



# NEC Bridge Festival

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Bulletin Number 2

Editors: Eric Kokish, Richard Colker

## Poland Leads 2005 NEC Cup

With two blitzes and one near blitz Team Poland (Piotr Gawrys, Dariusz Kowalski, Piotr Bizon, Michal Kwiecien, Radoslaw Kielbasinski, NPC), with 74 VPs, holds an 8-VP lead over the second-place USA team (Steve Landen, Drew Casen, Venkatrao Koneru, Larry Mori) heading into Day Two of the 2005 NEC Cup. In third place, just 1 VP behind USA, is last year's runner-up Israel (Israel Yadlin, Doron Yadlin, Michael Barel, Migry Campanile). The Netherlands (see the article on page 26) and Japan's Spice are in fourth and fifth places. The complete rankings are shown below while individual results of the first three matches may be found on page 4.

### NEC Cup: Standings After Day One (Three Matches)

Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs
1	POLAND	74	17/18	HONG KONG	49	32/33	FRIENDS	39
2	USA	66	17/18	MORIMURA	49	34/35	RUSSIA WOMEN	38
3	ISRAEL	65	19	CANADA	48	34/35	MERRY QUEENS	38
4	NETHERLANDS	61	20/21	THAILAND	46	36	TEAM YASU	37
5	SPICE	57	20/21	OZAWA	46	37/38	KOREA	36
6/7	ENGLAND/NORWAY	56	22	CHINESE TAIPEI	45	37/38	SOLARIS	36
6/7	TAJIMA	56	23/24	HIRATA	44	39	SKOTII	35
8/11	CHINA WOMEN	53	23/24	HAYASHI	44	40	XYZ	34
8/11	JAPAN WOMEN	53	25/26	GIRASOL	43	41	CONDOR	33
8/11	ABE-CHAN	53	25/26	MY-BRIDGE	43	42	COSMOS	32
8/11	HANA	53	27/28	JAPAN OPEN	42	43	NAITO	31
12/14	USA/EGYPT	52	27/28	CHARADE	42	44/45	SWAN	29
12/14	INDONESIA	52	29/31	DRAM1 & ALICE	40	44/45	JAPAN YOUTH	29
12/14	GRYFFINDOR	52	29/31	FAIRY TALE	40	46	PS-JACK	27
15	RUSSIA/POLAND	51	29/31	SUN FLOWERS	40	47	KINKI	19
16	49ERS	50	32/33	ESPERANZA	39			

### NEC Cup Bridge Festival is on the Web

Our home page is at <http://bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/necfest.html> – or – <http://www.jcbl.or.jp>

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(Download the free BBO software at [http://www.bridgebase.com/online/download\\_main.shtml](http://www.bridgebase.com/online/download_main.shtml))

## NEC Cup 2005: Conditions of Contest

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

V.P. Scale	WBF 20-board scale (a copy can be found in the score book provided in your NEC Bridge Festival bag).
Seating Rights	Blind seating 10 minutes before the start of match
KO-Phase Seating	The winner of a coin toss has the choice of seating in either of the two 20-board segments. In the four 16-board segments of the final, the choices will alternate over segments.
Swiss Pairings	First round Swiss matches were made by randomly pairing each team in the top half with a team from the bottom half.
Home and visiting	1st numbered team sits N/S in open room, E/W in closed room.
Tie-Breaks	<p>At the end of the Swiss, ties will be broken by IMP quotient. If more than two teams are involved, WBF 2004 Conditions of Contest procedures will apply.</p> <p>In the Knockout Phase, the team with the higher position from the Swiss will be assumed to have a ½-IMP carryover.</p>
Systems	No HUM or Brown Sticker methods will be permitted in this event.
Length of Matches	2 hours and 50 minutes will be allotted for each 20-board segment (or 2 hours and 20 minutes for each 16-board segment of the final). In addition a 5-minute grace period will be allotted to each team. Overtime and slow play penalties as per WBF 2004 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.
KO Draw	<p>The team finishing 1<sup>st</sup> in the Swiss may choose their opponent from the teams finishing 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. The team finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> will have their choice of the remaining teams from the 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> group. And so on.</p> <p>In addition, before the start of the Knockout Phase and after all quarter-final draws have been determined, the team that finishes 1<sup>st</sup> in the Swiss chooses their semi-final opponent from any of the other three quarter-final matches.</p>
Smoking	No player may leave the Annex Hall during play without permission due to security concerns arising from the Bridge Base Online broadcast.

## Team Rosters: 10th NEC Cup

#	Name	Members
1	China Women:	Gu Ling, Zhang Ya Lan, Zhu Xiao Yin, Dong Yong Ling, Yan Ru, Wang Yan Hong, Liu Jie (Team Leader), Wang Zhi Ge (NPC)
2	Canada:	Jurek Czyzowicz, Darren Wolpert, Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Kamel Fergani
3	Poland:	Piotr Gawrys, Dariusz Kowalski, Piotr Bizon, Michal Kwiecien, Radoslaw Kielbasinski (NPC)
4	USA/Egypt:	Rita Shugart, Andrew Robson, Walid Elahmady, Tarek Sadek
5	Netherlands:	Jan Jansma, Louk Verhees, Bas Drijver, Maarten Schollaardt, Erik Kirchhoff (coach)
6	USA:	Steve Landen, Drew Casen, Venkatrao Koneru, Larry Mori
7	Chinese Taipei:	Patrick Huang, Chi-Hua Chen, Wei-Chen Chiu, Hsin-Lung Yang, Chien-Kuo Wang, Yi-Wen Lai, Mrs. Huang, Mrs. Chen
8	Indonesia:	Angelina W Komara, Lusje Olha Bojoh, Julita Grace Joice Tueje, Robert Parasian, Taufik Gautama Asbi, Munawar Sawiruddin, Jacqueline Manansang (Manager)
9	England/Norway:	Paul Hackett, Justin Hackett, Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness
10	Israel:	Israel Yadlin, Doron Yadlin, Michael Barel, Migry Campanile
11	Russia Women:	Tatiana Ponomareva, Maria Lebedeva, Natalia Karpenko, Irina Vasilkova, Olga Galaktionova, Victoria Gromova
12	Russia/Poland:	Andrei Gromov, Alexander Dubinin, Adam Zmudzinski, Cezary Balicki
13	CACTI(Korea):	Sungae YANG, Jungyoon PARK, Kyunghae SUNG, Sooja KWON
14	Thailand:	Vallapa Svangsopakul, Pichai Nimityongskul, Pravati Silabhusiddhi, Thongchai Yongchareon, Prapongse Maijarern, Apisai Makmitree
15	Hong Kong:	SP Chan, Chow Shu Ching, KF Tung, Chris Wu
16	Japan Open:	Yasuhiro Shimizu, Yoshiyuki Nakamura, Chen Dawei, Kazuo Furuta, Makoto Kono
17	Japan Women:	Kyoko Shimamura, Shoko Fukuda, Hiroko Ota, Nobuko Setoguchi, Ayako Amano, Miho Sekizawa
18	TAJIMA:	Tadashi Teramoto, Mitsue Tajima, Fu Zhong, Zhao Jie, Ishmael Del'Monte
19	HIRATA:	Kyoko Ohno, Akihiko Yamada, Makoto Hirata, Tadashi Yoshida
20	MORIMURA:	Tadashi Imakura, Shunsuke Morimura, Masayuki Ino, Takahiko Hirata, Hiroshi Kaku, Hideki Takano
21	Drami&Alice:	Yuko Yamada, Koji Yamada, Makiko Sato, Eiji Otake, Toshiko Kaho
22	ABE-chan:	Robert Geller, Setsuko Ogihara, Hiroya Abe, Yuichi Masamura
23	ESPERANZA:	Haruko Koshi, Mieko Nakanishi, Yoko Oosako, Nobuko Matsubara, Misuzu Ichihashi, Sachiko Yamada
24	GIRASOL:	Sachiko Yamamura, Taeko Kawamura, Kimi Makita, Keiko Matsuzaki, Midori Sakamoto
25	HANA:	Takashi Maeda, Seiya Shimizu, Takeshi Hanayama, Nobuyuki Hayashi, Sei Nagasaka, Yasushi Kobayashi
26	Gryffindor:	Yoko Nenohi, Hiroko Sekiyama, Michiko Ono, Toshiko Miyashiro, Kyoko Toyofuku, Kumiko Matsuo
27	SKOTII:	Tsuneo Sakurai, Takahiro Kamiyo, Atsushi Kikuchi, Kenichi Asaoka, Yoshio Tsuji, Takehiko Tada
28	Spice:	Yayoi Sakamoto, Michio Goto, Yukiko Umezue, Etsuko Naito
29	PS-Jack:	Masakatsu Sugino, Masako Otsuka, Akiko Miwa, Teruo Miyazaki, Takako Fujimoto, Fumiko Nanjyo
30	Fairy Tale:	Takao Onodera, Ryo Okuno, Yukinao Honma, Zhang Shudi, Takeshi Higashiguchi, Kazunori Sasaki
31	Condor:	Yoshiko Murata, Emiko Tamura, Hiroko Kobayashi, Chizuko Tsukamoto, Osami Kimura, Kinzaburo Nishino
32	Ozawa:	Toyohiko Ozawa, Kazuhisa Kojima, Kei Nemoto, Shunichi Haga, Masaki Yoshida
33	NAITO:	Yoko Maruyama, Sakiko Naito, Toru Henmi, Megumi Takasaka, Keisuke Akama, Kenji Miyakuni
34	SWAN:	Minako Hiratsuka, Hisayo Goto, Michiko Shida, Aiko Banno, Kotomi Asakoshi
35	MERRY QUEENS:	Teruko Nishimura, Junko Nishimura, Toyoko Nakakawaji, Toshiko Hiramori
36	SunFlowers:	Takako Nakatani, Masaru Naniwada, Taeko Kuratani, Reiko Fukuda, Hisako Kondo, Sachiko Ueda
37	Friends:	Yoko Saito, Mamiko Odaira, Tsukasa Ito, Toshiko Nishi, Koichi Onishi, Yasuko Kosaka
38	XYZ:	Atsuko Kurita, Junko Den, Chieko Ichikawa, Kuniko Saito
39	Solaris:	Naomi Terauchi, Sachiko Nakatani, Yuko Yoneyama, Natsuko Asaka, Yasuyo Iida, Sachiko Ueno
40	TEAM YASU:	Shoko Somemiya, Setsuko Neya, Kimiko Kamakari, Yumiko Oda, Misae Kato, Tomoko Sakai
41	HAYASHI:	Jun Cheng, Makiko Hayashi, Mark LaForge, Natsuhiko Nagumo, Chieko Yamazaki, Sia Chong Meng
42	Kawabata:	Akiko Kawabata, Sonoko Yamamoto, Sumiko Sugino, Misako Fukazawa
43	MY-Bridge:	Masafumi Yoshizawa, Yoshitaka Agata, Shigeyuki Murano, Noriko Yoshizawa, Takashi Sumita, Yoko Fukuyama
44	49ers:	Ryo Matsubara, Ayako Matsubara, Yoshinori Kurachi, Kazuo Takano, Hideto Yamaguchi
45	KinKi:	Toru Tamura, Mimako Ishizuka, Sonoko Namba, Chizuko Sugiura, Kiyoko Fushida
46	Cosmos:	Nobuko Wakasa, Masaharu Wakasa, Keiko Enomoto, Yoko Takahashi, Kazuko Tsumori, Noriko Komiyama
47	Japan Youth:	Yuichi Ikemoto, Shugo Tanaka, Ruri Ote, Hiroyuki Taguchi, Takeshi Niekawa, Satoshi Imai

