the club finesse and back came another heart and Fawcett thought a while before allowing dummy's queen to win. Fordham crossed to the♣Q and drove out the♥K to establish his ninth trick; plus 600. In the Closed Room Erichsen received the lead of the♦10. He won the queen, lost the club finesse, ducked the♦K, and ducked the♥J to Brown's king. With the♥10 falling Erichsen now had ten tricks; plus 180. Finally, 9 IMPs to Australia, to cut England-Senior's lead to 35-9.

1370. Gue was not as optimistic as Liggins, and normally he would have been right. Still, at 5♦ the auction wasn't over. It seems odd that Gue sat for Brown's double but I guess he figured he'd already had his say. Still, eight-five's don't come around very often and good ones like this are rarer still. Against 5♥ doubled Gue cashed the ace-king of clubs, then shifted to ace and another diamond. Erichsen ruffed when Brown pitched a spade and tried to give Gue a spade ruff. No dice. Down two, minus 500. That was 13 IMPs back to England-Senior, now leading 48-9 with only three deals to go.

Bd: 29	North		
Dir: North	♠ AQJ104		
Vul: Both	♥ Q1093		
	♦ 5		
	♣ 976		
West		East	
♠ ---		♠ K987532	
♥ ---		♥ K874	
♦ AQJ109743		♦ ---	
♣ AK1082		♣ Q4	
	South		
	♠ 6		
	♥ AJ652		
	♦ K862		
	♣ J53		

Bd: 30	North		
Dir: East	♠ K62		
Vul: None	♥ 874		
	♦ 83		
	♣ KJ1042		
West		East	
♠ AJ1094		♠ 8	
♥ J103		♥ A952	
♦ 7542		♦ K106	
♣ 3		♣ AQ975	
	South		
	♠ Q753		
	♥ KQ6		
	♦ AQJ9		
	♣ 86		

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
	Pass	Pass	2♥*
6♦(1)	All Pass		
(1) Long pause			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
	Pass	Pass	1♥
5♦	5♥	Dble	All Pass

They say "Bid what you think you can make" and that's precisely what Liggins did here. When he bought the♣Q in dummy and the suit luckily split three-three, he had only a trump trick to lose; plus

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
		1♣	Dble
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♠	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
		1♣*	Dble
1♠	1NT	All Pass	

In the Open Room Liggins made a good decision to play in 2♠ rather than 1NT. Fordham got off to his second-best lead of the♥7 (a diamond would have been better) which Liggins ducked to Prescott's queen. Prescott returned a trump and Fordham won the king and shifted to the♦8 to Prescott's jack. Prescott must have trouble reading Fordham's choice of the♥7 for his opening lead and played the♥K to dummy's ace.

Liggins took advantage of the slip and played a heart to his jack as everyone followed. He finessed the ♣Q, cashed the ace pitching a diamond, and then ruffed a club to his hand. Then he played a diamond to the king and ace and N/S eventually came to another trump trick for one down, minus 50. In the Closed Room Brown led the ♣5 which Senior won in his hand with the ten. He finessed the ♦Q, played a spade to the king, and cleared the diamonds, pitching a club and a heart. He then played a club to the ten and queen and Brown exited with a heart to the king. Senior now played a low spade to Gue who won, cashed the ace, and exited with a spade to dummy's queen. That was Senior's eighth trick and he finished with plus 120, for another 2-IMP win. With two deals to go England-Senior led, 50-9.

a spade and when dummy's queen held Fordham drove out the ♦A. Liggins won and returned a spade and Fordham unblocked the ♣AQ, then cashed his last two diamonds and ♣K. But when that suit failed to split three-three the game was up and the defense cashed out for one down, minus 100. In the Closed Room playing 15-17 notrumps Senior opened 1♦ and ended in 3NT when Erichsen asked about spade stoppers. Brown must have been turned off to a spade lead by the auction and chose to start the ♥A—not his best move. He continued the suit but now Senior was in control. He knocked out the last heart, ducked the spade return to brown's king, and won the spade continuation, and eventually knocked out the ♦A to take nine tricks. That was plus 600 and 12 more IMPs to England-Senior, leading Australia 62-9.

Bd: 31	North		
Dlr: South	♠ AJ3		
Vul: N/S	♥ 9654		
	♦ QJ82		
	♣ AQ		
West		East	
♠ 842		♠ K109765	
♥ QJ10		♥ A72	
♦ A53		♦ 106	
♣ J1032		♣ 98	
	South		
	♠ Q		
	♥ K83		
	♦ K974		
	♣ K7654		

Bd: 32	North		
Dlr: West	♠ AJ52		
Vul: E/W	♥ KQ		
	♦ KJ96		
	♣ Q105		
West		East	
♠ 973		♠ K1064	
♥ J1082		♥ 743	
♦ A1043		♦ Q872	
♣ 93		♣ 82	
	South		
	♠ Q8		
	♥ A965		
	♦ 5		
	♣ AKJ764		

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
			Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
			Pass
Pass	1♦	2♠*	3♠*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Prescott's 2♠ asked Fordham for his range, and with a maximum (11+-14) Fordham bid the notrump game. Fawcett got off to the best lead of

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Liggins	Fordham	Fawcett	Prescott
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Dble	Pass
Pass	4NT	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gue	Senior	Brown	Erichsen
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Last dance, but the music had favored the Senior

prom all evening. In the Open Room Prescott had his side well on their way to 6♣ when Fordham seems to have knocked the wheels off the buggy. With Prescott bidding clubs and hearts it seems odd that Fordham never showed interest with his useful holdings in those suits and controls on the side and signed off in 3NT. It is even stranger that when 4♠ doubled came back around to him he didn't redouble to show continuing interest. 4NT made six when Fawcett led a spade and Liggins rose with the ♠A at trick two; plus 490. Of course with the ♠K offside 6♣ is only makeable from the North side of the table. Bt in the Closed Room Senior-Erichsen arrived there from the wrong side. Now everything depended on Gue finding a spade lead. When the ♠A hit the table the music stopped, and with it the Aussies' hope to save a few VPs. Plus 920 was yet another 10 IMPs for England-Senior bringing the final IMP total to 72-9.

England-Senior was now in control of this stage of the event, leading second place by a half a match and the rest of the field by more than a full match.



Espen Erichsen

Round Nine Vugraph Match Report

by Eric Kokish

With two matches remaining both Indonesia (**Henky Lasut/Eddy Manoppo, Santje Panelewen/Robert Tobing Parasian**) and Japan's Slam Dunk (**Kazuo Furuta/Yasuhiro Shimizu, Kenji Miyakuni/Yoshiyuki Nakamura, Kikuo Tatai/Teruyoshi Hara**) were among the contenders for qualifying places in the knockout stage, but neither team was at all secure.

Bd: 1	North		
Dlr: North	♠ K976		
Vul: None	♥ A5		
	♦ K75		
	♣ Q532		
West		East	
♠ 32		♠ A105	
♥ J72		♥ K108	
♦ AQ108		♦ J643	
♣ A864		♣ KJ7	
	South		
	♠ QJ84		
	♥ Q9643		
	♦ 92		
	♣ 109		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
	1♦*	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

The match began with a small but interesting pickup for Indonesia. Both Norths declared 2♣ after opening in the appropriate systemic minor. Both Easts led a low diamond to the queen and king. Here the paths diverged.

Manoppo returned a diamond, won by Furuta, who switched to a trump, Miyakuni playing ace and another. Manoppo won cheaply and played ace and another heart, and when the king came up he could not be prevented from using the hearts, drawing the last trump conveniently: plus 110.

Nakamura played ace and another heart at trick two, perhaps the more natural way to proceed.

Panelewen took the ♥K and led a second diamond. Parasian took the ♦A and switched to a low club, Panelewen playing jack, king, and another. Nakamura ruffed low in dummy, discarded his last club on the ♥Q, and played the ♠Q. Panelewen won the ace immediately and led the ♦J to force dummy. Now Nakamura could not exit from the table without promoting the ♠10, the setting trick: minus 50. 4 IMPs to Indonesia.

communications if his partner gained the lead before he did and the ♦K proved to be a late entry. Parasian won, played two rounds of hearts, then a diamond. Shimizu played a club so Parasian took his seven tricks: plus 90

Miyakuni's decision to convert to diamonds seems like a big position and it convinced Furuta that he had a better hand. 3♦ was not a terrible contract but it failed on a spade lead, Furuta eventually conceding a heart ruff as he discarded a club loser: minus 50. Another "small" board but Indonesia gained another 4 IMPs, 8-0.

Bd: 2	North
Dlr: East	♠ 97
Vul: N/S	♥ K7
	♦ A832
	♣ AQ1092
West	East
♠ QJ5	♠ A10
♥ Q10	♥ AJ92
♦ Q10975	♦ J64
♣ J43	♣ K865
	South
	♠ K86432
	♥ 86543
	♦ K
	♣ 7

Bd: 3	North
Dlr: South	♠ 5
Vul: E/W	♥ Q983
	♦ Q103
	♣ KQ1065
West	East
♠ J1063	♠ AQ9872
♥ 107	♥ AJ42
♦ J42	♦ 98
♣ 9872	♣ J
	South
	♠ K4
	♥ K65
	♦ AK765
	♣ A43

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
		1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
		1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
1NT	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, where Shimizu felt he could not stay out of the auction forever, Parasian was permitted to play in 1NT. Might have Nakamura raised to 2♠ with the best hand at the table? No one knows the correct answer to this question because the delayed one-level overcall is not part of the game's lexicon of charted sequences. Nakamura led the ♠9 and when dummy followed low so did Shimizu, trying to maintain

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
			1NT
Pass	2♣	2♠	3♦
3♠	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
			1♦
Pass	1♥	1♠	Dble(1)
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

(1) Three-card heart support

With both minors coming in and the heart holding safe from attack, 5♣ and 5♦ are both cold. Lasut/Manoppo reached 5♣ after some

interference to the three-level: plus 420 on ace and another spade, Miyakuni ducking the ♠A later.