## Tuesday's Match Results

### Match 1

RUSSIA WOMEN (18)	8-22	HANA (52)
CHINA WOMEN (55)	19-11	CONDOR (38)
CANADA (67)	25-4	SUN FLOWERS (11)
POLAND (101)	25-0	PS-JACK (10)
USA/EGYPT (50)	21-9	MERRY QUEENS (20)
NETHERLANDS (53)	14-16	49ERS (60)
USA (68)	25-4	JAPAN YOUTH (10)
CHINESE TAIPEI (12)	11-19	GIRASOL (33)
INDONESIA (25)	13-17	OZAWA (35)
ENGLAND/NORWAY (80)	24-6	FRIENDS (38)
ISRAEL (67)	25-5	SWAN (14)
RUSSIA/POLAND (55)	22-8	KINKI (20)
KOREA (22)	14-16	SPICE(30)
THAILAND (22)	9-21	NAITO (52)
JAPAN OPEN (35)	13-17	HAYASHI (45)
JAPAN WOMEN (60)	24-6	SKOTII (13)
TAJIMA (63)	21-9	FAIRY TALE (36)
HIRATA (56)	19-11	TEAM YASU (38)
MORIMURA (86)	25-1	XYZ (8)
DRAMI & ALICE (59)	25-4	CHARADE (5)
ABE-CHAN (54)	19-11	SOLARIS (33)
ESPERANZA (47)	16-14	MY-BRIDGE (43)

### Match 2

USA (69)	21-9	CANADA (38)
MORIMURA (11)	5-25	POLAND (63)
ISRAEL (35)	20-10	DRAMI & ALICE (13)
JAPAN WOMEN (26)	14-16	ENGLAND/NORWAY (29)
HANA (26)	17-13	RUSSIA/POLAND (15)
NAITO (2)	1-25	USA/EGYPT (79)
GIRASOL (13)	4-25	TAJIMA (67)
HIRATA (26)	11-19	ABE-CHAN (45)
OZAWA (46)	13-17	CHINA WOMEN (55)
HAYASHI (29)	13-17	SPICE(39)
49ERS (53)	21-9	ESPERANZA (24)
MY-BRIDGE (28)	8-22	NETHERLANDS (64)
INDONESIA (41)	21-9	KOREA (10)
CONDOR (20)	12-18	JAPAN OPEN (36)
TEAM YASU (24)	13-17	SOLARIS (33)
FAIRY TALE (26)	12-18	CHINESE TAIPEI (41)
MERRY QUEENS (14)	4-25	THAILAND (68)
KINKI (15)	6-24	RUSSIA WOMEN (59)
SKOTII (18)	14-16	FRIENDS (26)
SWAN (8)	9-21	CHARADE (36)
JAPAN YOUTH (59)	10-20	SUN FLOWERS (81)
XYZ (47)	18-12	PS-JACK (34)
Three-way		
HONG KONG (25)	7-23	GRYFFINDOR (63)
GRYFFINDOR (41)	19-11	COSMOS (20)
COSMOS (30)	10-20	HONG KONG (56)

### Match 3

USA/EGYPT (34)	6-24	POLAND (79)
TAJIMA (31)	10-20	USA (53)
GRYFFINDOR (27)	10-20	ISRAEL (53)
ENGLAND/NORWAY (21)	16-14	HANA (15)
ABE-CHAN (26)	15-15	JAPAN WOMEN (26)
CHINA WOMEN (55)	17-13	49ERS (46)
NETHERLANDS (65)	25-5	DRAMI & ALICE (13)
CANADA (32)	14-16	RUSSIA/POLAND (37)
THAILAND (27)	12-18	INDONESIA (40)
SPICE (64)	24-6	RUSSIA WOMEN (21)
JAPAN OPEN (18)	11-19	MORIMURA (35)
OZAWA (21)	16-14	HAYASHI (17)
CHINESE TAIPEI (34)	16-14	HIRATA (26)
SOLARIS (24)	8-22	HONG KONG (56)
SUN FLOWERS (59)	16-14	ESPERANZA (53)
CHARADE (28)	17-13	TEAM YASU (19)
CONDOR (5)	10-20	GIRASOL(27)
FRIENDS (32)	17-13	KOREA (21)
MY-BRIDGE (49)	21-9	NAITO (19)
COSMOS (30)	11-19	FAIRY TALE (50)
SKOTII (30)	15-15	XYZ (28)
MERRY QUEENS (65)	25-5	KINKI (16)

# NEC Cup Round One: Russia Women versus Japan-Hana

by Eric Kokish

The first NEC Cup Swiss match on Bridge Base Online (10 a.m. in Yokohama) featured the reigning World Olympiad Women's Teams champions from Russia against Japan-Hana, one of Japan's top national teams. Despite some startup technical issues (the link between the rooms was incomplete), the broadcast was a success; the match was seen around the world.

It was 2-0 for Hana on the strength of an extra undertrick in the Closed Room, when the second deal brought a more serious swing...

Bd: 2	North		
Dlr: East	♠ J1093		
Vul: N/S	♥ AKQJ1065		
	♦ ---		
	♣ 74		
West		East	
♠ ---		♠ Q87542	
♥ 32		♥ 9	
♦ A876432		♦ KJ95	
♣ K1032		♣ AJ	
	South		
	♠ AK6		
	♥ 874		
	♦ Q10		
	♣ Q9865		
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
		1♠	Pass
1NT(1)	2♥	Pass	3♥
4♦	4♥	5♦	Dbl
Pass	5♥	6♦	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	
(1) Semi-forcing			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
		1♠	Pass
2♦(1)	2♥	2♠	3♦
Pass	4♥	5♦	Dbl
All Pass			
(1) Nonforcing			

It's not that **Takeshi Hanayama** was counting on winning 10 IMPs after going minus 650 against 5♦ doubled at his table, **Natalia Karpenko** claiming six after a heart lead and club switch. I'm sure he believed he was in a forcing situation and had a high defense-to-offense ratio for his 3♦ cue-bid advance. **Sei Nagasaka's** final pass was either disciplined or naive, depending on the level of generosity of the beholder.

The Open Room auction had a different flavor, and **Vicky Gromova** did the practical thing by pulling **Tatiana Ponomareva's** double of 5♦ to 5♥. **Takashi Maeda** could easily have been forgiven for passing 5♥ after forcing a guess on his vulnerable opponents, but he was looking for IMPs rather than forgiveness, and he too did the practical thing by bidding one more for the road. Having doubled 5♦ for penalty in a nonforcing situation, Ponomareva was not inclined to double six when at least one of her spade tricks was unlikely to stand up. When she passed, Gromova might have tried 6♥ to avoid a huge adverse swing, but she doubled instead, and soon wrote -1090 on her scoresheet (♥A, club shift). Hana gained 10 IMPs to lead 12-0. Not that bidding 6♥ would have been a free lunch: with inspired defense, E/W can set 6♥ doubled 800 points.

At many tables, North overcalled 4♥ after a 1NT response by West. While that often ended the auction, there were several tables at which West reopened with a double, which concluded the auction. A spade lead was a good start and a suit-preference ♠2 even better, but at some tables East simply led a normal count card, leaving West to choose the right minor suit to put East in with to get a second ruff. That explains why 4♥ was made so often.

Is there anything in it, other than West is so much longer in diamonds? Not really, because East could as easily be 6=1=2=4. The key is for East to appreciate that spade count isn't relevant and to suggest an entry in his shorter suit.



Bd: 4	North		
Dlr: West	♠ KQ1052		
Vul: Both	♥ 10		
	♦ 10642		
	♣ 964		
West		East	
♠ ---		♠ J876	
♥ AQ982		♥ J754	
♦ AJ93		♦ Q5	
♣ AKQ7		♣ 1083	
South			
♠ A943			
♥ K63			
♦ K87			
♣ J52			
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
1♥	Pass	3♥(1)	Pass
6♥	All Pass		
(1) Weak			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
1♣(1)	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♥(2)	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
(1) Polish-style, F1; (2) Strong, F1			

With no top losers, 6♥ would seem to have legitimate chances, the disgusting dummy notwithstanding. **Nobu Hayashi** ruffed the opening spade lead and could have succeeded either by conceding a diamond, taking a diamond ruff, and leading the ♥J, or by leading the ♥Q from hand at trick two, either forcing a trump entry to take the diamond finesse while keeping control, or, if South ducks, depriving him of his trump winner. Not unreasonably, Hayashi played ♥A, ♥9. Ponomareva won and played a second spade, and declarer could not quite get home: if he crossed to the ♥J, he would need two diamond ruffs with dummy's sole remaining trump, and if he did not use dummy's heart entry he would have to lose a diamond trick. One down, -100, and 13 IMPs to Russia when Karpenko finished plus 650 in a non-challenging 4♥. Russia led by 1 IMP, 13-12.

Bd: 6	North		
Dlr: East	♠ KQ82		
Vul: E/W	♥ 62		
	♦ AK7		
	♣ J982		
West		East	
♠ A1093		♠ 74	
♥ J54		♥ K98	
♦ J3		♦ Q9862	
♣ KQ54		♣ A63	
South			
♠ J65			
♥ AQ1073			
♦ 1054			
♣ 107			
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Dbl(1)	1♦	1♥
Pass	1♠(2)	Pass	2♥
All Pass			
(1) Opening values, no special shape			
(2) "I don't like hearts"			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

The Russian style is to double 1♣ with the hands they would open 1♣ themselves, Polish-style. It's an unfamiliar approach to most standard players, but it gets them into many more auctions and guarantees that they won't get frozen out of any 13-opposite-13 3NT contracts when an opponent opens the bidding. Here Gromova's double got her side to 2♥, which handled well on two trump finesses; +110. Nagasaka, in a more "normal" 1NT, ran out of time when he elected to win the first diamond trick to play on spades; -50. Had he ducked one diamond and worked on hearts, he would have found a way home. That was 4 IMPs to Russia, ahead now by 5 IMPs, 17-12.

Bd: 12	North	
Dir: West	♠ 653	
Vul: N/S	♥ QJ97	
	♦ 76	
	♣ AJ94	
West		East
♠ A92		♠ KJ8
♥ A62		♥ 1084
♦ AQ105		♦ J832
♣ Q83		♣ K105
	South	
	♠ Q1074	
	♥ K53	
	♦ K94	
	♣ 762	

Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	All Pass		

3NT isn't a dream contract, but it has some play and can be made on a heart lead by guessing whether to play North for the ♠Q or the ♣J. Maeda passed his partner's 15(14)-17 1NT but **Irina Vasilkova** raised Karpenko's 15+-18 1NT all the way to game. Hayashi was +120, playing as safely as possible. Karpenko won the second round of hearts and led a club to the king to play the ♦J, covered by Hanayama. When diamonds divided evenly, all she needed was the spade finesse. When it lost, Hanayama returned a club and declarer never made a second spade trick: two down, -100, and 6 IMPs to Hana, who took the lead, 19-18.

West's first rebid would be a fair Master Solvers' Club problem, with 2♠, 2♥ and 2♣ all sure to attract serious support from an expert panel. It's interesting, then, that both Hayashi and Karpenko opted for 2♣, which happened to leave East with an easy rebid. It looks straightforward for West to continue with 3♥ or 3♠ now, with the intention of taking out 3NT. That was Karpenko's strategy, and Vasilkova might have raised 4♣ to five on the strength of her fifth trump and potentially useful singleton heart. She passed, however, and Karpenko was +150 after two rounds of spades and the ♦A. Hayashi, feeling that East's black-suit bids had improved his hand considerably, jumped to 4♥ to show his powerful suit, and there he rested. He ruffed Gromova's lead of the ♦A to play ♥A, ♥Q. Ponomareva won with the king and switched to the ♣10, so Hayashi covered, and could soon ruff the ♦J to hand to draw trumps. He had discarded a club from dummy and so had only 10 tricks, but plus 620 earned Hana 10 IMPs and extended its lead to 11 IMPs, 29-18.

Bd: 13	North	
Dir: North	♠ K93	
Vul: Both	♥ 8754	
	♦ A1083	
	♣ Q5	
West		East
♠ J102		♠ Q876
♥ AQJ1032		♥ 6
♦ ---		♦ KJ5
♣ KJ93		♣ A8762
	South	
	♠ A54	
	♥ K9	
	♦ Q97642	
	♣ 104	



Nobuyuki Hayashi

Bd: 15		North	
Dir: South		♠ A73	
Vul: N/S		♥ KQ832	
		♦ A982	
		♣ A	
West		East	
♠ QJ4		♠ K1052	
♥ A6		♥ 4	
♦ KJ4		♦ Q7653	
♣ KJ963		♣ Q87	
		South	
		♠ 986	
		♥ J10975	
		♦ 10	
		♣ 10542	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
1NT	Dbl	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	All Pass	
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
1NT	2♥(1)	All Pass	Pass
(1) Hearts and a minor			

If Gromova/Ponomareva were going to reach 4♥, it was up to North to get them there. Vicky's double was penalty, at least 15 HCP, and Tanya's 2♥ suggested a long suit in a very weak hand. As there was no way for South to judge the degree of fit, North really should have bid game and asked questions later. At the other table, where North would usually have a weaker hand for his two-suited intervention, Hanayama was not inclined to get involved with even a gentle raise to three. Here too, it's my feeling that there isn't much to be gained by raising to three when partner won't know that a weak diamond holding would be an asset. I believe South should bid 4♥ and not worry about whether he can make it. Although Vasilkova did not have a negative double at her disposal, it's a bit surprising that she took no action over 2♥. It's not clear whether Maeda could have doubled 3♥ for takeout, but that was a much less attractive scenario for him as Gromova was known to hold

a strong hand. No swing at N/S +170. 4♥ was bid much more often than it was missed across the field, and curiously, when game was missed, it was usually missed at both tables.

Bd: 16		North	
Dir: West		♠ 872	
Vul: E/W		♥ 9	
		♦ Q76542	
		♣ KQ4	
West		East	
♠ K		♠ AJ10953	
♥ 8542		♥ K106	
♦ A109		♦ J3	
♣ A10986		♣ J5	
		South	
		♠ Q64	
		♥ AQJ73	
		♦ K8	
		♣ 732	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
Pass	Pass	2♠	3♥
All Pass			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣(1)	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT(2)	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
(1) Drury, fit not implied; (2) Natural, with club length			

2♠ looks like the right third-seat action to me, but my spies in the Russian enclave tell me that East is too strong for a Multi2♦ in their national style. Whether this insight should lead us to appreciate the merit in overcalling 2♠ with 3♥ I cannot say, but Ponomareva's bold bid in the Open Room produced -100. Meanwhile, in 4♠, Vasilkova went three down, -300, after ♥A, ♥7, ruffed, and a switch to the ♦6 to the king and ace. Declarer cashed the ♠K and played a diamond, but North won and played a diamond, South scoring the ♠6 as declarer discarded a club. A second heart ruff followed and another



diamond promoted the ♠Q. That was 9 IMPs to Hana, ahead by 20, 38-18.

Bd: 17	North		
Dlr: North	♠ KJ10432		
Vul: None	♥ 72		
	♦ QJ96		
	♣ Q		
	West		East
	♠ 65		♠ AQ9
	♥ J843		♥ A65
	♦ 108		♦ A32
	♣ KJ732		♣ 10654
		South	
		♠ 87	
		♥ KQ109	
		♦ K754	
		♣ A98	
	Open Room		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
	2♦(1)	Pass	2♥(2)
Pass	2♠	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
(1) Weak 2♥ or weak 2♠; (2) Pass-or-correct			
	Closed Room		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
	Pass	1♣(1)	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	All Pass	
(1) Polish-style, F1			

2♠ handled easily for three, +140, which made E/W's 3NT in the Open Room a good save at -100. "Of course, we knew exactly what we were doing, why do you ask, Kokish-san?" said my good friend Nobu in an exclusive post-game interview. Hana by 21, 39-18.



"Oh, can't we leave it open?"

Bd: 18	North		
Dlr: East	♠ K976		
Vul: N/S	♥ KJ95		
	♦ 64		
	♣ Q32		
	West		East
	♠ Q3		♠ 84
	♥ Q10		♥ 8764
	♦ Q1092		♦ A87
	♣ J9854		♣ AK76
		South	
		♠ AJ1052	
		♥ A32	
		♦ KJ53	
		♣ 10	
	Open Room		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
		1♣	1♠
3♣	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
	Closed Room		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

With both Nagasaka and Hanayama maximum for their final last calls and Vasilkova staying out of the auction, the bidding died of natural causes in the Closed Room. Hanayama made four without guessing diamonds successfully; +170. That opened the door for Russia in the Open Room, where Gromova/Ponomareva overcame the modest obstruction of Maeda/Hayashi to reach their reasonable 4♠. After a club to the king and a low diamond switch, Ponomareva played the jack. She got the trumps right and was able to lead a second diamond towards her king, and needed only to bring in the hearts to land her contract. Unfortunately for Russia, Tanya had too much information: East was almost surely 2=4=3=4 and had opened the bidding in first seat. He was a favorite on both counts to hold the ♥Q, so...♥K, ♥J...one down, -100, and 7 IMPs to Hana where it might well have been 10 IMPs to Russia. How revolting!

The next board brought more bad luck for

Russia.

Bd: 19		North	
Dir: South		♠ K642	
Vul: E/W		♥ KQ9	
		♦ A10954	
		♣ 8	
West		East	
♠ A953		♠ J7	
♥ J7643		♥ A85	
♦ 6		♦ K3	
♣ Q92		♣ AJ10753	
		South	
		♠ Q108	
		♥ 102	
		♦ QJ872	
		♣ K64	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
Pass	1♦(1)	2♣	2♦
Dbl	Pass	3♣	3♦
4♣	All Pass		
(1) 11-16, natural, usually unbalanced			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
Pass	1♦	2♣	Pass!
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Maeda's 4♣ was two down, minus 200. Vasilkova's 3NT needed only the ♣K with the opening bidder. Unfortunately, she had to cross to the ♠A to negotiate the finesse after a diamond lead, and so went three down, -300, when South ungraciously turned up with the ♣K. That was 3 IMPs to Hana when it might well have been 12 to Russia. Hana's lead was up to 31 IMPs now, 49-18.



Bd: 20		North	
Dir: West		♠ AQ876	
Vul: Both		♥ J63	
		♦ K1054	
		♣ 8	
West		East	
♠ K		♠ 109543	
♥ 10		♥ K754	
♦ AJ832		♦ Q9	
♣ AQ10542		♣ J7	
		South	
		♠ J2	
		♥ AQ982	
		♦ 76	
		♣ K963	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
1♣	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Karpenko</i>	<i>Nagasaka</i>	<i>Vasilkova</i>	<i>Hanayama</i>
1♦(1)	1♠	Pass	1NT
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
3♣	All Pass		
(1) 11-15, 4+♦, usually unbalanced			

Karpenko made 3♣ by leading towards the ♦Q without drawing trumps, Nagasaka rising with the king. Later, declarer could use the ♦Q to enter dummy to pass the ♣J, and so lost only a trick in each suit for +110. Although Hanayama's 1NT advance temporarily buried hearts, the fit came to light after all, but he refused to take the push to the three level.

In contrast, Ponomareva's 2♥ located the fit immediately, and she went on to game just in case it happened to make. She took the lead of the ♠K with dummy's ace to lead the ♣8, covered all around. Hayashi switched to ♦A, diamond and the king won. When the queen fell, it was not out of the question that Hayashi's shape was indeed 1=1=5=6, and there was a genuine possibility of finding the winning line: ♥J,

heart to the nine, ♠J, club ruff, ♠Q to discard a club, ruff a card to hand, exit with a club, wait to score the ace-queen of trumps at the end. Instead, declarer tried to come to the ♠J, so West ruffed with his blank ten of trumps. He exited with a high club, forcing dummy. When

declarer continued by ruffing a diamond, she knew she could no longer get home when East showed out. In practice, she cashed the ♥A and finished two down, -200. Hana gained 3 IMPs and won the match 52-18, 22-8 in VP.

## How to Score 1200

by Matthew Granovetter (bridgetoday.com)

Dir: East  
Vul: N/S

North  
♠ A543  
♥ A5  
♦ 109865  
♣ J6

West

♠ K  
♥ Q10942  
♦ AKJ43  
♣ K8

East

♠ 7  
♥ J873  
♦ Q72  
♣ A10975

South

♠ QJ109862  
♥ K6  
♦ ---  
♣ Q432

West	North	East	South
		Pass	2♠
3♥	4♠	5♥	5♠
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Rdbl
All Pass			

was from a match between Denmark and Japan. At one table in the match, the Danish pair bid to 4♠ on the N/S cards and made an overtrick, for 650 points. This seemed normal, but at the other table there were fireworks. Hisaya Sano, of Japan, opened the South hand with a “Trent weak two-bid.” This untraditional method shows at least a six-card suit, 7-12 points and a good playing hand, possibly with a side suit. Sano’s hand was exceptional for the bid. West overcalled 3♥ and North, Yuji Tashiro, jumped to game in spades. Now East took a sacrifice in 5♥.

At this point, you would expect South to pass, but because he held such a fantastic hand for his opening two-bid, Sano competed to 5♠. West doubled, but regretted it when the auction came around to South. Sano decided to redouble, a nice tactic that might scare his opponents into 6♥. But his opponents did not run and when dummy came down, Sano was pleased. It was the perfect dummy and all he needed was a little luck in the trump suit. He got it. West led the ♦K. Sano ruffed and led the ♠Q. When the king appeared, he leaned over and claimed 11 tricks, announcing he would ruff two clubs in dummy. By the way, the score for 5♠ doubled and redoubled, vulnerable, is 1200, a unique number in bridge scoring. It adds up to 1200 this way: 150 trick score times four (600), plus 500 game bonus (totals 1100), and 100 for the “insult.”

Opening lead: ♦K.

“Young players play a game the rest of us do not understand,” writes Marc Smith in a recent column on e-bridge. He was writing about a hand played last month in the University Teams Cup in Maastricht, The Netherlands. The hand



“It doesn’t matter how certain you are that your partner can’t make her bid. You still can’t double her!”



“Well, that’s definitely a new one on me. I’ve never seen a contract set 2-1/2 tricks before.”



“I’ve decided. I’m not playing another card.”

# Easley's Revenge

by Pietro Campanile

"Do you play standard Wormwood or RKCW?" This apparently meaningless question could well have been asked zillions of times at bridge tables all over the world if certain events had taken a different turn in 1933, when a letter from a relatively unknown Easley Blackwood reached the desk of Ely Culbertson, editor of *The Bridge World* and uncontested top world bridge personality of the time.

The letter contained a clearly written article explaining a new and disarmingly simple method to investigate slams. Blackwood had just been transferred to Indianapolis to take charge of the local branch of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company and fearing that his overt association with the game might alienate the sympathies of the god-fearing citizens of the Midwest state of Indiana, closed his letter expressing his reluctance at divulging the method under his own name and asked Culbertson to publish the article under the alias "Ernest Wormwood."

Ely, however, had his own self-serving agenda on the subject of bidding innovations and rejected the idea altogether as it conflicted with the dictates of his own widely used system.

Over the next few years the convention spread like wildfire across the American tournament scene, purely by word of mouth as a player from Indiana met a player from Washington, who met a player from New York and so on, and has been known after its creator, who eventually got his letter published in the September 1938 issue of *The Bridge World*—but under his own name. Since then Blackwood has long become an almost indispensable tool for bridge players from novices to experts wishing to avoid the embarrassment of getting to a slam without enough aces.

Naturally, the use of the Blackwood convention cannot make up for good judgment, the very skill that many champions possess in abundance and that allows them to delicately probe towards slam with elegant and often mysterious sequences, disdainfully scorning

the use of Easley's "primitive" gadget.

Let us step back in time to 1973. We're in the little known holiday heaven of Guaruja, in Brazil, where the mighty clash between the legendary Blue Team and the Dallas Aces will decide the winner of the Bermuda Bowl. This is what happened on Board 90.