Shimizu, after using a support double to depict his heart holding, wanted to force over 2♣. Both double and 2NT seem palatable options but Shimizu tried an imaginative 3♣. When Nakamura raised, Shimizu wasn't sure how good his club support was and passed: plus 170. 6 IMPs more to Indonesia, off to a good start, 14-0.

Bd: 4	North
Dlr: West	♠ KQJ9765
Vul: Both	♥ ---
	♦ J43
	♣ Q42
West	East
♠ A32	♠ 108
♥ KQ9	♥ J10753
♦ A65	♦ 1072
♣ A863	♣ KJ7
	South
	♠ 4
	♥ A8642
	♦ KQ98
	♣ 1095

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
1♣	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
1NT	2♠	All Pass	

Lasut's raise to 4♠ would not occur to everyone and he was lucky that no one doubled. Miyakuni's club lead allowed the defenders to take three tricks in that suit and Lasut's ♠A was wasted. Two aces later, Manoppo was two down: minus 200.

Nakamura was able to buy the contract at 2♠ and Panelewen led a heart. A club loser disappeared now: plus 140. 8 IMPs to Slam Dunk, 8-14.

Bd: 5	North
Dlr: North	♠ AJ
Vul: N/S	♥ A8
	♦ KQ832
	♣ 8543
West	East
♠ KQ82	♠ 543
♥ KQ72	♥ J3
♦ J5	♦ A97
♣ Q106	♣ AJ972
	South
	♠ 10976
	♥ 109654
	♦ 1064
	♣ K

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
	1♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2♣	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣(1)
Pass	2♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

(1) Puppet to 2♦

Miyakuni had no trouble in 2♣: plus 90.



"Great. Excedrin headache #17!"

Shimizu opted to keep 1♦ alive, then cleverly slithered into 2♦. This had the serendipitous effect of jockeying his opponents into 3♣, where they were likely to fail, but Shimizu hadn't counted on the third opponent: Nakamura, expecting diamonds to play beautifully, competed to the three-level, where he went three down on Panelewen's good lead of a low trump: minus 300. 5 IMPs to Indonesia, 19-8.

Bd: 6	North	
Dlr: East	♠ AKJ5	
Vul: E/W	♥ Q7	
	♦ 864	
	♣ KQ52	
West		East
♠ Q7		♠ 1082
♥ AJ962		♥ K4
♦ KJ93		♦ AQ1075
♣ J10		♣ A98
	South	
	♠ 9643	
	♥ 10853	
	♦ 2	
	♣ 7643	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
		1♦	Pass
1♥	1♠	Pass*	3♠*
4♦	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
		1♦	Pass
1♥	Dble	Pass	1♠
Dble*	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

With a perfectly good black-suit takeout double, Manoppo preferred to introduce his chunky spades over Furuta's 1♥ response. Miyakuni's pass denied three-card heart support and Lasut raised the ante with a preemptive 3♠. Furuta's 4♦ was apparently forcing (a nice treatment) because

Miyakuni tried for slam with 5♣. The defense to 5♦ started with two high spades and a club switch. Miyakuni won, drew trumps, and started hearts. After a pause of roughly three minutes he decided to go up with dummy's ace on the second round: plus 600.

The Indonesians conducted an exhaustive investigation before Parasian chose 4♥, fearing that there would be too much work to do in 5♦ off the first two spade tricks. After two high spades and a club switch, he needed a lot of luck to make 4♥. He put in the jack on the second round of trumps and so lost two trumps, two spades and a club for two down: minus 200. 13 IMPs to Slam Dunk, ahead now, 21-19.

Bd: 7	North	
Dlr: South	♠ K9	
Vul: Both	♥ Q9873	
	♦ 9	
	♣ A10652	
West		East
♠ Q108732		♠ AJ
♥ 2		♥ KJ1065
♦ 10862		♦ AQJ4
♣ Q8		♣ K4
	South	
	♠ 654	
	♥ A4	
	♦ K753	
	♣ J973	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
			Pass
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♥(1)	Pass	4♠	All Pass

(1) Spades

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Miyakuni's slightly eccentric 2NT opening got him

to 4♠ from the strong side, which was a good thing: a diamond lead from North can defeat West in 4♠ relatively easily. Lasut led the ♣3, which would have been just as good for the defense had Manoppo taken the ♣A to return a diamond, but when dummy followed low, Eddy put in the ten. Miyakuni won the king and advanced the ♥10, Lasut following low. Manoppo won the queen, cashed the ♣A, and switched to the ♦9. Miyakuni, who did not wish to stake the fate of the deal on finding the doubleton king of trumps onside, played the queen. Alas, the diamond ruff followed in quick time: down 100. Poor Kenji.

Sure enough, the ♦9 was led against Parasian's weak-side 4♠, but when he played the queen, Shimizu ducked smoothly, playing the seven. Parasian tried the ♣K from dummy and Nakamura won the ace, not his best play. On a heart return, Parasian would have to guess correctly to get home: else Shimizu could take the king with the ace and return a diamond for Nakamura to ruff, and he would still get the ♦K later. Nakamura played a second club, however, and Parasian won the queen, finessed the ♠J, cashed the ace, and led the ♥K. He lost a diamond later but had ten tricks: plus 620. 12 IMPs to Indonesia, 31-21.

Bd: 8	North		
Dlr: West	♠ 64		
Vul: None	♥ K52		
	♦ QJ96		
	♣ 9765		
West		East	
♠ A852		♠ KJ107	
♥ QJ7		♥ A3	
♦ 8752		♦ 43	
♣ Q2		♣ AKJ108	
	South		
	♠ Q93		
	♥ 109864		
	♦ AK10		
	♣ 43		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Miyakuni's 1NT opening on this deal was at least as off-centre as his 2NT opening on the previous deal but it got him to 4♠ from the more advantageous side once again (imagine South leading a heart from the king, with nothing to go on). He ruffed the third diamond and played king, then jack of trumps, passing it. He played safely for four: plus 620.

The East hand is worth more than its point count in support of spades but Panelewen's game raise was not without danger if Parasian were to move toward slam, expecting an extra king. Not here. After two rounds of diamonds Shimizu switched to the ♥10, covered all around. Here, after ♠K, ♠J, Parasian could draw the last trump and claim: plus 450. 1 IMP to Indonesia, 32-21.

Bd: 9	North		
Dlr: North	♠ K10963		
Vul: E/W	♥ AK98		
	♦ 8		
	♣ 1076		
West		East	
♠ ---		♠ AJ75	
♥ QJ103		♥ 75	
♦ AKQJ72		♦ 943	
♣ Q85		♣ AK43	
	South		
	♠ Q842		
	♥ 642		
	♦ 1065		
	♣ J92		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
	1♠	Pass	3♠(1)
Dble	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
	1♠	Pass	2♠
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

A touch of the high life — Lasut's preemptive raise to 3♠ might have done someone some damage had the cards been distributed differently, but here it had no effect. Both declarers in 3NT had eleven top tricks: plus 660. No swing.

When Nakamura continued with the ♥8 and dummy covered, Shimizu did the right thing, withholding the king. Parasian did not guess clubs, of course, and so lost five tricks: minus 100. 1 IMP to Indonesia, 33-21,

Bd: 10	North		
Dlr: East	♠ A1093		
Vul: Both	♥ QJ83		
	♦ J2		
	♣ QJ5		
West		East	
♠ K2		♠ 75	
♥ A4		♥ 10972	
♦ AQ74		♦ 863	
♣ 109742		♣ AK83	
	South		
	♠ QJ864		
	♥ K65		
	♦ K1095		
	♣ 6		

Bd: 11	North		
Dlr: South	♠ Q1075		
Vul: None	♥ 1072		
	♦ QJ97		
	♣ 76		
West		East	
♠ J94		♠ AK83	
♥ AK953		♥ QJ	
♦ 53		♦ A1042	
♣ Q109		♣ 842	
	South		
	♠ 62		
	♥ 864		
	♦ K86		
	♣ AKJ53		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
		Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
		Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♣	All Pass

Note that both Wests, playing natural methods, opened 1♦ rather than 1♣, preparing a rebid. The alternative — 1♣, then 1NT over 1♥ or 1♠ — didn't appeal to either of them. When Furuta did not act over Lasut's aggressive 1♠ overcall it was not easy for his side to get back into the fray later. 2♠ was an easy contract to play: plus 140.

Had Panelewen raised 2♣ to 3♣ he would have shortened the auction by one round but in the actual variation there was more to consider. In the end, Nakamura decided not to hang his partner for protecting and sold out to 3♣. The play was cute. Nakamura led the ♥Q and Parasian ducked.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
			1♦*
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
			1♣
1♥	Dble*	Rdbl	Pass
Pass	1♠	Dble	2♣
Pass	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Lasut got out for two down in 1NT when the defenders cashed out: minus 100.



"Well I'm afraid that's *not* the way we do it in Argentina."

After three rounds of clubs and a diamond switch, ducked, Parasian, in 2♥, won the second diamond, drew two rounds of trumps, ruffed a diamond, and continued trumps, squeezing Nakamura in the pointed suits: plus 140. 1 IMP to Indonesia, 34-21.

Bd: 12	North		
Dlr: West	♠ Q7		
Vul: N/S	♥ AK54		
	♦ K8532		
	♣ 96		
West		East	
♠ A1084		♠ KJ32	
♥ 872		♥ Q103	
♦ J		♦ Q1096	
♣ K7432		♣ AJ	
	South		
	♠ 965		
	♥ J96		
	♦ A74		
	♣ Q1085		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
3♦(1)	Pass	3♠	All Pass

(1) Mixed raise, four trumps

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

Shimizu, in 1NT, got a low spade lead from Parasian. The defenders played only three rounds of spades (leaving West with a fourth round entry) and West switched to a heart. Shimizu won, ducked a diamond, won the heart switch, and came to the ♦A. He had discarded a heart from dummy so could no longer build a fifth trick there. He cashed the ♦K and exited a club but could take no more tricks: down 300.

Miyakuni, in 3♠, got a trump lead to the queen and king. He started clubs immediately, ruffing the third round low, went to the ♠10, ruffed the clubs good with the ♠J, and exited with a diamond. He lost three red tricks for plus 140. 4 IMPs to Indonesia, 38-21.