Dir: East		♠ AK74	
Vul: Both		♥ KJ943	
		♦ AQJ	
		♣ 8	
♠ 1096		♠ QJ82	
♥ A102		♥ 876	
♦ 97		♦ 2	
♣ J6543		♣ AK972	
		♠ 53	
		♥ Q5	
		♦ K1086543	
		♣ Q10	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Garozzo</i>	<i>Wolff</i>	<i>Belladonna</i>	<i>Jacoby</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣(1)	Pass	1♥(2)
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			
(1) Strong, 17+HCP			
(2) At most 2 Controls (ace=1; king=2) and no more than 7HCP			

Jacoby's final action is difficult to understand: despite having an absolute powerhouse within the constraints of his initial 1♥ reply. His partner was clearly in charge of the auction and had he felt that a slam could be a possibility he would probably have bid 4NT or an encouraging 5♣ instead of 5♦.

There was nothing much to the play; Garozzo led a small club and declarer went down one.

Over to the Closed Room where the great Pietro Forquet was involved in a potentially

deadly combination: playing a new system (Precision instead of the trusty Blue Team Club he was used to) with a relatively new partner, Benito Bianchi.

West	North	East	South
<i>Blumenthal</i>	<i>Forquet</i>	<i>Goldman</i>	<i>Bianchi</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣(1)	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	6♥!	All Pass	
(1) Precision 16+HCP			

Oh no, not again! What happened here? On the face of it the Italians made even more of a mess of it than the Americans, ending up in slam in a 5-2 fit with two aces missing.

Well, the bidding, according to Bianchi, was straightforward. He jumped to 3♦ to show his good suit. Over 3♠ he gave delayed support in hearts with a doubleton (he would have raised

immediately with three), after which his partner, probably with a nice big heart suit, bid the small slam directly. Unfortunately for him, when Forquet proceeded to explain the auction to Goldman, the tale he heard was rather different; only then did he remember the late addition to the system suggested by Garozzo and agreed to during the long flight over: 3♦ was meant to show a 4414 hand with heart support and a diamond shortage, over which 3♠ asked for controls and 4♥ showed five. Since his partner was a passed hand, Forquet knew that he could not have the ♥Q as well as the 11 points he promised with the 4♥ bid and signed off in 6♥.

Amazing! A flat board with both sides bidding to slam off two cashing aces. Well, not quite. Goldman led a safe trump to cut down on ruffs. Blumenthal won his ace and...played back another trump! Forquet let go of his lucky charm and quickly claimed 12 tricks. Which proves again that luck is the best convention.

## The 12th World Bridge Teams Olympiad

Istanbul, Turkey, Oct 24-Nov 6, 2004

by Eric Kokish, Canada

There can be no doubt that Istanbul is one of the world's great cities, with its rich history and cultural background, spectacular vistas and a seemingly limitless number of mosques, bazaars, and battlements. Segueing from Byzantium into its current incarnation, spreading itself over Europe and Asia, Istanbul stands as a unique blend of ancient and modern.

The world bridge community, despite some scattered reservations about the city's security for a high-profile event like the Olympiad, descended upon Istanbul in record numbers. 72 nations entered the Open teams, 43 the Women's and 29 the Seniors. In the second week, the Transnational Mixed Teams attracted 130 teams, and the first edition of the University Teams another 15.

The Grand Cevahir Hotel was a comfortable venue with adequate playing space and infrastructure, and a magnificent Vugraph theatre, which would feature for the first time at

a world championship the software of Bridge Base Online. It's particularly difficult to accommodate everyone in the same facility in Olympiad years, but in some cases it's not a significant issue as there are many hotels within easy walking distance of the playing site. In Istanbul, however, teams staying elsewhere often had to deal with more onerous commutes and gridlocked traffic, conditions that inevitably preclude a truly level playing field. As bridge continues to grow and participation increases at World Championships, so too will such logistical problems. The World Bridge Federation has done a brilliant job of finding attractive venues with strong local support, but it will always be a challenge to satisfy the needs of everyone involved.

### Open Teams: The Round Robin

The teams were seeded into four groups of 18, playing complete internal round robins of 20-board matches over six days, boards duplicated across the field. The top four

finishers in each group would qualify for the knockout phase, with pre-determined crossover groups for the Round of 16. Although many perennial contenders did not send their most celebrated partnerships and the defending champions from Italy appeared to be the clear favorite, there was considerable depth in each group and it was not straightforward to pick the likely qualifiers in any of them. Once the round robin got under way, it became apparent that nations making their first appearance at this level and many of the unheralded teams from smaller countries could not be taken lightly. While these teams still have a long way to go to be considered serious contenders to emerge from a round robin, it's heartening that the overall standard of play has improved considerably and that nearly any team could beat any other in a 20-board match. It was not always so.

This was my favorite deal of the round robin (based on a report by Barry Rigal; rotated for convenience).

Bd: 6-14	North		
Dlr: North	♠ K53		
Vul: None	♥ 8		
	♦ QJ10972		
	♣ AQ9		
West		East	
♠ 98		♠ 6	
♥ KQ5432		♥ J976	
♦ K		♦ A84	
♣ 10764		♣ KJ532	
	South		
	♠ AQJ10742		
	♥ A10		
	♦ 653		
	♣ 8		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	<i>Sadek</i>		<i>El Ahmady</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
2♥	2♠	4♣(1)	4NT(2)
Pass	5♥(3)	Pass	6♠
All Pass			
(1) Heart fit, club strength; (2) RKCB; (3) 2 key cards, no ♠Q			

A bid or play may be described as “made from hunger” when its perpetrator seems particularly desperate. That description seemed particularly appropriate for Egypt’s Walid El-Ahmady as he contemplated a disappointing dummy in 6♠ against a strong Danish team. More so when one considers that the Olympiad happened to overlap the Islamic high holiday of Ramadan and Walid was fasting while playing three grueling matches a day.

If you think 6♠ is hopeless, even for a hungry man, you’re right. But Walid saw a slim chance if he could find the E/W cards as he wanted them, and could make it attractive for East to do something fatal for the defence. He took West’s lead of the ♥K with the ace, cashed the ♠A, and led the ♠J, playing the king when West was gracious enough to follow. Then he called for the ♦2 from dummy. Put yourself in East’s place. Holding the ♦8 himself, it seemed clear that declarer held the ♦K, or was void in diamonds. Furthermore, declarer’s handling of the trump suit left open the possibility that West had a trump trick with the queen. East played the ♦A, crashing West’s king. Egypt won the important match 24-6, and an hour later, Walid was able to satisfy his “other” hunger with a sandwich and a cup of tea.

This effort by Jan Jansma of the Netherlands against Hong Kong wasn’t too shabby either (Marijke van der Pas reported it originally).

Bd: 14-18	North		
Dlr: East	♠ AJ852		
Vul: N/S	♥ A875		
	♦ 972		
	♣ 5		
West		East	
♠ ---		♠ Q107643	
♥ K10432		♥ QJ	
♦ 1053		♦ KQ6	
♣ Q10742		♣ J8	
	South		
	♠ K9		
	♥ 96		
	♦ AJ84		
	♣ AK963		

West	North	East	South
Wan	Verhees	Zen	Jansma
		1♠	1NT
Pass	2♣(1)	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
(1) Stayman			

Sam Wan led the ♣4, fourth best, to the jack and king. Facing an uphill struggle, Jansma tried the ♠K at trick two. West's heart discard with four in dummy strongly suggested a five-card holding, so Jansma was well on his way to fleshing out a reliable picture of the complete deal: If East had only two hearts, West would have at least one heart honor and East would surely have both diamond honors for his opening bid. Jansma ducked a heart to Derek Zen's jack, took the club continuation with the ace, crossed to the ♥A, and led a diamond, ducking when East split his honors. Zen continued with the ♦6, but Jansma put in the jack, cashed the ♦A and ♦8 and led the ♠9, overtaking with dummy's jack. East won the queen but had to lead a spade into dummy's ace-eight to concede the contract.

At the other table, South overcalled 1♠ with 2♣ and raised North's 2NT to game. West, Sjoert Brink, doubled for penalty. Ricco van Prooijen led the ♦K, which was permitted to hold. He switched to the ♣J, which declarer took with the ace. He crossed to the ♥A and led a diamond to the eight and ten, playing East for a stronger holding. Brink continued with the ♣Q, and declarer won with the king to duck a heart. Van Prooijen won the trick and exited safely in diamonds, and now declarer was in the same position as Jansma, but with only two diamond tricks, so his target was one down. However, when he played ♠K, ♠9, he neglected to overtake with the jack, so van Prooijen let the nine hold, and West took the rest with a high club and two high hearts: minus 500, and 15 IMPs to the Netherlands.

With two matches to play, England and China were coasting in Groups C and B respectively, and Italy was sure to qualify in Group A. But in Group D there were no fewer than 8 teams still alive, and in each of the other groups several teams were battling for a place in the knockout. There was plenty of drama on Day Six of the round robin, which yielded the

following results:

Group A		Group B	
(1) The Neth.	318	(1) China	338
(2) Italy	317	(2) Germany	309
(3) Russia	316	(3) Turkey	306
(4) Iceland	312	(4) USA	304
(5) Argentina	308	(5) Norway	294
(6) Latvia	271	(6) Lebanon	288
(7) Hong Kong	264	(7) Australia	280
(8) New Zealand	259	(8) Bulgaria	277
(9) Scotland	254	(9) India	268
(10) Georgia	248	(10) Croatia	251
(11) Belgium	244	(11) Estonia	238
(12) Canada	234	(12) Switzerland	227
(13) Ch. Taipei	226.5	(13) Martinique	216
(14) Ser./Mngro	226.5	(14) Luxembourg	212
(15) Guadeloupe	211	(15) Tunisia	206
(16) Morocco	198	(16) Chile	183
(17) Bangladesh	180	(17) Singapore	170
(18) Mauritius	152	(18) Kenya	158

Group C		Group D	
(1) England	352	(1) France	322
(2) Ireland	332	(2) Japan	305
(3) Hungary	326	(3) Pakistan	295
(4) Egypt	321	(4) Sweden	294
(5) Poland	320	(5) Spain	291
(6) Denmark	310	(6) Brazil	288
(7) Israel	286	(7) Indonesia	286
(8) Austria	280	(8) Greece	273
(9) San Marino	266	(9) South Africa	260
(10) Romania	264	(10) Lithuania	248
(11) Finland	260	(11) Wales	243
(12) Malaysia	221	(12) Portugal	234
(13) Venezuela	173	(13) Bos./Hrvzna	222
(14) Philippines	170	(14) Czech Rep.	219
(15) Mexico	161	(15) Jordan	216
(16) Fr. Poly.	158	(16) Botswana	201
(17) Reunion	145	(17) Bermuda	198
(18) Cyprus	142	(18) Costa Rica	147

Mighty Poland fell 1 VP short by defeating Romania 21-9 while Egypt blitzed Cyprus. Norway missed the knockout stage for the first time in many years, never building the momentum generated by Germany and Turkey, their main rivals for a place in the top four in Group B. Lebanon has shown its mettle for long stretches in recent European Championships, and very nearly made it to the knockout stage in the Olympiad. Traditional powers Brazil and Indonesia fell just short in the tight competition in Group D, with Japan

and Pakistan taking their places. France, with some new faces, won the group with a consistent effort. Although Ireland's showing was its best yet, cognoscenti expected them to be among the qualifiers. England was also expected to qualify, but its sheer dominance was somewhat unexpected. Egypt has been a force in its zone for many years and has taken some scalps in recent World Championships, so their qualification was not a major surprise, but Hungary's consistent excellent form was not predicted by anyone outside the Hungarian camp. Denmark, Israel and Austria were all genuine contenders in that group, but there were only four qualifying places available. San Marino deserves an honorable mention. USA, expected to be the main challenger to Italy, played well for the most part but scored poorly too often and really struggled to make it through to the Round of 16. In their group, China was the class of the field over the first six days. The big news in Group A was Italy's second place finish to the young Dutch team. Italy, like the USA, had not played in its best form. Russia has emerged in recent years as one of the better teams in Europe with a core of strong players in a very small bridge population. Iceland had not reached the knockout stage of a World Championship since 1996, but was back in business in Istanbul with a solid performance. With a few matches remaining it seemed that the young Argentine team was certain to qualify, but a disappointing final day ended their hopes. More will be heard from them in the coming years. And can enough be said about Latvia, and newcomer Georgia?