Bd: 13	North		
Dlr: North	♠ A10		
Vul: Both	♥ A94		
	♦ K653		
	♣ QJ108		
West		East	
♠ Q98742		♠ KJ6	
♥ 65		♥ QJ72	
♦ QJ		♦ 10982	
♣ K32		♣ 74	
	South		
	♠ 53		
	♥ K1083		
	♦ A74		
	♣ A965		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
Pass	1♦*	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Had either East been sufficiently inspired to lead a spade honor, 3NT would have been beaten very early in the play. Both led the ♦10, however, Miyakuni showing little regard for Manoppo's Precision 1♦ opening. Both declarers took the jack with the king to pass a club honor, East following low, Panelewen's four suggesting that his lead was not a big success.

And so it was that Parasian switched to the ♠4, Nakamura putting in the ten. Panelewen continued with the ♠K, five, deuce, ace, and it seemed that 3NT was due to fail. On the third club Panelewen discarded an easy heart, noting that Parasian followed three-deuce. On the fourth club Panelewen thought he had to decide whether to release his spade to prevent declarer from taking enough diamonds to make 3NT or a red card to keep his his spade. Did Parasian's ♠2 convey information about the ♦Q or did his high-low in clubs deny the ♦Q and suggest the ♥A? Or was Robert merely giving count throughout? You could

argue that a diamond discard would be wrong only if declarer held: ♠ A10 ♥xx ♦KQxxx ♣QJ108, but in that case Parasian's ♠2 would have been an ... exquisite card. Whatever you might think of Panelewen's spade discard, consider that bridge is a partnership game and when you're a little tired and need a bit of help, you'd like to know that your soulmate will give you the sustenance you require to survive. Nakamura led a heart to he nine and soon had a third heart trick for plus 600.

And what of the other table? When Furuta won the ♣K, he returned the ♦Q. Manoppo won in dummy, came to a club, and led the ♥9. Miyakuni split his honors and that was that: plus 600. No swing. With three boards remaining, Indonesia led 38-21.

Bd: 14	North		
Dlr: East	♠ J9854		
Vul: None	♥ 1084		
	♦ Q642		
	♣ 7		
West		East	
♠ A1073		♠ 2	
♥ K3		♥ AJ97652	
♦ 1095		♦ AK3	
♣ AQJ10		♣ 83	
	South		
	♠ KQ6		
	♥ Q		
	♦ J87		
	♣ K96542		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
		1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
		1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Furuta's 2♣ response simplified a potentially

tricky auction for his side. Miyakuni's 2♥ suggested extra length and he was soon willing to check on key cards. 6♥ is a very good contract and Kenji made seven on a spade lead when Lasut threw enough clubs so that his king popped up in the end after one finesse had been taken: plus 1010.

After responding 1♠ Parasian could be sure that Panelewen held at least six hearts. His jump to 4♥ would rarely miss a great slam but this was one of those times. Plus 480 when Shimizu led a club and Panelewen rose with the ace. 11 IMPs to Slam Dunk, 32-38.

Bd: 15	North		
Dlr: South	♠ J8752		
Vul: N/S	♥ AK98		
	♦ 8		
	♣ AKJ		
West		East	
♠ 10		♠ AKQ63	
♥ J6		♥ 74	
♦ KJ109762		♦ AQ3	
♣ 953		♣ Q106	
	South		
	♠ 94		
	♥ Q10532		
	♦ 54		
	♣ 8742		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
			Pass
3♦	Dble	4♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
			Pass
3♦	Dble	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Two exciting auctions. Miyakuni had no assurances that he could defeat 4♥ but he took a chance and doubled it. Everyone followed low to the lead of the ♠10 and Furuta switched to the ♦2 to Miyakuni's ace. Now a high spade and a low

one would probably have allowed Furuta to score the ♠J, but perhaps not. Kenji switched to a trump to the jack and ace. On a low spade from dummy, Miyakuni followed low. Furuta was gracious enough to hold a trump to ruff declarer's nine, and Miyakuni eventually got his club trick for one down: minus 200.

I'm not sure what my friend Santje was doing on this one, but it wasn't anything good. He went three down in 4♠: minus 150. 8 IMPs to Slam Dunk, who assumed the lead, 40-38. With 5♦ doubled down 300 Nakamura could have afforded to double 4♠ this time.

Bd: 16	North	
Dlr: West	♠ KQ3	
Vul: E/W	♥ 10972	
	♦ J1075	
	♣ 109	
West		East
♠ 854		♠ 10976
♥ AJ		♥ Q6543
♦ K96		♦ A
♣ AKJ53		♣ Q76
	South	
	♠ AJ2	
	♥ K8	
	♦ Q8432	
	♣ 842	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Furuta	Manoppo	Miyakuni	Lasut
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥(1)	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

(1) Both majors, not strong

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Parasian	Nakamura	Panelewen	Shimizu
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♠(1)	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

(1) 4♠/5♥, game-forcing

With 3NT quite a bit better than a finesse (spade blockage or three-three), 2♣ is definitely not the money contract, especially vulnerable. Parasian made four: plus 630.

Furuta made 2♠: plus 110. Even though Miyakuni had decided not to look for game initially, he might well have converted 2♠ to 2NT, giving a very good picture of his hand.

11 IMPs to Indonesia, who won the match, 49-40, 17-13 VP.

Both teams were still in contention but Indonesia was beginning to look comfortable while Slam Dunk was on the bubble, looking in.

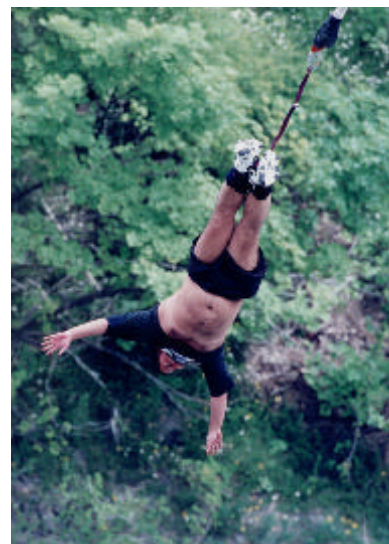
The Land of Bungee



"This will be a snap."



"Geronimo-o-o-o"



"Alright, stop laughing and help me up. I'm not kidding."

Round Ten Vugraph Report

by Rich Colker

In the final round-robin match, Team e-bridge (**Sam Lev, John Mohan, Jacek Pszczola, Piotr Gawrys, Pinhas Romik**), sitting in eleventh position, just 4.5 VPs out of the last qualifying position, met the Teramoto team (**Hideki Takano, Takahiko Hirat, Chen Da-Wei, Tadashi Teramoto, Masaaki Takayama, Hiroshi Hisatomi**), sitting in thirteenth position, just 2 VPs behind e-bridge. The loser would certainly not qualify and the winner, unless the win was by a sizeable margin, might not qualify either. This was "take no prisoners" territory.

4♠ cue-bid, inviting Takayama to bigger and better things. Call me crazy, but when partner makes a slam try and I hold 100 honors in trumps, I bid a slam. But Takayama retreated to 5♦ and when Gawrys saved in 5♥ he doubled to warn Teramoto against competing further. That should have been a winning decision since, as the reader can see, 6♦ can be beaten with a club ruff (however, 6♣ is cold). Takayama started the ♦K and then shifted to the ♣J. Gawrys won and ruffed out the clubs in the process of drawing trumps (just in case someone could be endplayed with a stiff high spade honor). He then exited with a diamond. But the defense cashed their two high spades and Gawrys ended two down, minus 300. In the Closed Room Mohan pretty much guessed to bid 6♦. When Takano led an uninspired ♠9, Mohan quickly drew trumps and claimed twelve tricks; plus 920. 12 IMPs to e-bridge.

Bd: 17	North	
Dlr: North	♠ Q10842	
Vul: None	♥ AKJ43	
	♦ 73	
	♣ 4	
West		East
♠ K5		♠ AJ76
♥ 98		♥ ---
♦ KQJ5		♦ A9642
♣ J10987		♣ KQ52
	South	
	♠ 93	
	♥ Q107652	
	♦ 108	
	♣ A63	

Bd: 18	North	
Dlr: East	♠ AQ8	
Vul: N/S	♥ K83	
	♦ K109	
	♣ Q952	
West		East
♠ 10754		♠ K63
♥ AQ94		♥ J102
♦ J54		♦ Q863
♣ K4		♣ A63
	South	
	♠ J92	
	♥ 765	
	♦ A72	
	♣ J1087	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
	1♠	2♦	2♥*
2♠*	4♥	4♠	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♥
Dble	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
	1♠	2♦	Dble
Rdbl	3♥	Pass	4♥
5♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass

In the Open Room Gawrys' 2♥ was non-forcing (a negative free bid) and Takayama showed a good diamond raise. Pszczola lost no time in boosting Gawrys to game but Teramoto pressed on with a

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Dble	Rdbl	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥*	All Pass		

Takayama opened a third-seat lead-directing 1♥ and found himself declaring 2♥ in a four-three fit with no ruffing value in either hand. He would have been better off a level lower in notrump and even better yet defending a notrump with the advantage of the opening lead. Takayama won the heart lead in hand with the nine and played a spade to the king and out a spade. Pszczola won the queen, cashed the ♠A, and exited with a club to dummy's ace. Takayama played a diamond to the jack and king and Pszczola led another club to Takayama's king. A diamond was now led and Pszczola's ten was allowed to hold. Next Takayama ruffed the ♣Q and led the last spade as he ruffed in dummy. A diamond went to the ace and a heart through gave the defenders their sixth trick for one down; minus 50.

In the Closed Room the auction was shorter but not sweeter. Mohan's 2♣ was the Drury convention, showing an invitational heart raise.) Chen led a low club and Lev won the king, then played a spade as Chen won the ace. A second club went to dummy's ace and the♥J was passed and held. Lev then cashed the ♠K and exited a spade and Chen pressed on with a third club as Lev pitched a diamond. Now two rounds of diamonds followed and a fourth club on which Lev pitched his spade and ruffed in dummy. But now the second heart finesse lost to the king and Lev joined his counterpart Takayama at the other table for down one; minus 50. Push board. Still e-bridge 12, Teramoto 0.

Bd: 19	North		
Dlr: South	♠ AQ43		
Vul: E/W	♥ AK52		
	♦ J8653		
	♣ ---		
West		East	
♠ KJ76		♠ ---	
♥ Q4		♥ J963	
♦ K42		♦ 97	
♣ K852		♣ AQ107643	
	South		
	♠ 109852		
	♥ 1087		
	♦ AQ10		
	♣ J9		

Open/Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
			Pass
1♣	Dble	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

The obvious route to 5♣ led to the obvious result—down one. Any questions? Still e-bridge 12, Teramoto 0.

Bd: 20	North		
Dlr: West	♠ K106		
Vul: Both	♥ KJ6		
	♦ A10753		
	♣ 42		
West		East	
♠ 98753		♠ A	
♥ 9543		♥ Q82	
♦ 82		♦ KQJ96	
♣ Q6		♣ 10753	
	South		
	♠ QJ42		
	♥ A107		
	♦ 4		
	♣ AKJ98		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Against Pszczola's 3NT in the Open Room Teramoto led the ♦K, ducked, then the ♦J, ducked, then the ♣5 to the ace. Teramoto won the first spade perforce and continued a club as Pszczola finessed, losing to Takayama's queen. Pszczola won the spade return in dummy as Teramoto threw a diamond and Pszczola cashed the ♣K and got the bad news there. But Teramoto had shown up with only 10 points outside of hearts

so Pszczola knew to play a spade to his hand and finesse the ♠Q through the opening bidder. That was his ninth trick; plus 600. Against Chen's 3NT in the Closed Room Mohan also started the ♦K but Chen won the second round and placed the ♠K on the table. Mohan won perforce and exited with a club to the ace. Chen cashed two more rounds of spades, Mohan throwing a deceptive heart and then a diamond. With no opposing bidding to go on Chen then tried the heart finesse through Lev and Mohan won and played a second club. When Chen finessed for his ninth trick that was all she wrote and the second swing was recorded; minus 100. 12 more IMPs to e-bridge, who led Teramoto 24-0.

hand looks closer to 3=3=5=2 than its actual 2=2=5=4. But here all roads led to Yokohama. In the Open Room Pszczola led the ♥8 and Gawrys played low on declarer's nine. Takayama crossed to the ♣A and took a losing diamond finesse as Pszczola a second heart. Takayama won and ducked a club to Gawrys who cashed the ♠Q. Now Takayama had ten tricks with the ♦Q falling; plus 430. In the Closed Room Chen led a low heart and Takano covered dummy's seven with the queen. Lev won, crossed to the ♣A to take the losing diamond finesse and now Chen exited with a spade. Lev rose with the ace to lead a second diamond. When the queen showed up Lev too had ten tricks; plus 430. No swing. Still e-bridge 24, Teramoto 0.

Bd: 21	North	
Dlr: North	♠ 542	
Vul: N/S	♥ 10854	
	♦ K52	
	♣ K82	
West		East
♠ KJ		♠ A9
♥ AK		♥ J972
♦ AJ1074		♦ 863
♣ J754		♣ A963
	South	
	♠ Q108763	
	♥ Q63	
	♦ Q9	
	♣ Q10	

Bd: 22	North	
Dlr: East	♠ 9742	
Vul: E/W	♥ 8	
	♦ AQ75	
	♣ K853	
West		East
♠ Q108		♠ 6
♥ QJ		♥ AK9532
♦ K82		♦ J643
♣ J10964		♣ AQ
	South	
	♠ AKJ53	
	♥ 10764	
	♦ 109	
	♣ 72	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

I prefer Lev's approach with the West hand—opening a strong notrump—since I just can't bring myself to rebid those clubs with an ace above minimum and stoppers everywhere. In fact, the

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
		1♥	1♠
1NT	3♠	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
		1♥	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♥	2♠
3♥	3♠	4♥	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

Takayama-Teramoto had a perfectly sensible auction to 3NT and Pszczola duly led his partner's suit. Gawrys won the ♠K and immediately returned a low one to Takayama's queen. With no obvious alternative line available Takayama

unblocked the ♠QJ, played a low club toward the ace-queen, then closed his eyes and called resignedly for the queen. When that held he had nine tricks and instant relief; plus 600. In the Closed Room the auction was in some ways better and paradoxically in some ways worse for Lev and Mohan. It was better because the uncrowded auction allowed Mohan to show his sixth heart. It was worse because the uncrowded auction allowed Mohan to show his sixth heart which gave Lev a tough choice between raising hearts with his good doubleton or trying for a notrump game. This was good news and bad news. The bad news was that Lev chose to raise hearts and was wrong (4♥ goes down on a diamond ruff). The good news was that Chen-Takano took the 4♠ and turned their plus score into a minus. Go figure! The defense managed to take two clubs and one trick in each of the other suits for two down; minus 300. Finally, 7 IMPs to Teramoto, trailing now 24-7.

Bd: 23	North	
Dlr: South	♠ KJ83	
Vul: Both	♥ K3	
	♦ Q7653	
	♣ 102	
West		East
♠ Q4		♠ A105
♥ AJ1084		♥ 972
♦ AK982		♦ 4
♣ 5		♣ KQ9864
	South	
	♠ 9762	
	♥ Q65	
	♦ J10	
	♣ AJ73	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠*	Pass
2♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
			Pass
1♥	Pass	3♣*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Teramoto's 1♠ was a forcing notrump, denying five spades, while his 4♥ bid was an old-fashioned game try—I bid it, you try to make it. The operative word here is "try." Pszczola led the ♣10 to the king and ace and Gawrys returned a spade to the queen, king and ace. Takayama's spade loser quickly disappeared on the ♣Q and Takayama now cashed the ♦AK and tried to ruff the third diamond low. Not a good try, Masaaki-san. Gawrys overruffed with the ♥5 and returned a third club as Pszczola overruffed declarer's ♥8 with the king. A fourth diamond sealed Takayama's fate as Gawrys now scored a second overruff and returned his last trump to leave Takayama with yet another diamond loser; two down, minus 200. Oy.

Against the more occult auction in the Closed Room Chen led a low diamond to the ten and ace. Lev led a club to the king and ace and Takano found the good trump return to Chen's king. While a trump return would have been best, even the ♠K Chen placed on the table could not critically impair the defense. Lev won, pitched a diamond on the ♣Q, played a spade to his queen, cashed the ♦K, and led a low diamond and ruffed with the ♥7. Takano overruffed with the queen and now a trump return would have killed both dummy's last trump and Lev's hope for the contract. But Takano tried a club as Lev ruffed high, ruffed his last diamond with dummy's ♥9 as Takano discarded helplessly, and scored up an incredible plus 620 for 13 more IMPs. e-bridge led now, 37-7.

Bd: 24	North	
Dlr: West	♠ A10762	
Vul: None	♥ Q4	
	♦ 10974	
	♣ A6	
West		East
♠ K93		♠ QJ5
♥ A753		♥ KJ2
♦ KQ65		♦ J832
♣ 83		♣ 1052
	South	
	♠ 84	
	♥ 10986	
	♦ A	
	♣ KQJ974	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
1♦	1♠	2♦	Dble*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
1♦	1♠	1NT	Dble
Pass	Pass	2♦	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Gawrys' double was responsive—takeout for the other two suits—and Pszczola, with a difficult choice, bid 2♠ (a pass is a bit too rich for my delicate sensibilities, too). Gawrys made a good retreat to 3♣ (of course he would never have done any of this without the ♡8!) and scored up his contract with relative ease; plus 110. In the Closed Room Chen and Takano overbid to 3NT and came within an inch of making it but Takano could only take eight tricks before the defense could come to five. Minus 50 and another 4 IMPs to e-bridge, leading now 41-7.

Bd: 25	North
Dlr: North	♠ Q1063
Vul: E/W	♡ Q543
	◇ A83
	♣ AJ
West	East
♠ 2	♠ AK985
♡ AK109762	♡ J
◇ K72	◇ Q964
♣ 103	♣ KQ5
	South
	♠ J74
	♡ 8
	◇ J105
	♣ 987642

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
	1♣*	1♠	Pass
2♡	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
	1♦	1♠	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

Pszczola's 1♣—either a balanced weak notrump, natural, or a strong hand with any distribution (Polish)—did not stop Takayama-Teramoto from finding their 4♡ game. Nor did Chen's 1♦ opening stop Lev from the same contract. With only three losers (two aces and the ♡Q) this was an easy push. Still 41-7.

Bd: 26	North
Dlr: East	♠ 10
Vul: Both	♡ J85
	◇ KJ76
	♣ J8652
West	East
♠ J62	♠ KQ73
♡ A762	♡ 10
◇ 43	◇ AQ108
♣ A1074	♣ KQ93
	South
	♠ A9854
	♡ KQ943
	◇ 952
	♣ ---

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
		1♦	2♦*
Pass	2♡	Dble	Pass
3♡	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
		1♦	1♠
Dble	Pass	2♣	All Pass

E/W are closer to 6♣ than they are to 3NT, but the latter is where Takayama-Teramoto ended up. After a heart lead only eight tricks are available, even with the help of the diamond finesses. But that, as they say, is only theory. Pszczola led the ♡8, ten, queen, low, and back came a low heart to Pszczola's jack. But Pszczola now unaccountably

switched to the ♠10 as dummy's king held the trick. Gawrys won the ♠Q continuation (as Pszczola pitched a club) and cleared the suit leaving Takayama several ways to score up his game. One was to take the diamond finesse. A second was to play a club to one of dummy's high honors and then to return to the ♣A, cash the ♥A (pitching either a spade or a diamond), and finish the clubs (finessing North for the jack) before throwing North in with a diamond to finesse the other honor on the forced diamond return. But Takayama did none of the above. He played a club to his king, getting the bad news, a club back to dummy's ace, but then neglected to cash the ♥A before playing the ♣10. Pszczola quickly covered locking Takayama in dummy and now, when Pszczola was thrown in with the ♦10, he could exit with a low spot as Gawry's ♦9 protected his other high honor. Takayama could finesse the ♦Q and cash the ace, but he then had to yield the final trick to Pszczola's king. An amazing down one, minus 100.