### The Knockout Stage

For the Round of 16, the teams in Groups A and B would cross over to play one another, as would the qualifiers in C and D. The winners of each group had earned the privilege of choosing their opponent for this round from among the teams finishing second, third, and fourth in their crossover group, in theory a very significant reward. The Netherlands selected Germany, China picked Iceland, England chose Pakistan, and France decided to face Hungary. The other pairings were automatic, the second-place finishers drawing the lower-ranking qualifier in the other group. In most cases these would be the more interesting

matches, as it would not be easy to predict the outcome of the encounters between Ireland and Sweden, Turkey and Russia, Japan and Egypt, and...Italy and USA!

While it took a miraculous parlay to result in the widely anticipated final being played in the Round of 16, the fact that it happened created some heated discussion among journalists and administrators. While this unfortunate draw could have been precluded by seeding Italy and USA into groups that would not cross over with one another in the first round, it would have taken further manipulation to avoid the possibility of a confrontation in the quarterfinals or semi-finals. On the other hand, selective seeding (with the option of re-seeding all the qualifiers) would surely affect the overall chances of the other teams to win a medal or indeed, the event, so the viewing public's interest is very different from the field's.

There was only one blowout in the 80-board matches making up the Round of 16:

China	57	43	40	22	56	218
Iceland	24	15	6	46	13	104

Chinese open teams have not enjoyed the consistent success of their countrywomen, but they have improved steadily since the early nineties and have been in contention for a medal in several World Championships. Their dominant performance in Istanbul suggested that they had elevated their game significantly.

The Netherlands	31	50	31	29	34	175
Germany	29	13	18	49	33	142

The Germans lost this one in the second and third sets, and could not ride their strong fourth segment to a comeback victory. Team Orange was showing great poise for such a young squad.

While China and the Netherlands had justified their choice of opponents, the same could not be said for the other two Group winners...

France	34	31	20	66	17	168
Hungary	36	20	60	14	52	182



A strong third set broke open a close match and gave Hungary a 31-IMP lead with 32 boards to play. France turned the match around in the penultimate segment, however, to take a 21-IMP lead with momentum on its side. It takes strength of character to rally under those circumstances, and the trailing team showed plenty of that to pull out the match by 14 IMPs with a garrison finish.

England	32	6	41	23	62	164
Pakistan	46	33	47	52	23	201

Anyone looking for a Cinderella story would find it in the unheralded Pakistani victory over the team that scored more VPs in the round robin than the other 71 nations in the Open Teams. How did they pull this off? With much the better of the luck in the slam zone and with stretches of solid, confident bridge. To give you an idea of how one-sided the match really was, the English team won the last 61 IMPs to close out the match and still lost by 37...without playing badly.

Ireland	33	36	68	31	25	193
Sweden	28	54	39	17	22	160

With these two very active teams fielding six established partnerships, this one easily could have gone either way. The Irish lost ground only in the second set, and salted away the match by conceding only 39 IMPs over the final 32 deals.

Turkey	32	44	26	45	16	163
Russia	52	24	52	27	15	170

This was a very entertaining match that had the hometown fans on the edges of their seats throughout, with the teams alternating strong sets. With everything to play for in the last set, there were very few IMPs scored, and Turkey simply ran out of boards. Although the result was disappointing for the Turkish supporters, they had every reason to be proud of their team, who were competitive throughout and were often impressive in their Vugraph appearances. Meanwhile, the young Russian team had shown great resilience throughout the tournament and gave very little away down the stretch to move on the quarterfinals.

Japan	47	28	40	47	61	223
Egypt	36	63	20	40	40	199

Both teams liked their chances in this one, and the scores suggest that shutting down the opponents was not a vital part of either team's game plan. With the match virtually even after 64 deals, the last set proved as much of a slugfest as the others, and when the smoke had cleared, Japan was the figurative "last man standing."

The match that attracted the most attention in the Round of 16 was Italy vs USA...

Italy	18	27	27	32	54	158
USA	11	54	4	60	17	146

There were peaks and valleys for both teams in this relatively low-scoring match, but it was looking good for USA with 16 deals remaining, 25 IMPS ahead after a strong fourth segment.

All the key deals from this match have been well publicized already, so I'm not going to do that here. The most notable were Board 71, where Rosenberg misjudged the play to go down in 4♥ doubled, and Board 72, where Duboin purposely went against the percentages in a two-way finesse position to create a swing and was fortunate in finding the cards the way he wanted them to be. Those two deals brought in 23 IMPs for Italy where it might easily have been 19 to USA. Had the missing queen been with the greater length on Duboin's deal, USA would have won by 9 IMPs.

For the 96-board quarterfinals, the draw was predetermined. Three of the matches were one-sided...

The Netherlands	49	69	36	42	31	69	296
Ireland	28	11	34	41	28	35	177

This one was expected to be close, but the Irish seemed to lose some their positive energy after losing several controversial appeals in the past few days, the most noteworthy coming in the second segment of this match, when an excellent Irish result was wiped out when the

board was deemed unplayable. When a door to the Open Room was carelessly left open by an official the players heard unmistakable applause from the Vugraph theatre, suggesting that a Dutch player had done something positive. As it could not be determined whether an Irish player might have been influenced by that crowd reaction in taking his subsequent successful action, the Appeals Committee looked at all the other results across the field on this deal and emerged with an adjusted score that gave Ireland 4 IMPs rather than 13. Ireland did not win a single session.

China	10	52	34	23	49	58	216
Japan	23	2	15	13	4	38	95

This was a particularly impressive win for China. It's almost unheard of to hold an opponent to 1 IMP per board, but that's precisely what China did.

Italy	22	48	36	52	51	209
Pakistan	42	8	33	14	23	Resigned 120

The first segment was just a tease, but the gallant Pakistanis had done their country proud; not to mention Zia, who lost to the same team a round earlier.

The other match was not of the same ilk...

Hungary	16	51	9	5.8	76	47	204.8
Russia	42	31	51	31.2	25	26	206.2

The Russians built a seemingly insurmountable lead over the first four sets, only to discover why big leads were invented. Hungary rallied for 72 IMPs over the last 32 deals only to fall less than an IMP and a half short. How do you spell relief in Russian?

Having eliminated USA in the Round of 16, Italy again had a tough draw in the 96-board Semi-finals—a Chinese team in its best form.

China	19	22	32	22	18	23	136
Italy	27	28	32	41	23	29	180

Although Italy did not lose a set and held its opponent to less than an IMP and a half per board, every segment was both close and low-scoring, an indication that the bridge was very good. The match was much tighter than the 44-IMP margin would suggest. After the match, Alfredo Versace stated that China was “a very strong team and that Shaolin Sun was a fantastic player, a real genius.” We can be sure that China will build on this result.

The other semi-final match featured two young teams that had shown both maturity and solidarity in reaching the Round of Four.

The Netherlands	30	68	7	24	30	36	195
Russia	12	12	48	12	8	24	116

The Dutch team built a 74-IMP lead after two sessions, gave back 41 in the third, but controlled the last three sets to win comfortably by 79. The Russians were disappointed, but could look forward to another opportunity to compete at the highest level in 2005, having qualified for the Estoril Bermuda Bowl at the 2004 Europeans.

It is of some note that three of the four semi-finalists had qualified in Group A. The final would be a 128-board battle between the defending champions and The Netherlands, two teams that played to a draw in the round robin.

The Neth.	35	12	36	2	35	49	41	41	251
Italy	37	17	67	44	35	46	58	6	310

After two quiet sets, Italy made a strong move in the next two to build a commanding lead. This deal, the last of the fourth set, which could have gone either way, dealt a blow to Dutch hopes...



“What I wouldn't give for a miracle right about now.”

Bd: 80	North		
Dir: West	♠ Q53		
Vul: E/W	♥ J108		
	♦ 1092		
	♣ A1063		
West		East	
♠ A98764		♠ ---	
♥ 2		♥ A743	
♦ AK764		♦ QJ85	
♣ 2		♣ KQJ84	
		South	
		♠ KJ102	
		♥ KQ965	
		♦ 3	
		♣ 975	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Prooijen</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♠	Pass	2♣(1)	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♠(2)	Pass
4♣(3)	Pass	4♥(3)	Dbl
Pass	Pass	4♠(4)	Pass
4NT(5)	Pass	5♦(6)	Pass
6♦	All Pass		
(1) Natural or balanced, FG; (2) Splinter for diamonds; (3) Control-showing; (4) Void; (5) RKCB for diamonds; (6) One key card or four			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
1♠	Pass	2♣(1)	Pass
2♦(2)	Pass	2♥(1)	Dbl
2♠(3)	Pass	2NT(1)	Pass
3♠(4)	Pass	4♦(5)	Pass
4♥(6)	Pass	5♦	All Pass
(1) Game-forcing relay; (2) 11-13, denies four hearts; (3) At least four diamonds; (4) 6=1=5=1;			
(5) End-signal; (6) Forced			

Although Jansma was able to reveal his precise distribution and overall high-card strength after four rounds of bidding, he was not able to offer an opinion about his suitability for a diamond slam or describe his honor location, and Verhees selected the level without all the information he needed. The

game-forcing relays were of limited utility on this combination, although Verhees did have some viable alternatives once Jansma's complete distribution was known: 4♥ would have been RKCB for diamonds, and 5♦ would have been a general slam try in diamonds. He rejected the former because he didn't want to face a nasty guess over a two-key card response, and considered it unlikely that Jansma would have three key cards after his initial minimum rebid. He rejected the latter because he feared Jansma would bid 6♦ for the wrong reasons, with something like, ♠AKQxxx ♥x ♦K109xx ♣x. Fearing a club discard on a high heart, Fantoni led the ♣A against 5♦, and Jansma had the rest without incident, +620.

Versace/Lauria found their way to 6♦ using a more cooperative approach, West making most of the running after East's splinter raise of diamonds. Van Prooijen led the ♥J. Versace won the ace, ruffed a heart low, and led his club, North doing his best by following low. The ♣K won, and Versace ruffed another heart low, discarded dummy's last heart on the ♠A, ruffed a spade low, a club low, and another spade with the ♦8. He could score his remaining trumps on a high cross-ruff, but had to lose the last trick; +1370. Italy gained 13 IMPs and won the session 44-2. At the halfway mark in the Open Final, the Italian lead was 80 IMPs, 165-85.

Although 6♦ is a reasonable contract, it can be defeated on a trump lead, with North ducking the first club. But a low trump—the traditional choice from this holding—won't do at double dummy, as it permits declarer to win cheaply in hand to start spades, and continue with the ♣K. When North wins, he can play neither a second trump (declarer wins in hand, ruffs a spade, and ruffs clubs good with the ♥A the late entry) nor a heart (declarer cashes two clubs and cross-ruffs, cashing the ♠A en route). Leading a minor trump honor deprives declarer of the vital extra entry to hand, and a heart switch will defeat the contract, in some variations allowing North to score an over-ruff in hearts near the end. It's a most curious deal in that respect.

Had Jansma/Verhees bid 6♦, it's conceivable that Fantoni, knowing declarer's distribution,

would have found the killing lead, so perhaps it was just as well that the Dutch E/W pair stopped short of slam.

In effect, that was the match. The Italian lead hovered between 75 and 100 IMPs over the course of the next three sessions, and the final segment, played at breakneck speed, reduced the final margin to a more respectable 59 IMPs. Italy's successful defense of the Olympiad Open Teams title they won in 2000 in Maastricht is a remarkable achievement, but for this team, the remarkable has threatened to become routine.

Russia defeated China (Jianming Dai, Xin Li, Haojun Shi, Shaolin Sun, Li Xin Yang, Zejun Zhuang; Jihong Hu, npc) 106-84 over 48 deals to win the Bronze medals.