Meanwhile, in the Closed Room Lev-Mohan never got beyond 2♣ when only the bad spade split and five-zero trumps keep 5♣ from being made. In practice eleven tricks were made when Takano ducked his ♠A late in the defense but the extra overtrick was irrelevant. 6 IMPs for e-bridge, leading 47-7.

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
			1♣*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
			Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

3NT is cold on any lead and both N/S pairs reached it and took nine tricks on a heart lead. No swing. Still 47-7.

Bd: 28	North
Dlr: West	♠ 74
Vul: N/S	♥ J10853
	♦ QJ7
	♣ J85
West	East
♠ K9865	♠ Q32
♥ 7	♥ KQ4
♦ 6543	♦ AK82
♣ 963	♣ A107
	South
	♠ AJ10
	♥ A962
	♦ 109
	♣ KQ42

Bd: 27	North
Dlr: South	♠ A96
Vul: None	♥ K92
	♦ A42
	♣ KQ54
West	East
♠ 873	♠ K105
♥ 864	♥ A753
♦ J653	♦ 1097
♣ A96	♣ 732
	South
	♠ QJ42
	♥ QJ10
	♦ KQ8
	♣ J108

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dble
1♠	Pass	2NT	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dble
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦	All Pass

E/W's best spot is for N/S to play the hand. Barring that, a spade or diamond partscore is their next best bet (the one level is preferable). So of course Takayama-Teramoto ended up in 2NT. Was there no way for Takayama to get out in 3♦? Oh well, at least there was no double or red paint

on the E/W pockets in the board. Teramoto managed to take his five tricks for three down; minus 150. In the Closed Room Lev used what appears to be a Wolff signoff to get out in 3♦ after the same auction to that point as in the Open Room. The defense was less than spectacular. Takano led the ♣K and continued with a low club to the jack and ace. Mohan cashed one high diamond and then exited with his third club. Takano inexplicably played a fourth club as Mohan pitched his heart from dummy and ruffed in hand. Mohan now played the ♥K and ruffed out the ace, then played a spade to the queen and ace. He won the spade return, cashed another high diamond and the ♥Q, and ruffed his last heart in dummy for his eighth and final trick. One down, minus 50. 3 more IMP. e-bridge 50, Teramoto 7.

Bd: 29	North	
Dlr: North	♠	1043
Vul: Both	♥	542
	♦	975
	♣	9543
West		East
♠ K		♠ AQ852
♥ K986		♥ J1073
♦ J103		♦ A2
♣ QJ862		♣ K7
	South	
	♠	J976
	♥	AQ
	♦	KQ864
	♣	A10

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
	Pass	1♠	1NT
Dble	Pass	Pass	2♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
	Pass	1♠	1NT
Dble	All Pass		

This was a danger hand for N/S as both South's made normal-looking calls which ended up biting each of them in his gluteus maximus. Both overcalled 1♠ with 1NT and got doubled for their trouble. Gawrys chose to scramble and ended up

in 2♦ doubled—a pretty fair improvement. Takayama led the ♠K and shifted to the ♣Q and then a low club. Gawrys won the ace and played the ♠ as Takayama pitched a club. Teramoto returned a heart to the queen and king and back came a second heart to Gawrys' ace. Next Gawrys drove out the ♦A with the king, ruffed the third heart, and cashed the ♦Q. A third spade insured his sixth trick and he ended down two, minus 500. In the Closed Room Takano decided to sit it out in 1NT doubled and that was a big mistake. He won the ♣Q opening lead and played the ♦Q to Mohan's ace. Mohan unblocked the ♣K and switched to a low heart to the queen and king. Lev cashed the ♣J and led a fourth club to dummy's nine as Takano pitched two spades. When Takano then passed the ♦9 to Lev he cashed his club and exited with a heart and Takano ended down four, minus 1100. 12 more IMPs to e-bridge, 62-7.

Bd: 30	North	
Dlr: East	♠	AKQJ954
Vul: None	♥	Q97
	♦	A3
	♣	6
West		East
♠ 87		♠ 632
♥ AK63		♥ 2
♦ KJ82		♦ Q97654
♣ AKQ		♣ 1053
	South	
	♠	10
	♥	J10854
	♦	10
	♣	J98742

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
		Pass	Pass
2NT	Dble	3♦*	Pass
3♠*	Dble	4♦*	Pass
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♣	Dble	5♦	Dble
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
		Pass	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

It appears Takayama thought Teramoto's 3♦ bid was a transfer to hearts so he duly alerted and bid 3♠ as some sort of super acceptance, perhaps showing a spade doubleton. Teramoto retreated to 4♦ over Pszczola's double but Takayama was not done yet. He "corrected" to 4♥. Pszczola's 4♠ could have been right for any of several reasons (here it was a good save against 4♦) and if E/W don't find their heart ruff it might even make. But Teramoto made the final error by bidding 5♦ and he lost the obvious three tricks for minus 100. In the Closed Room Lev opened 2NT and Chen made a risky pass when he could have been cold for 4♠ opposite a near yarborough. Mohan's pass suggest the e-bridgers must not have had a way to get to diamonds and so 2NT became the final contract. Chen cashed out for three down, minus 150, and won his team's second pickup, even though it was only 2 IMPs. e-bridge 62, Teramoto 9.

Teramoto's 1NT showed at least five spades and was forcing. 2♦ was fourth "suit" and 3♥ must have created a game force. Takayama managed to ruff one club and pitch the other on a spade to score an overtrick; plus 450. In the Closed Room Lev took only ten tricks for another 1-IMP gain for Teramoto, trailing 62-10 with one deal to go.

Bd: 31	North
Dir: South	♠ Q65
Vul: N/S	♥ 874
	♦ 1043
	♣ QJ96
West	East
♠ 42	♠ AJ1073
♥ KQ532	♥ A96
♦ AQ	♦ 986
♣ 10832	♣ A4
	South
	♠ K98
	♥ J10
	♦ KJ752
	♣ K75

Bd: 32	North
Dir: West	♠ Q10976
Vul: E/W	♥ J32
	♦ 964
	♣ 103
West	East
♠ 82	♠ J53
♥ K975	♥ AQ104
♦ AJ85	♦ K1073
♣ A82	♣ Q5
	South
	♠ AK4
	♥ 86
	♦ Q2
	♣ KJ9764

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takayama	Pszczola	Teramoto	Gawrys
1♦	Pass	1♥	2♣
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lev	Chen	Mohan	Takano
1♦	Pass	1♥	2♣
2♥*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Both E/W pairs reached the good 4♥ contract but this time it was Teramoto's turn to pick up the double-digit swing. Gawrys led his two top spades and switched to a trump at trick three. Teramoto won in hand, drew three rounds of trumps, and ruffed his last spade in dummy. Playing Gawrys for a six-card suit for his 2♣ overcall this stripped out his last exit card and when Teramoto played ♦A and then passed the ♦J to Gawrys he was endplayed to lead away from his ♣K. A nice plus 620 for Teramoto. In the Closed Room Takano also led a high spade but at trick two he underled to Chen's queen for a club shift. When Chen did this the contract came down to Mohan guessing the ♦Q. After drawing trumps Mohan played them the same way Teramoto had in the Open Room

and ended one down, minus 100. The final score was e-bridge 62, Teramoto 22, as e-bridge's

convincing victory was just enough to qualify them for the quarter-finals with 2.5 VPs to spare.

The NEC Cup Quarter-finals

by Eric Kokish

England, the convincing winners of the Swiss, selected Australia as quarterfinal opponents. Sweden chose Ohno, Argentina/Australia opted for Indonesia, and GB-Hackett were left with late-charging e-bridge.

For the first of the three 16-board segments we will follow the **GB-Hackett vs e-bridge** match, featuring two teams that had taken their sweet time to secure a spot in the knockout stage.

First Session (Boards 1-16):

Bd: 1	North	
Dlr: North	♠ AK98	
Vul: None	♥ AJ75	
	♦ 105	
	♣ Q83	
West		East
♠ J75		♠ Q10643
♥ 1083		♥ ---
♦ Q9632		♦ AK74
♣ KJ		♣ A742
	South	
	♠ 2	
	♥ KQ9642	
	♦ J8	
	♣ 10965	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
	1NT	2♦(1)	4♣(2)
4♦	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

(1) Diamonds and a major

(2) Hearts

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
	1♣	1♠	Dble*
2♠	3♥	4♠	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Pszczola would not have enjoyed himself in 4♠ doubled on a heart lead, but Jason led the ♣10. Pszczola won the king and tried to slip a trump past Justin. He did. When the ♠10 held, he played ♣A, club ruff, diamond to the ace, club ruff. Justin did not over-ruff the jack but took only his three trump tricks: plus 590 for Pszczola. Even without a heart lead it would have sufficed for Justin to win the first trump to play a heart.

Mohan's hand was sufficiently unusual for him to reasonably act in front of his partner over 4♠, but even so, it was the wrong thing to do in an absolute sense. Paul cashed two high diamonds, partner following six-three, then switched to ace and another club. The club ruff was not at all easy to negotiate. Down two: minus 300. 7 IMPs to e-bridge.

Bd: 2	North	
Dlr: East	♠ 103	
Vul: N/S	♥ 10765	
	♦ 5	
	♣ QJ9864	
West		East
♠ KQ9		♠ AJ
♥ K82		♥ AJ43
♦ AKQ764		♦ J103
♣ 10		♣ A732
	South	
	♠ 876542	
	♥ Q9	
	♦ 982	
	♣ K5	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
		1NT	Pass
4♣(1)	Pass	4♥(2)	Pass
5♦(3)	Pass	6♦	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

(1) Gerber; (2) 0 or 3 aces

(3) Forcing opposite 3

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul HMohan	
		1NT	Pass
3♣(1)	Dble	3♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

(1) Diamonds

Gawrys, in 7♦ (the poor guy was unlucky not to buy the ♥Q, a doubleton heart, a four-card spade suit, or even the ♣Q), got the lead of the ♣J from Justin. He played briskly:

♣A, club ruff, diamond to the jack, club ruff, diamonds, spades. When he played king and another heart and the queen did not come up, he knew that Justin's last card was a club and not the ♥Q. He played the ♥A and knew that the queen would drop: plus 1440.

Paul asked who held the ♥Q to speed up play: plus 920. You can bet he exuded positive vibes after finding out it was South. 11 IMPs to e-bridge, 18-0.

Bd: 3

North

Dir: South	♠ AJ62
Vul: E/W	♥ A872
	♦ J8
	♣ 1084

West

♠ 84
♥ QJ53
♦ 109754
♣ J5

East

♠ 753
♥ 964
♦ K32
♣ A763

South

♠ KQ109
♥ K10
♦ AQ6
♣ KQ92

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
			2NT
Pass	3♣(1)	Pass	3♦(2)
Pass	3♠(3)	Pass	3NT(4)
All Pass			

(1) Puppet Stayman

(2) Some four-card major

(3) Four hearts

(4) Four spades

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul HMohan	
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Jason's 2NT was in his announced range. Might have something to do with all that weight he's lost. Justin's decision catered to playing in his poor heart suit but not his strong spade suit. Perverse. 3NT was just fine, however, and Jason made five when Pszczola rose with the ♣A on the first round to clear diamonds: plus 460.

The play went the same way at the other table: plus 660 for Mohan. No swing.

Bd: 4

North

Dir: West	♠ K8
Vul: Both	♥ KQ2
	♦ Q743
	♣ KQ105

West

♠ 2
♥ J64
♦ K10985
♣ AJ82

East

♠ J1097
♥ 10975
♦ 2
♣ 9763

South

♠ AQ6543
♥ A83
♦ AJ6
♣ 4

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥(1)
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♣(2)
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

(1) Spades; (2) Long spades, short clubs

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
			2♥(1)
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♣(2)
Pass	4♦(3)	Pass	4NT(4)
Pass	5♣(5)	Pass	6♠(6)
All Pass			

(1) Spades; (2) Long spades, short clubs

(3) Maybe 4♣ was Gerber; (4) RKCB

(5) Maybe 4♣ was not Gerber and 4NT was Blackwood; (6) Maybe we have to discuss this

Of course, it may be that Lev and Mohan knew exactly what they were doing, but there is a heavy wager between certain e-bridge employees regarding the truth, and by the time you read this bragging rights will have been established and eyes may have been blackened.

Lovely bid, the transfer. Here it gets you to 6♠ from the wrong side. It's decent enough from the South side, requiring three-two trumps and either the ♣A or the ♦K onside, but from the "strong" North side, a diamond lead usually beats it when the king is wrong, regardless of where the ♣A resides. Here a diamond lead would have defeated Lev even with trumps three-two, but Paul led a heart and Brigitte did not duck the ♣A. The diamond loser went away but Paul got a trump trick: one down, minus 100.

The twins, playing 14-16 notrumps, gained 13 IMPs for stopping safely, and (perhaps) for knowing what their bids meant; 13-18.

Bd: 5	North		
Dir: North	♠ J1062		
Vul: N/S	♥ A63		
	♦ 742		
	♣ K63		
West		East	
♠ A854		♠ KQ3	
♥ K97		♥ Q82	
♦ Q93		♦ 10865	
♣ J87		♣ Q104	
	South		
	♠ 97		
	♥ J1054		
	♦ AKJ		
	♣ A952		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

Gawrys led the ♣8, second from two or three cards. Jason won the king, four (count), deuce, and led a low heart to jack and king. One of the delights of four-card majors is that no one ever knows what you have. Gawrys craftily switched to the ♦9, continuing to lead big cards from medium-sized holdings in the traditional Polish style. Jason dextrously scooped in his jack, ducked a club, won the diamond continuation, ducked a heart, won the diamond continuation, and made everything fall down: plus 120. How delightful!

Meanwhile, Brigitte had to find a lead against 1NT and hit upon the ♥7. The defenders quickly established Mohan's heart suit and he ducked a club, coming to eight tricks moments later: plus 120.

Bd: 6	North		
Dir: East	♠ QJ4		
Vul: E/W	♥ AQ85		
	♦ 864		
	♣ Q82		
West		East	
♠ K873		♠ A92	
♥ ---		♥ K10932	
♦ J1032		♦ KQ9	
♣ A10943		♣ KJ	
	South		
	♠ 1065		
	♥ J764		
	♦ A75		
	♣ 765		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
		1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
		1♣(1)	Pass
2♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
(1) Strong			

Pszczola made three on a diamond lead, Jason switching to hearts upon winning the ♠A; plus 600. Mohan led a heart against Paul and the defenders plugged away at that suit, giving declarer three heart winners: plus 630. 1 IMP to GB, 14-18.

Bd: 7	North
Dlr: South	♠ 104
Vul: Both	♥ 9843
	♦ A109762
	♣ 3
West	East
♠ J6	♠ AKQ97
♥ AKQJ752	♥ 10
♦ J5	♦ KQ
♣ AQ	♣ J6542
	South
	♠ 8532
	♥ 6
	♦ 843
	♣ K10987

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
			Pass
1♣(1)	2♦	Dble(2)	4♦
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♥	Pass	6NT	All Pass

(1) Polish Club, F1; (2) 2♠ would have been nonforcing opposite a minimum-range opener

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
			Pass
1♣(1)	1♦	Dble(2)	2♦
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♣	Dble
6♥	Pass	6NT	All Pass

(1) Strong; (2) Positive; 1♠ would be about 5-7

Perhaps everyone knew what was going on, but I'd bet against it. Where is that Libchaber when I need him? 6NT was very much the best contract: plus 1440.

Bd: 8	North
Dlr: West	♠ K765
Vul: None	♥ KQ1098
	♦ KJ3
	♣ 8
West	East
♠ A42	♠ Q
♥ A7543	♥ J2
♦ Q9	♦ 8642
♣ A97	♣ QJ10632
	South
	♠ J10983
	♥ 6
	♦ A1075
	♣ K54

Open Room/Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
Mavro	Lev	Paul	H Mohan
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	2♣	2♠
3♣	3♠	All Pass	

Identical auctions got N/S to 3♠. Both declarers led a trump to the king and so made lots of tricks. Jason took eleven of the little creatures, Mohan ten. 1 IMP to GB, 15-18.

Bd: 9	North
Dlr: North	♠ KJ8
Vul: E/W	♥ 108
	♦ AQ7432
	♣ J9
West	East
♠ 94	♠ AQ1065
♥ KJ64	♥ 92
♦ 865	♦ KJ10
♣ 10742	♣ Q86
	South
	♠ 732
	♥ AQ753
	♦ 9
	♣ AK53

Open Room/Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
	1♦	1♠	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

After a low spade lead to the nine and jack, declarer led the ♥10 to the queen. The rest wasn't pretty. Justin managed a seventh trick; Lev did not. GB won the board minus 100 versus minus 150, gaining 2 IMPs to make it 17-18.

Bd: 10	North
Dlr: East	♠ ---
Vul: Both	♥ J10854
	♦ 7654
	♣ 7432
West	East
♠ AQ108743	♠ J95
♥ Q9	♥ A7
♦ A10	♦ KQ32
♣ 96	♣ AJ85
	South
	♠ K62
	♥ K632
	♦ J98
	♣ KQ10

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
		1NT	Pass
4♣(1)	Pass	4NT(2)	Pass
(1) Gerber; (2) 2 aces and a king			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
		1NT	Pass
2♥(1)	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Facing a 15-17 notrump, Gawrys had more reason to look for slam than Brigitte, whose partner would deliver 13-15. Still, Gerber looks like a big action to me. Slam is certainly playable on these cards and Pszczola did produce a high card minimum, so perhaps Gawrys was closer to the target with his evaluation than I am suggesting.

He ducked the lead of the ♥J to Jason's king, but soon took the trump finesse for plus 1430.

Paul, in 4♠, took all thirteen tricks on the lead of the ♣K; plus 710. 12 IMPs to e-bridge, 30-17.

Bd: 11	North
Dlr: South	♠ J1072
Vul: None	♥ A92
	♦ J8
	♣ 9543
West	East
♠ K5	♠ Q8
♥ J74	♥ 1063
♦ K97	♦ AQ10432
♣ AKJ86	♣ Q2
	South
	♠ A9643
	♥ KQ85
	♦ 65
	♣ 107

Open Room/Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
			Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Pity poor E/W, for they can make no game. Legitimately.

Both Norths led the ♠2. Gawrys tried dummy's queen and the ace won. Jason continued spades: plus 490.



"Now let me get this straight. You say you saw him over there near the window, a white rabbit about seven feet tall, and he said his name was Harvey?"

Brigitte called for dummy's eight. When Mohan won the ace, Brigitte contributed the king. "Would she show me the king if she were afraid of a switch?" wondered John. Concluding that the answer was no, Mohan returned a spade. Brigitte forgot to cash her fifth club and so took only eleven tricks: plus 460. 1 IMP to e-bridge, 31-17.

Bd: 12	North
Dir: West	♠ KJ8
Vul: N/S	♥ 98432
	♦ A95
	♣ A6
West	East
♠ Q9642	♠ 7
♥ J106	♥ AQ5
♦ 1043	♦ KQ86
♣ 109	♣ K7432
	South
	♠ A1053
	♥ K7
	♦ J72
	♣ QJ85

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
Pass	1♥	2♣	Pass
Pass	Dble	2♦	Dble

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT

All Pass

In the Closed Room, where Paul sensibly remained silent throughout, Mohan took a practical shot at game. The ♣Q won the first trick and a spade to the jack held, so did a heart to the king, and a second heart lost to the ace. Paul had to switch to diamonds now and he led low, hoping for the actual position. Perhaps Lev should have played the jack on the grounds that East would usually switch to the ten from an honor-ten combination, with or without the eight. He played low from dummy, however, and could no longer make the contract: minus 100.

You can appreciate how little Pszczola thought of his 2♣ overcall by recognizing that his followup 2♦ was an attempt to scape from the impending penalty pass. Maybe this style pays off in the long run, but I'm not prepared to accept anyone's word on the subject without some significant evidence. Jason led a trump and the defenders continued the suit relentlessly, eventually getting around to spades to remove Pszczola's last trump. He took three trumps, two hearts and a club for minus 300. 9 IMPs toGB, 26-31.