The medal winners in the Open Teams:

- (1) ITALY: Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Fulvio Fantoni, Lorenzo Lauria, Claudio Nunes, Alfredo Versace; (Maria Teresa Lavazza, npc; Massimo Ortensi, coach).
- (2) NETHERLANDS: Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Jan Jansma, Ricco van Prooijen, Maarten Schollaardt, Louk Verhees; (Toine van Hoof, npc, Anton Maas, coach).
- (3) RUSSIA: Alexander Doubinine, Andrei Gromov, Jouri Khokhlov, Max Khven, Georgy Matushko, Vladimir Rekunov; (Boris Sazonov, npc).

**Women's Teams: The Round Robin**

The 43 women's teams were divided into two seeded groups, with eight to qualify from each after a complete internal round robin of 16-board matches, to be played over seven days. As eight of these countries had won gold medals in the past, there was a lot of depth at the top of the field, but there figured to be 8-10 qualifying spots up for grabs, and it was a virtual certainty that there would be some new faces in the knockout stage. Inevitably, the last few matches were critical for a significant number of teams in both groups that were on the bubble for qualification. It ended this way:

Group A		Group B	
(1) China	403	(1) The Neth.	400
(2) France	392	(2) USA	386.25
(3) Austria	383	(3) England	372

(4) Russia	354	(4) Croatia	369
(5) Turkey	346	(5) Germany	360
(6) Sweden	345	(6) Greece	344
(7) Italy	344	(7) South Africa	341
(8) Finland	334	(8) Poland	339.25
(9) Brazil	325	(9) Israel	334
(10) Scotland	323	(10) Denmark	331
(11) India	322	(11) Japan	329
(12) Australia	318	(12) New Zeal.	321
(13) Canada	313	(13) Indonesia	310
(14) Hungary	310	(14) Venezuela	307
(15) Bulgaria	307	(15) Argentina	301
(16) Switzerland	306	(16) Norway	291
(17) Pakistan	304	(17) Ireland	286
(18) Egypt	296	(18) Wales	244
(19) Spain	276	(19) Morocco	218
(20) Mexico	226	(20) Korea	206
(21) Jordan	177	(21) Reunion	206
(22) Kenya	146		

It's fair to say that at least a half dozen of the non-qualifiers had expected to be in the Round of 16, but at the same time, the strong performances of Russia, Turkey, Finland, Croatia, Greece, and Poland were hardly shocking to anyone with an interest in women's bridge in Europe over the past few years.

**The Knockout Stage**

The winner of each group could choose its first-round opponent from among the teams placed 5th-8th in the other group, with the runners-up and third-place teams making their choices in turn from the remaining teams in that subgroup. China selected South Africa, the Netherlands picked Finland. France chose Greece, USA took Turkey, Austria opted to face Poland, England elected to play Italy. That left forced draws for Russia (Germany) and Croatia (Sweden).

While China's choice worked well...

China	53	72	39	53	217
South Africa	32	4	30	20	86

...the Netherlands had its figurative hands full with the Finns...

The Netherlands	28	14	31	50	123
Finland	41	21	16	26	104

Trailing after three quarters, the Dutch needed a strong fourth quarter to secure a place in the quarterfinals, ending Finland's impressive run.

France	40	55	60	31	186
Greece	37	31	1	27	96

This was close for a while, but the third quarter sealed the win for the favoured French.

USA	12.5	93	11	50	166.5
Turkey	50.5	5	38	11	104.5

No one's idea of nice, steady bridge, but the first and third quarters gave the Turkish supporters in the Vugraph audience plenty to cheer about.

Austria	35	28	48	26	137
Poland	39	37	23	41	140

A close one all the way, with the underdog Polish team pulling it out in the last stanza.

England	42	37	41	42	162
Italy	27	21	20	30	98

Four solid quarters added up to a 64-IMP win for England.

Russia	0	26	32	75	133
Germany	40	18	28	14	100

It was a case of too much, too soon for the strong German team. The first quarter acted as a wakeup call for the Russians, who showed some signs of life in the second and third sets before turning it on in earnest in the fourth to win going away by 33 IMPs.

Croatia	28	39	15	44	127
Sweden	29	35	42	50	156

With nothing in it at the half, Sweden made a strong statement in the third quarter and repelled all boarders in the fourth to win by 29

IMPs.

Three of the four 80-board quarterfinal matches were decided by comfortable margins:

China	50	14	58	25	52	199
Sweden	17	52	0	18	49	136

...but without the third session, this one would have been touch and go.

The Netherlands	35	27	15	10	32	119
Russia	41	17	26	68	16	168

The Russians were ready from the outset this time, and broke open a close match in the fourth set to end the title hopes of the powerful Dutch team.

USA	26	41	19	59	73	218
Poland	30	22	23	18	35	128

The underdog and undermanned Polish team stayed in touch with the Americans for three sessions, but could not match their opponents' firepower in the late stages. Reaching the Round of Eight was the strongest showing ever for a Polish women's team.

The other quarterfinal encounter was a classic battle between traditional rivals...

France	38	25	18	9	32	122
England	17	6	17	62	27	129

For four of the five segments, the French were superior, but the fourth stanza was simply magnifique for the English. There was swing potential on each of the last two deals, but France was unable to capitalize on its opportunities and England slipped through to the 96-board Semi-finals in dramatic fashion.

China	17	30	45	25	20	9	146
USA	24	50	38	22	20	19	173

This was a battle between two evenly-matched teams that had met in the Venice Cup Final a year earlier. It was always close and no

segment was decided by more than 20 IMPs, but once again, the Americans prevailed.

Russia	38	26	60	46	25	17	212
England	33	37	21	20	13	42	166

Could Russia do it again? They had given every indication of being a team of destiny, and here their strong play in the middle sessions enabled them to withstand a late rally by England to move on to final, where they would meet an American team that was expected by nearly everyone to ride its experience and more sophisticated methods to a comfortable victory over 96 deals.

It didn't turn out that way at all.

USA	54	47	26	37	46	49	259
Russia	33	21	77	62	52	26	271

The Americans started in business-like fashion, forging a 47-IMP lead, but Russia wiped that out with interest in the third segment and built a 35-IMP lead of their own with one set to play.

The Americans were on a 23-0 run to start the final session, and as the match had so far featured long stretches of deals favouring one team, precedent suggested that the Russians were due to suffer a while longer. This time, however, the momentum breaker presented itself much sooner than usual...

Bd: 86	North	
Dlr: East	♠ K95	
Vul: E/W	♥ 52	
	♦ 1086	
	♣ K7542	
West		East
♠ A10632		♠ Q7
♥ KQ7		♥ AJ863
♦ 4		♦ A97
♣ QJ106		♣ A98
	South	
	♠ J84	
	♥ 1094	
	♦ KQJ532	
	♣ 3	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Ponomareva</i>	<i>Molson</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Sokolow</i>
		1♥	3♦
4♦(1)	Pass	4NT(2)	Pass
5♠(3)	Pass	6♥	All Pass
(2) Heart fit, slam suitable; (2) RKCB1430 for hearts; (3) Two key cards plus the ♥Q			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Meyers</i>	<i>Lebedeva</i>	<i>Montin</i>	<i>Galaktionova</i>
		1♥	3♦
4♦(1)	Pass	4♠(2)	Pass
5♥(3)	Pass	5♠(4)	Pass
6♥(5)	All Pass		
(1) Heart fit, slam suitable; (2) RKCB1430 for hearts; (3) Two key cards plus the ♥Q; (4) All keys and trumps accounted for; (5) No kings			

Although there are no sure losers in 6♥, declarer is some way from 12 winners, and it's the sort of marginal slam that is described as "good" only when it happens to make. Both South players started with the ♣3, the only lead to defeat the contract legitimately.

Montin called for dummy's queen, which held, then played ♦A, diamond ruff, club to the eight. Galaktionova ruffed and exited with the ♥9 to dummy's queen. Montin tried to cross to the ♣A, but Galaktionova had another trump and used it to ruff. Her spade switch left Montin with another trick to lose, and 6♥ was two down, -200.

Gromova won with the ♣9 in hand and embarked on a more promising line of play by taking the king and ace of trumps (four-ten from Sokolow) before passing the ♠Q. Molson won the king and had to decide whether Sokolow had another trump or whether to play her for the ♦A (as Gromova had not confirmed that all key cards were on board facing an unlimited partner). As Sokolow had not echoed in trumps and had followed with the ten (theoretically denying the nine, for declarer's benefit) and Molson "serendipitously" knew where the ♥J was because Gromova had detached it prominently before playing the ace, Molson placed declarer with six hearts and switched to the ♦10. Gromova won the ♦A,

played a spade to the ace, ruffed out the ♠J, drew the last trump ending in dummy, discarded diamonds on high spades, and took the club finesse for the contract; +1430. Russia gained 17 IMPs and led by 29, 262-233.

There were 10 deals remaining, plenty of time to make up the IMP difference, but would the Americans be able to put this result behind them and play their best bridge down the stretch?

There was plenty of excitement in those deals and USA played enterprising bridge to retain some chances to the very end, but Russia held on to win, withstanding the American rally to win the Olympiad Women's Teams against all odds.

In the playoff for third place, England defeated China (Ling Gu, Yiquian Liu, Ping Wang, Wenfei Wang, Hongli Wang, Yalan Zhang; npc Xiaojing Wang) 115-81 over 48 boards.

Medal Winners in the Women's Teams:

(1) RUSSIA: Olga Galaktionova, Victoria Gromova, Natalia Karpenko, Maria Lebedeva, Tatiana Ponomareva, Irina Vasilkova; Alexei Efremov, npc.

(2) USA: Marinesa Letizia, Jill Meyers, Randi Montin, Janice Seamon-Molson, Tobi Sokolow, Carlyn Steiner; Jill Levin, npc.

(3) ENGLAND: Sally Brock, Michelle Brunner, Heather Dhondy, Rhona Goldenfield, Nicola Smith, Kitty Teltscher; Alan Mould, npc; Christine Duckworth, coach.

### World Seniors International Cup

There would be no knockout phase in the Seniors, with the 29 teams playing a complete round robin of 12-board matches. With at least a half dozen strong teams, it was not easy to predict the winner. As it happened, the contest soon evolved into a battle between the Netherlands and USA, with the latter prevailing thanks to a more successful final round. The Dutch performance was particularly noteworthy because the Nederlandse Bridge Bond was not going to support a Seniors team in Istanbul until the last minute. Germany edged France (Paul Chemla, Jose Damiani, Albert Faigenbaum, Christian Mari, Jean-Louis Stoppa, Francois Stretz; Yves Aubry, npc) for

the Bronze. The complete rankings in the Seniors Cup:

(1) USA	541
(2) The Netherlands	534
(3) Germany	513
(4) France	510
(5) Denmark	486
(6) Israel	485
(7) Wales	479
(8) Turkey	473
(9) China	467
(10) Canada	466
Japan	466
Pakistan	466
(13) Austria	462.5
(14) Scotland	462
(15) Italy	461.5
(16) England	458.5
(17) Poland	458
(18) Sweden	438.5
(19) Portugal	437
(20) Chinese Taipei	417
(21) Australia	409
(22) Spain	395
(23) Switzerland	380
(24) New Zealand	374.5
(25) Belgium	373
(26) Ireland	344
(27) Guadeloupe	314
(28) Venezuela	305.5
(29) Costa Rica	172

Medal Winners in the World Seniors International Cup:

(1) USA: Leo Bell, Neil Chambers, Marshall Miles, John Onstott, Jim Robison, John Schermer.

(2) NETHERLANDS: Willem Boegem, Nico Doremans, Onno Janssens, Jaap Trouwborst; Wied Polle, PC.

(3) GERMANY: Hans Humburg, Reiner Marsal, Göran Mattsson, Werner Schneider, Dirk Schroeder, Horst-Dieter Uhlmann.

### The Third World Transnational Mixed Teams

The Mixed Teams drew a large field of 130 teams, many of them filled with members of teams no longer in the Open and Women's Olympiad Teams. The favorite had to be Zia Mahmood / Sabine Auker, Paul

Chemla/Catherine D'Ovidio, all players who were expected to be challenging for medals in the other events, but there were many other solid teams with realistic chances.

The format was a 13-round Swiss, to qualify four teams for semi-finals and a final, with two more rounds of Swiss for the remaining teams to determine the overall placings.

The preliminary Swiss ended with the powerful Zhang team of China edging Auken and company for the top spot. The Batov team from Bulgaria was third, Allix of France fourth.

In the 32-board semifinals, Auken edged Allix, 56-43, while Batov upset Zhang, 58-43.

The 48-board final was never close, Auken winning 173-82, giving Zia and D'Ovidio their first world titles and earning them the rank of World Grand Master.

Medal Winners and near misses in the Transnational Mixed Teams:

(1) AUKEN: Sabine Auken, Paul Chemla, Cathérine d'Ovidio, Zia Mahmood.

(2) BATOV: Vasil Batov, Julian Stefanov, Steliana Ivanova, Reliza Mircheva.

(3) ZHANG: Zhong Fu, Yan Lu, Ming Sun, Liping Wang, Wenfei Wang, Qinghong Zhou.

(4) Allix: J Allix, A Hertz, E Mauberguez, J Raczynska, V Reess.

(5) Maud: M Khouri, L Khalil, M Heshmat, T Sadek.

(6) Sue: L Utter, J Backstrom, B Barlund, K Koistinen, E Multimaki, M Salomaa.

### The FisU University Teams

There were 15 entries in the inaugural version of an event that promises to become increasingly popular on the world bridge calendar. Many of the entries were populated with emerging stars on their national stages.

The class of the field proved to be Poland and Belgium. Although USA never really challenged for the lead, the Americans edged a group of close contenders to finish third. Poland's youth program has made great strides in recent years under the stewardship of IBPA Personality of the Year Radek Kielbasinski, President of the Polish Bridge Union, who says the average age of members of the PBU is 43...and is descending!

The final rankings:

(1) Poland	284
(2) Belgium	276
(3) USA	247
(4) Turkey	246
(5) Chinese Taipei	245
(6) France	242
Indonesia	242
(8) Sweden	240
(9) Italy	236
(10) Denmark	226
(11) The Netherlands	210
(12) Germany	188
(13) The United Kingdom	184
(14) Romania	170
(15) Hungary	149

The medal winners in the FISU University Teams:

(1) POLAND: Krzysztof Buras, Jacek Kalita, Krzysztof Kotorowicz, Piotr Madry, Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Wojciech Strzemecki.

2. BELGIUM: Alon Amsel, Steven de Donder, Daniel de Roos, Steve de Roos, Gert Magerman, npc.

3. USA: Charlie Garrod, Mark Glickman, Ari Greenberg, John Kranyak, Joon Pahk, Noble Shore; Donna Compton, npc.

Perhaps I was particularly fortunate, but for me, the Turkish people I encountered everywhere could not have been more helpful, and I will always remember the 12th Olympiad as one of my most enjoyable tournaments.



"Ah, the old windmill dunk!"



## Two for Bridge

by Eric Kokish and Beverly Kraft

Beverly: It's difficult to imagine a more exciting finish than the 1-IMP victory by USA over Italy on the final deal of the Monte Carlo Bermuda Bowl in 2003, but the Spingold Knockout in New York this July produced a comparable ending. After three quarters of their semifinal match, Jacobs (George Jacobs/Ralph Katz, Lorenzo Lauria/Alfredo Versace and Howard Weinstein/ Steve Garner) had built a seemingly insurmountable lead of 71 IMPs over Nickell (Nick Nickell/Richard Freeman, Jeff Meckstroth/ Eric Rodwell, Bob Hamman/Paul Soloway), largely on the strength of vastly superior play. But Nickell wasn't about to give up.

Eric: Many players believe that the way to erase a huge deficit is to play a very busy game, opening and overcalling very light, making wild preempts, jumping to game or slam if there's a hint of possibility, doubling anything that breathes, and the like. I've never seen that strategy work and can tell you from bitter experience that I've lost a couple of matches that I believed we'd rescued because teammates tried to do too much. The truth is that you've got to be quite lucky, give nothing away, and look for sensible opportunities to swing in the bidding or the play. If I told you that eight of the 16 deals in the final quarter were tied or yielded only 1-IMP swings, would you believe that the score for the session was 84-2?

Beverly: I know you're not kidding. How did that happen?

Eric: On Board 50, Hamman made a passive lead rather than start with a high honor from AK2 in dummy's second-bid suit. The "reflex" lead would have given away the contract: gain 11.

On Board 51, Meckstroth held: ♠AJ1095 ♥KJ864 ♦3 ♣A8. When his passed-hand partner responded 2♥ to 1♠, Jeff jumped all the way to 6♥. Rodwell guessed the play correctly after a favorable (non-club) lead to bring in 13 IMPs.

Two part-score deals netted Nickell 13 IMPs, but with five deals left to play the margin was still 34.

On board 60 Meckstroth/Rodwell bid and made an excellent grand slam that might have been defeated with a different opening lead. Jacobs/Katz had a mixup about how to show aces after Blackwood had been doubled (work hard on your game, kids, it pays) and stopped in 6♠. 11 IMPs more.

On Board 61, Soloway was allowed to make an obscure 2♦ doubled for plus 180, while his teammates collected a 500-point penalty from 1♠ doubled. 12 IMPs more. The Jacobs lead was down to 11 IMPs. Then:

Bd: 62		North	
Dir: East		♠ AJ84	
Vul: None		♥ KQ10	
		♦ A102	
		♣ K82	
West		East	
♠ Q97532		♠ ---	
♥ 96		♥ A8532	
♦ Q65		♦ 83	
♣ A7		♣ QJ10953	
		South	
		♠ K106	
		♥ J74	
		♦ KJ974	
		♣ 64	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Jacobs</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Katz</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
		Pass	Pass
2♠	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

At both tables the contract was 3NT by North on the lead of the ♣Q, the defenders clearing the suit (spade discard from West). Both East and West were known to hold a six-card black suit and two more of West's cards had been accounted for after the second round of clubs. East was therefore slightly more likely to hold

longer diamonds, and as a consequence the  $\diamond Q$ . However, Hamman saw an opportunity to create a swing in the play without paying much of a premium for the privilege. He led the  $\diamond 2$  to the king and finessed the  $\diamond 10$  on the way back, cashed the  $\diamond A$ , crossed to the  $\spadesuit A$ , cashed the diamonds, and finessed against the  $\spadesuit Q$  for nine tricks. His counterpart played diamonds the other way to go three down. 11 IMPs more and the match was tied.

Beverly: Nickell had gained 71 IMPs on the set. There was no swing on the penultimate deal, but after all the excitement the match was decided on a deal on which luck did play a key role. These were the N/S cards:

North	South
$\spadesuit$ 108	$\spadesuit$ Q2
$\heartsuit$ AQJ72	$\heartsuit$ 83
$\diamond$ K1073	$\diamond$ AQ8
$\clubsuit$ 98	$\clubsuit$ AKJ632

Garner/Weinstein reached  $4\heartsuit$ , which needed a bit more than the  $\heartsuit K$  inside or hearts three-three. The cards were not kind. Meanwhile, Hamman/Soloway reached 3NT with the spade lead indicated. West's spades were precisely AKJ9 so the suit was hopelessly blocked for the defense. West cased a high spade and switched to the  $\heartsuit 10$ , having passed initially. Soloway accurately rose with dummy's ace and took the successful club finesse, finishing +460. "Win by 11," screamed Meckstroth in the comparison, as he was keeping a running score.

Beverly: It was almost an anticlimax that Nickell should win the Spingold final the next day, beating Spector (Warren Spector/Mark Feldman, Ron Smith and Canadians Billy Cohen, Gavin Wolpert, and Vincent Demuy) by 44 IMPs.

### Meet Team Orange of the Netherlands

In 1993, the Dutch open team surprised the world (and itself) by winning the Bermuda Bowl in Santiago de Chile. It proved to be a one-off success. In 1995 the Dutch were eliminated in the quarterfinals, and in the years after they did not even manage to qualify. This truly annoyed a group of Dutch bridge fans, including former world champion Enri Leufkens. In 2003 they decided to set up Team Orange, a semi-professional team of five pairs who were afforded the opportunity to train for one day a week (arrangements were made with their employers) and to participate in strong tournaments around the world. The required funds were provided by sponsors and the Dutch Bridge Federation. The goal: to bring Dutch bridge back to the world top within three years.

The project has been in operation now for eighteen months and has already yielded some remarkable results. In late 2003, Team Orange, captained by Jan Jansma, won the bronze medal in the World Transnational Teams in Monte Carlo. At the European Championships of 2004 in Malmö, Sweden, the Dutch team ended sixth which proved to be

enough to qualify for the 2005 Bermuda Bowl. And finally, three months ago, a very young Team Orange reached the finals of the World Teams Olympiad in Istanbul, Turkey.

The 10th NEC Bridge Festival is an excellent opportunity for the Dutch players to exhibit (and improve) their skills. The team includes Jan Jansma/Louk Verhees and Bas Drijver/Maarten Schollaardt, with Erik Kirchoff as coach.



Jan Jansma

Jan Jansma (42), a math teacher, is married with three children. As a member of the Dutch juniors team he won the European Championship in 1986 and the 1st World

Junior Teams Championship in 1987. Jan doesn't drink and doesn't smoke, but in spite of that is a fervent visitor of discotheques and dance clubs. He probably knows all female international bridge players in Europe and they certainly all know him. Japanese ladies, beware!



Louk Verhees

Louk Verhees (40), an ICT expert, is married with two daughters. He recently decided to make bridge his first profession and ICT his second. Among other things, he will be the new trainer of the reputable Dutch ladies team. Although Louk has won several Dutch titles, he has built a reputation for finishing second. The last time this happened, in Istanbul, it did not displease him at all.



Erik Kirchoff, coach



Bas Drijver

Bas Drijver (24), pronounced “bus driver,” a law student, is married with one daughter. He holds the record for the youngest Dutch champion ever (22). He also held the record for the youngest Dutch Olympiad finalist ever but lost it after 15 minutes to Sjoert Brink, when play started in the other room. In 2002 he won the gold medal at the IOC Grand Prix Junior Teams in Salt Lake City (but received a silver one when his Team—Europe North—tied with the Team of the Americas).



Maarten Schollaardt

Maarten Schollaardt (27), a semi-professional bridge player, is married, with one son. At 6'6" he is slightly taller than Italy's Norberto Bocchi, though he cannot yet compete with Norby's success record. Maarten lives in Amsterdam, on the border of the red light district and Chinatown. He knows three words in Japanese (hello, goodbye, thank you) and one full sentence: "Do you want a plastic bag?" (He once worked in a tax free shop at Schiphol Airport).

## Meet the World Champion Russian Women's Team

(with thanks to Michael Rosenblum, Moscow, and ACBL Bulletin Editor Brent Manley)



2004 Women's Olympiad Teams Champions in Istanbul

“They never quit, no matter how far behind they fall. (In Istanbul, that was sometimes *very* far.) Their table presence is a great strength, and their team spirit is excellent. Their “Beriozka” system (a version of Polish Club) was instrumental in their recent success. All six members have been Russian Women's Champions, and most also have several national Mixed titles. All are married to bridge players (some of the husbands have since retired from bridge, having abandoned any realistic hope of exceeding their wives' success). For some reason, Maria Lebedeva and Irina Vasilkova are both married to Vladimir Lebedev. A lucky fellow, you would think, but no—these are two different Vladimir Lebedevs!



Victoria Gromova

Victoria Gromova, from Moscow, leads the Russian women's rating list and is sixth in the open ratings. She has both Russian Open Teams and Open Pairs wins to her credit, and a bronze medal in the European Mixed Team Championship. She is Director of Business

Development of RC&C, Ltd. (a family radio communications company, one of the first distributors of Motorola in Russia). She and husband Andrei have two children, a nine-year-old daughter and a two-year-old son. She has played with Tatiana Ponomareva for about three years. Vicky enjoys driving (cars, not golf balls). When free of bridge (rarely), she enjoys mahjong.