Bd: 13	North
Dir: North	♠ J84
Vul: Both	♥ K52
	♦ A9753
	♣ 54
West	East
♠ A963	♠ 10
♥ 109	♥ AQJ76
♦ Q862	♦ KJ4
♣ 962	♣ AQ73
	South
	♠ KQ752
	♥ 843
	♦ 10
	♣ KJ108

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
Pass	Pass	1♥	1♠
Pass	2♠	Dble	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
Pass	Pass	1♣(1)	1♠
Dble*	2♠	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

(1) Strong

Jason led his singleton diamond against 3♥ but Justin did not give him a ruff, switching instead to a club. Pszczola won the low spade switch, drew trumps, and took his winners for plus 140.

It went dreadfully for Paul in 4♥ on a spade lead. He won and led a club to the queen and king. The next two tricks were exchanges in clubs and now

Mohan could play a diamond, get a ruff, give Lev an over-ruff in clubs, and get another diamond ruff. Three down: minus 300. 10 IMPs to e-bridge, 41-26.

Bd: 14	North
Dlr: East	♠ AKQ3
Vul: None	♥ A975
	♦ 84
	♣ 862
West	East
♠ 6	♠ J1094
♥ KQ84	♥ 6
♦ AQ532	♦ J76
♣ AJ10	♣ KQ743
	South
	♠ 8752
	♥ J1032
	♦ K109
	♣ 95

4♦ was a bit high, the reason being that Gawrys tried to catch up after rebidding 1NT with an extra king. He got a trump lead and called for the jack...king, ace. The♥Q lost to the ace and Justin cashed the♠K before leading a second diamond. Gawrys won, ruffed a heart, ruffed a spade, and conceded a diamond: plus 130. No swing.

Bd: 15	North
Dlr: South	♠ Q5
Vul: N/S	♥ AK1092
	♦ 1074
	♣ A74
West	East
♠ A8	♠ J1097643
♥ J543	♥ ---
♦ Q932	♦ K8
♣ J65	♣ K982
	South
	♠ K2
	♥ Q876
	♦ AJ65
	♣ Q103

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
		Pass	Pass
1♦	Dble	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♦	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
		Pass	Pass
1♣(1)	Dble(2)	2♣	All Pass

(1) Strong; (2) Majors

2♣ handled comfortably and Brigitte played it nicely for plus 130.



"What smile?"

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
			1♥
Pass	4♣(1)	4♠	Dble
All Pass			
(1) Game raise in hearts, good controls			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
			Pass
Pass	1♥	4♠	5♥
All Pass			

It's easy to understand the bidding in the Open Room, and it ended with Pszczola conceding 100 points in 4♠ doubled.

It's unpopular today to pass a hand like south's but that looks perfectly reasonable to me, vul against not. Less reasonable, however, is Mohan's bold decision to bid 5♥ over 4♠, facing a third-seat opening, albeit a vulnerable one. Lev was full value this time but that only helped to hold the e-bridge loss to 5 IMPs. Lev played 5♥ prettily, after he was permitted to win the spade lead with his queen.

He drew trumps and exited with a spade to the king and ace. Brigitte broke clubs, and later Lev got the diamonds right: minus 100. Those 5 IMPs brought GB within 10 IMPs at 31-41.

Bd: 16	North		
Dir: West	♠ A53		
Vul: E/W	♥ Q76		
	♦ 973		
	♣ J1062		
West		East	
♠ QJ962		♠ K7	
♥ 102		♥ KJ953	
♦ 82		♦ AK54	
♣ AK54		♣ 98	
	South		
	♠ 1084		
	♥ A84		
	♦ QJ106		
	♣ Q73		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Justin H	Pszczola	Jason H
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mavro	Lev	Paul H	Mohan
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	All Pass

Paul, in 1NT, made three on a diamond lead, knocking out the ♠A and eventually having Lev cover the ♥10: plus 150.

Gawrys, in 3NT, got the lead of the ♣2 to the queen and ace. He knocked out the ♠A, won the club continuation, ran spades, and led the ♥10, passing it when Justin followed low: plus 600. 10 IMPs to e-bridge, who won the first "third" of the match, 51-31.

Argentina/Australia outscored Indonesia 46-28, but the other two matches were much more one-sided: England had the best of Australia, 60-15, and Sweden did even better against Japan (Ohno), taking the first set, 97-32.



"Are these really the slides from your vacation?"



"With all the noise around here, a fellow can hardly sleep."



"Riots, protests, burnings,... and that's just in the U.S.!"

DATUM

Match 9

Bd	DATUM	BRITAIN HA		SWEDEN		ARG & AUS		USA		ENGLAND		E-BRIDGE		BRITAIN MO		AUSTRIA		AUSTRALIA		INDONESIA		PABF OPEN	
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
1	-10	3	3	3	1	3	-2	-1	-9	-1	-3	9	1	2	-3	-3	-3	-1	1	3	1	-3	3
2	-140	-6	2	-1	-5	1	0	5	-6	5	1	6	-5	1	-6	-2	6	1	2	5	-2	1	-1
3	300	4	14	4	-4	4	11	5	-4	4	-4	4	-5	4	-4	-14	-4	4	3	3	4	4	-4
4	90	-5	5	2	13	2	-2	-7	-2	-13	-2	2	7	2	-3	-5	5	2	5	-7	-2	2	-2
5	-60	-8	1	-4	1	3	-4	-2	-3	-1	4	3	2	-2	-3	-1	8	-2	1	-1	6	-4	2
6	-70	7	-7	-11	1	7	-7	7	11	-1	11	-11	-7	7	2	-7	-7	7	11	-11	-7	7	-7
7	-110	5	-7	0	-7	11	-9	5	5	-7	0	7	-5	5	10	7	-5	-15	-5	5	11	5	11
8	-440	6	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	-1	1	-6	1	0	1	0	1	0
9	-460	-5	5	-5	4	-5	5	-4	-11	-4	5	11	4	7	5	-5	5	11	1	-5	5	-5	4
10	50	2	-3	-4	4	3	4	2	-3	-4	4	3	-2	3	5	3	-2	-4	4	3	-2	2	-3
11	-100	-7	1	-4	-4	-1	8	-1	1	4	-4	-1	1	-3	7	-1	7	0	-5	0	1	4	-4
12	-180	0	8	-6	-2	-1	6	-1	-1	2	6	1	1	-1	-1	-8	0	1	-1	1	3	2	-2
13	280	-9	9	-9	-8	-9	6	-9	-8	8	9	8	9	8	4	-9	9	9	9	8	-8	8	-8
14	-650	5	-4	4	-4	4	8	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	-8	10	4	-5	4	-4	-8	-5	-8	8
15	90	-1	7	5	1	-1	1	5	1	-1	-5	-1	-5	-5	5	-7	1	0	5	-7	-2	-1	1
16	-490	-4	-8	-4	4	8	-7	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	8	4	11	4	9	4	-8	4
IMP +		32	55	23	29	47	52	33	17	34	44	59	29	39	52	30	45	51	46	38	35	44	33
IMP -		45	30	44	34	16	32	29	59	29	23	17	33	23	21	55	32	22	15	39	28	21	31

Bd	DATUM	PABF WOMEN		TERAMOTO		CH. TAIPEI		OHNO		SLAM DUNK		PABF YOUTH		GELLER		ESPERANZA		MEIRIN		HANAGUMI		SKOTII	
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
1	-10	2	-3	-3	1	-3	3	-1	1	-1	-3	2	-3	-1	3	3	-2	-1	-3	-1	-3	2	1
2	-140	0	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-2	-1	2	-5	0	-2	1	-1	6	-1	1	-4	1	2	1	12
3	300	-11	-4	8	8	4	-4	-3	-4	-4	-3	4	-4	-8	-8	4	-4	-14	9	3	14	-4	-4
4	90	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-5	-2	2	7	2	7	2	-2	3	-2	-7	-2	2	-2	2	-2
5	-60	4	-3	3	-5	-2	4	-1	2	-6	1	-2	2	5	-3	3	-2	4	-4	-2	-4	5	4
6	-70	7	-7	7	11	7	-7	-11	-7	7	11	-2	1	-11	-7	-2	-7	-2	6	5	2	-11	2
7	-110	9	-11	-10	3	-11	-5	5	15	-11	-5	5	-1	-3	10	-10	-5	-5	1	-11	3	-11	-1
8	-440	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	1	-1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	-1
9	-460	-5	5	11	5	-4	5	-1	-11	-5	5	11	-11	-5	-11	-5	-7	12	1	-5	4	11	5
10	50	-4	-3	-4	-3	3	-2	-4	4	2	-3	-4	-3	3	4	-5	-3	-5	-3	3	5	3	-3
11	-100	-8	1	0	7	4	-4	5	0	-1	0	4	-5	-7	0	-7	3	-1	1	-1	-6	-1	1
12	-180	-6	-1	-3	3	2	-2	1	-1	-3	-1	0	-3	-3	3	1	1	-1	-2	2	-7	1	-2
13	280	-9	9	8	-8	8	-8	-9	-9	8	-8	-10	10	8	-8	-4	-8	8	-8	8	2	-9	9
14	-650	-8	-4	4	-13	8	8	4	-4	5	8	-8	-4	13	-4	-10	8	4	8	4	-4	4	-5
15	90	-1	1	-5	-7	-1	1	-5	0	2	7	-11	-2	-7	5	-5	5	-5	-5	3	-12	2	5
16	-490	7	-8	7	-8	-4	-8	-4	-11	-4	-9	-3	4	8	-7	-4	4	-4	4	11	4	-3	4
IMP +		32	16	51	45	31	21	15	22	28	39	29	24	41	25	21	23	29	35	43	36	31	43
IMP -		52	47	25	41	33	44	46	51	35	38	40	39	45	51	52	39	45	27	20	38	39	18

Bd	DATUM	APPLE		EUCALYPTUS		YOKO		MERRY QUEE		SWAN		MAIKA		DREAM		COSMOS		PS-BRIDGE		YOKOHAMA T		
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	
1	-10	3	1	3	3	-1	-2	-1	1	3	-2	-1	1	-3	2	-2	3	3	1	-3	-3	
2	-140	-2	-1	-12	0	-12	-1	0	4	2	0	-4	0	4	4	-4	0	-4	-1	0	12	
3	300	-14	-3	-9	-3	4	4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	-9	14	3	9	
4	90	2	-2	0	-2	2	-2	1	-2	-7	-2	2	-1	2	5	-5	-2	2	7	2	0	
5	-60	4	2	-2	8	-4	-5	4	1	-2	2	-1	-4	4	1	-1	-4	4	-4	-8	2	
6	-70	-2	-5	5	-7	-2	11	-2	-7	-1	2	7	2	-11	1	-1	11	-6	2	7	-5	
7	-110	-3	11	7	-1	1	11	-11	-9	1	-5	9	11	-3	11	-11	3	-1	5	1	-7	
8	-440	0	-1	1	0	1	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	0	0	-1	
9	-460	-4	5	-5	5	-5	-11	-1	5	11	-11	-5	1	-4	-7	7	4	-1	-12	-5	5	
10	50	-5	-3	3	-3	3	-3	3	-2	3	4	2	-3	-4	5	-5	4	3	5	3	-3	
11	-100	6	1	-1	-4	-1	1	-1	-4	5	-4	4	1	0	1	-1	0	-1	1	4	1	
12	-180	7	-2	3	0	2	-1	2	3	3	0	-3	-2	1	1	-1	-1	2	1	0	-3	
13	280	-2	-8	8	-8	-9	9	-9	11	-10	10	-11	9	9	5	-5	-9	8	-8	8	-8	
14	-650	4	-4	5	-4	5	-4	4	8	4	8	-8	-4	4	-4	4	-4	-8	-4	4	-5	
15	90	12	-3	5	-2	-5	-2	5	-12	2	11	12	-5	5	-5	5	5	5	2	-5		
16	-490	-4	-11	-3	3	-4	3	-3	4	-4	3	-4	3	8	4	-4	-8	-4	4	-3	3	
IMP +		38	20	40	19	18	39	24	37	39	40	41	28	38	40	21	25	27	45	34	32	
IMP -		36	43	32	34	43	31	28	41	24	29	37	24	25	21	40	38	35	29	19	40	

DATUM

Match 10

Bd	DATUM	BRITAIN HA		SWEDEN		ARG & AUS		USA		ENGLAND		E-BRIDGE		BRITAIN MO		AUSTRIA		AUSTRALIA		INDONESIA		PABF	OPEN
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
17	-320	10	-7	14	3	-3	3	13	8	6	-6	1	12	-12	-6	6	-6	-3	-14	-3	3	6	-6
18	20	-3	3	3	-2	-4	4	1	4	1	3	1	-1	2	-1	2	-2	2	-3	-4	4	-3	-1
19	180	1	7	1	7	1	2	1	7	-7	-6	1	-1	-7	2	-6	6	-7	-1	-2	-1	6	7
20	530	-12	-2	3	-2	2	-3	-1	1	2	12	2	12	3	-2	2	-2	2	-3	3	-2	-12	-2
21	-350	6	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	3	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-9	-2	2	-2	2	-3	2
22	10	4	-3	3	2	-2	4	4	-3	4	-4	-12	7	-3	3	4	3	-2	-3	-4	2	4	-4
23	-330	10	7	-7	7	5	7	-7	7	-7	7	11	7	10	7	-8	7	-7	7	-7	-5	-7	7
24	60	3	-2	2	-2	10	4	1	-2	2	-2	2	3	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-4	-10	2	-2
25	-510	9	3	12	3	-3	-12	-3	3	8	3	-2	3	-3	3	-3	3	-3	-12	12	3	-3	-8
26	-50	4	11	6	-4	-10	4	12	-4	-2	4	-4	3	-4	12	6	4	4	-6	-4	10	-4	2
27	430	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	-1	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	1
28	40	0	6	2	-2	-4	-2	2	0	6	0	3	0	0	-2	0	4	2	-2	2	4	0	-6
29	-420	-9	5	-5	-8	-2	-6	12	2	6	9	-2	12	12	-12	-5	-6	8	5	6	2	-9	-6
30	120	10	1	11	9	9	5	-2	6	2	6	-1	-1	-6	-2	2	-10	-9	-11	-5	-9	-6	-2
31	-390	-2	2	-3	2	-2	3	6	1	-2	2	-2	1	-2	1	-2	0	-2	3	-3	2	-2	2
32	-380	-6	6	-6	-6	-6	-10	5	6	10	-10	-6	-10	-6	-14	10	-10	6	6	10	6	10	-10
IMP +		57	53	57	36	27	38	57	47	47	50	25	63	29	30	34	28	26	23	33	39	28	21
IMP -		32	14	23	26	39	33	15	9	21	28	29	13	46	41	26	47	36	57	38	27	50	47

Bd	DATUM	PABF WOMEN		TERAMOTO		CH. TAIPEI		OHNO		SLAM DUNK		PABF YOUTH		GELLER		ESPERANZA		MEIRIN		HANAGUMI		SKOTII	
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
17	-320	7	-6	-12	-1	6	12	6	-6	7	-10	1	-13	6	-7	1	-1	-3	3	-3	12	-3	3
18	20	2	-1	1	-1	1	-2	2	-2	-3	3	2	-1	1	-2	-3	-1	1	-2	-3	-3	2	-1
19	180	6	-1	1	-1	-2	7	-6	6	-7	-1	-2	-10	1	-6	6	-6	9	-1	-1	2	1	-9
20	530	2	-3	-12	-2	-2	-3	2	-2	2	12	3	-3	3	-2	-9	-2	2	-3	2	-2	3	-2
21	-350	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	9	2	-2	-6	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-9	-3	2	9	2	-2	3
22	10	-4	2	-7	12	-3	3	-3	-4	3	-4	3	2	-2	4	4	-3	-3	3	-2	3	-3	3
23	-330	10	7	-7	-11	-7	-10	-7	8	-7	-10	-7	-10	-7	-10	10	-10	10	7	10	7	-7	-10
24	60	2	-2	-3	-2	-2	-2	2	-2	-2	-3	2	-2	-2	2	1	3	2	2	-3	3	-2	-2
25	-510	-3	-12	-3	3	-3	3	-3	3	-3	-9	-3	3	12	3	-3	3	-3	3	12	3	-3	3
26	-50	-4	-4	-3	-4	-12	4	-4	-6	-11	-4	4	4	4	4	-4	-6	6	4	-4	-4	-4	-6
27	430	0	0	-1	1	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
28	40	0	5	0	-3	2	0	-4	0	-6	0	0	0	-5	0	0	0	-5	0	3	0	0	5
29	-420	6	5	-12	2	12	-12	6	5	-5	9	6	5	-5	-6	12	9	-2	-11	6	14	11	2
30	120	-2	-2	1	1	2	6	10	-2	-1	-10	-1	-1	-2	-2	-6	5	-1	-1	1	-1	1	-1
31	-390	5	2	-1	2	-1	2	0	2	-2	2	-1	3	-2	-5	-3	-10	6	3	6	0	-3	-6
32	-380	7	6	10	6	14	6	10	-10	-6	6	-6	6	-6	-7	-6	6	10	-5	-6	6	5	-10
IMP +		47	29	13	29	41	46	47	26	14	32	21	25	31	15	34	26	46	27	49	53	23	20
IMP -		15	31	63	25	30	29	28	34	53	57	22	40	29	47	37	48	20	23	22	10	27	46

Bd	DATUM	APPLE		EUCALYPTUS		YOKO		MERRY QUEE		SWAN		MAIKA		DREAM		COSMOS		PS-BRIDGE		YOKOHAMA T		
		N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	
17	-320	-8	-13	4	3	1	-1	-3	-4	-12	12	-8	3	-12	3	-3	8	13	-1	-12	12	
18	20	-4	-1	-3	3	1	3	-3	3	-11	3	2	3	3	3	-3	-2	1	-2	-3	11	
19	180	-7	-1	1	0	6	-6	0	-1	9	-6	1	1	-2	1	-1	-1	10	2	6	-9	
20	530	-1	1	3	1	2	9	-1	-3	3	12	2	-3	2	-2	3	-2	3	-3	-12	-3	
21	-350	-2	2	10	-9	9	2	9	-10	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-9	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	
22	10	3	-4	-3	-4	3	-4	4	3	-2	-3	-3	3	-3	3	-3	3	-2	-3	3	2	
23	-330	-7	7	-7	-11	10	-10	11	7	10	7	10	-1	-7	-10	1	-10	10	7	-7	-10	
24	60	2	-1	2	0	-3	-1	0	-2	-3	0	-3	-1	-3	3	1	3	2	-2	0	3	
25	-510	-3	3	-3	4	-3	3	-4	3	-3	3	12	3	-3	-3	-12	-3	-3	3	-3	3	
26	-50	4	-12	8	-6	6	4	6	-8	-11	2	4	-3	4	4	6	-4	-4	-4	-2	11	
27	430	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	1	-7	0	-1	0	0	7	0	0	-1	1	
28	40	0	-2	0	4	0	0	-4	0	3	-3	0	-2	0	-3	0	0	0	3	-3	3	-3
29	-420	-2	-12	-15	-6	-9	-12	6	15	-5	5	-5	5	-14	-6	-5	5	-5	-6	-5	5	
30	120	-6	2	1	6	-5	6	-6	-1	-6	2	7	-1	1	-1	-7	1	1	-2	6		
31	-390	-1	-6	-1	-10	10	3	10	1	-1	1	5	1	0	-6	-1	-5	-3	1	-1	1	
32	-380	-6	-5	-6	3	-6	6	-3	6	5	6	5	6	-6	6	-6	-5	-6	6	-6	-5	
IMP +		9	15	29	24	48	37	46	39	30	56	48	27	10	22	14	28	40	22	12	57	
IMP -		47	57	39	46	26	34	24	29	57	12	28	14	53	49	27	48	25	21	56	30	