Tatiana Ponomareva

Tatiana Ponomareva, from Moscow, has five national titles (including the 2004 Russian Open Teams) and is currently 15th in the Russian open ratings. Tanya is a financial consultant in a Law office. She is married, with a daughter and son. Her husband is a bridge player whose name is not Vladimir Lebedev. She likes to read detective novels and fantasy. She does not like flying and would have preferred to reach Japan another way had it not been so time-consuming. She likes to play mahjong and poker.



Maria Lebedeva

Maria Lebedeva, a Mathematics teacher from Moscow, has two National titles (Mixed Teams and Women's Pairs). She is married to a bridge player, with whom she has one son. Istanbul was her first tournament in partnership with Olga Galaktionova. Maria is familiar with the Far East as she spent a year in South Korea. Unlike the other members of her team, she enjoys more active sports, including badminton (regularly winning regional events), mountain climbing, and boating. She prefers a classical approach to nearly everything she does—books, music, even bridge—unlike her partner...



Natalia Karpenko

Natalia Karpenko, from Moscow, has four National titles, including the Open Pairs of the former USSR in 1987. (She is the only woman to achieve this feat.) She has been playing with Irina Vasilkova for the better part of four years. Natalia is Sales Manager in RC&C, Ltd, the Gromovs' family company. She is married to a bridge player, with whom she has two sons, one of whom recently took up bridge (the other prefers poker). Natalia likes cats very much, but living on the 8th floor is too dangerous. She likes novels on Russian history and enjoys jazz (Kenny G.).



Olga Galaktionova

Olga Galaktionova, from Saint Petersburg, is the reigning Russian Women's Pairs Champion, and owns and operates an Internet Poker Club. She is married to a bridge and poker player with whom she has one daughter. She is the most aggressive player on the team, which is really saying something (her two-heart bid on the last board of the Istanbul final will erase any doubts). Poker is her primary pastime.



Inna Vasilkova

Irina Vasilkova, from Tchelyabinsk, has one National title (Women's Pairs) and is married to a bridge player. With a background in business administration, she runs "Melnitsa" (a restaurant) and is always glad to welcome bridge players. She enjoys travelling and has almost made it to Japan several times (the Russian port of Vladivostok was her nearest miss). French novels and music are her joint passions. Her cat Niusia is her pride and joy.

## Japanese Delights

by Migry Zur Campanile

If you are still unsure about where to travel for your next holiday, take my advice and go to Japan. Only a year has gone by since my visit there to play in the NEC Cup and never before have I experienced such warm hospitality by people who, despite having

often only a tenuous command of English, would go overboard trying to be friendly and helpful while sporting an honest and disarming smile, the kind of smile which is a very distant cousin of the fake commercial version that most of us westerners have

sadly become familiar with.

After a first week in Yokohama, where our modest success in the tournament had deprived us of any serious opportunity to explore, we traveled to Kyoto on the famous bullet-train: 2 hours and 620 kilometers later we got to our destination. If cities like Venice and Paris demand to be explored on foot so that their sights, sounds, smells, and textures can be savored to the fullest, then the same is true for Kyoto. The delicate beauty of cherry blossoms, the resonant echo of a temple bell, the uniquely Japanese aroma of soy and sake, and the sensual caress of a silk kimono on a beautifully made-up geisha, all experienced on a day's walk, all contribute to convey the legacy of this ancient culture and its sharp contrast with the hyper-modern, gadget-happy society which thrives around it.

I thoroughly enjoyed my stay there, despite experiencing in Kyoto what undoubtedly qualifies as the latest entry in the top ten most embarrassing Migry moments. After a long hard day of temple sight-seeing, we started looking for a nice restaurant to grace with our patronage. As our Japanese was non-existent, we usually had to rely for our choice on a careful scrutiny of the life-size plastic replica dishes, which most restaurants place in their window for the benefit of tourists. After some strongly voiced complaints from our stomachs, we cut short the selection process and we entered a typical Japanese mix-and-match restaurant offering a broad variety of local cuisine: sushi, sashimi, tempura, yakitori and so on. To our amazement, the owner spoke a little bit of English and assisted us in selecting the food. In a lull between the various courses, I set my eyes on the large aquarium placed in a corner of the restaurant and its colorful population of grey jelly-like fish. The owner suggested that we try one of the squid, as sashimi (meaning uncooked). I enthusiastically agreed and he proceeded to fish one out of the tank and gave it to the chef to prepare.

Five minutes later, a beautifully garnished squid was served to us on a bed of seaweed. It looked really yummy and I deftly stuck my chopsticks in to get a first morsel

when, upon being touched, the squid turned its head and waved its tendrils at me! I gave the most heart-curdling shriek ever heard in the land of the rising sun and screamed: "Kill it! Kill it! I want it dead!" This seemed to cause much merriment and laughter among staff and guests alike. Eventually, my red-faced self was presented half a squid sashimi and half a squid tempura (fried) by a grinning waiter. It was actually delicious but it took me some time to get back to the eating mode and enjoy it. Besides, I had to finish it alone since my husband steadfastly declined to partake of any of it, alleging that Italian customs forbid eating a dish which only shortly before had the good manners of greeting him.

On the last day of the NEC Festival, I took part in the two-session Asuka Pairs Cup with Michael Barel. Playing pairs, I have been told by my gurus that one should always look for that little extra to bring in a good score even when playing what may appear to be a dull board.

The following hand is a typical example (board rotated for convenience):

Bd: 16		North	
Dir: East		♠ Q1064	
Vul: E/W		♥ 8	
		♦ A652	
		♣ AKJ9	
		South	
		♠ A72	
		♥ K54	
		♦ KJ1087	
		♣ 64	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Hosoda</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Kunitomo</i>	<i>Zur Campanile</i>
		Pass	1♦
1♥	DbI	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Opening lead: ♥Q

I took the lead with ♥K as East played the ♥9 (standard carding), and tested diamonds by

leading low to the ace and a diamond back. When the  $\diamond Q$  mercifully showed up on my right, I was spared a guess. There were now nine easy tricks and a chance for a tenth apparently rested on the club finesse. Can you see an alternative plan?

I am not fond of finesses. Like many players I know, I have a feeling that 50-50 may well be the advertised odds, but in my case they always seem to shrink to 30-70, if not worse. Here, I decided to find out a bit more about the distribution before committing myself to a club guess, so I continued with a third round of diamonds, West pitching a club and East a heart. West's club discard was worth some analysis. He was marked with five hearts (if East's  $\heartsuit 9$  was to be trusted) and I had seen two diamonds, which would leave him with six black cards and a high chance that one of them was the  $\spadesuit K$  or the  $\clubsuit Q$  because of the vulnerable  $1\heartsuit$  overcall. As West was highly unlikely to pitch a club even from a holding of Qxxx, the chance of the club finesse working looked remote. Therefore, I continued with the two top clubs, both opponents following, and cashed my two remaining diamonds, both West and East discarding a heart and a spade. According to the discards West was left with three top hearts and two spades (or four hearts and one spade if East had made an unlikely false-card at trick one), in either case I could not possibly lose anything by exiting with a heart. If West had the  $\spadesuit K$  he

would now be end-played in spades, after cashing his top hearts. As you can see from the layout, that was indeed the case and 630 brought almost a 90% score on the board.

Bd: 16	North	
Dir: East	$\spadesuit$ Q1064	
Vul: E/W	$\heartsuit$ 8	
	$\diamond$ A652	
	$\clubsuit$ AKJ9	
	West	East
	$\spadesuit$ KJ9	$\spadesuit$ 853
	$\heartsuit$ AQJ102	$\heartsuit$ 9763
	$\diamond$ 94	$\diamond$ Q3
	$\clubsuit$ 872	$\clubsuit$ Q1053
	South	
	$\spadesuit$ A72	
	$\heartsuit$ K54	
	$\diamond$ KJ1087	
	$\clubsuit$ 64	

In the evening, when the Daily Bulletin was released, I was amused to see that Brian Senior, the famous English expert, was credited with the same score on a very similar line but after opening a weak no trump in South and with West overcalling in hearts, the only difference being that his skillful play was rewarded with an article in the bulletin while mine wasn't. Well, not until now!



"Let's see, our defenses to that opening are in Section 6, Division 5, Sub-section 23, paragraphs 16-21."



"I think this is my mantra but it's so small I'm not sure."

## NEC Cup Round Two: Canada versus USA

by Eric Kokish

There's no denying that everyone could have stayed in North America to play this one, but it's aesthetically more pleasing to do battle in the Land of the Rising Sun. Both Canada (Jurek Cyzowicz/Darren Wolpert, Kamel Fergani/Nicolas L'Ecuyer) and USA (Drew Casen/Steve Landen, Larry Mori/Ven Koneru) won their first-round matches big.

Bd: 2	North		
Dlr: East	♠ J5		
Vul: N/S	♥ Q102		
	♦ J764		
	♣ J873		
	West		East
	♠ 73		♠ AK4
	♥ 743		♥ AK965
	♦ A1053		♦ Q2
	♣ A1065		♣ 942
		South	
		♠ Q109862	
		♥ J8	
		♦ K98	
		♣ KQ	
	Open Room		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Cyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
		1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
		1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

It's hands like West's decent eight-count that will eventually convince a realistic partnership to stop cheating a point with their notrump openings. Let's see whether everyone sticks to his published range in this match.

In 3NT, Wolpert took the first spade and

ducked a heart, won the second spade, and finished hearts, Koneru discarding the ♦8, a spade, and the ♦9, Mori a diamond and a tantalizing club, after dummy parted with two diamonds. Declarer left himself with a spade exit for a potential endplay, but in doing so deprived himself of the opportunity to confirm the spade distribution. He eventually decided that spades were six-two, but Mori's club discard was enough to convince him that this suit was five-one. Accordingly, he led a club to the ace and played a second club. Had Mori been dealt the ♦K and five clubs to two honors, he would indeed have been forced to concede a trick to dummy's ♣10 or declarer's ♦Q. Here, however, Koneru could take the ♣K and three spades. His last card was the ♦K, which did not please Wolpert: -50. South had been squeezed on the last heart, but declarer had to guess the position.

In Poland vs Morimura, Daniel Bizon ducked the first spade in 3NT, but South gained the lead in hearts to clear spades. Bizon tried to duck a club to North, hoping to catch him in a strip squeeze in the minors, but South was able to prevent that. Declarer won the ♣A and ran the hearts, and South, Morimura, defended in the same fashion as Koneru, blanking the ♦K. When North eventually discarded a club, Bizon read the position correctly and dropped South's ♦K to make his contract.

Casen's 4♥ had fair prospects too, and there was no legitimate way to defeat it, but Casen had to read the position to get home. He won the spade lead, cashed ace-king of trumps, and took a third-round spade ruff. L'Ecuyer over-ruffed and exited with a club (Fergani had followed upwards in spades) to the queen and ace. Ducking a club would have worked well here, leading to the establishment of a second club trick with diamonds frozen. But Casen led a second club to the nine and king. Fergani got out with a spade, and Casen was still alive. Had he played his last trump, discarding a club, he would have been in a position to make his contract. If L'Ecuyer discards a club in this



ending, a club play forces him to lead from the  $\diamond J$ , and if he blanks the  $\diamond J$  to keep two clubs, the  $\diamond Q$  is declarer's answer. There's certainly room for error in that position, and perhaps to avoid a nasty guess, Casen simply played a third club. That enabled L'Ecuyer to win and play a fourth club, and now Casen had to lose a diamond trick for one down, -50. No swing.

led the  $\diamond K$  and switched to the  $\heartsuit 8$ , ducked to the jack. There was no way to lose  $4\spadesuit$  now. Had Landen led the  $\heartsuit 8$ , however...

Mori made only nine tricks in  $3\clubsuit$ , so Canada gained 7 IMPs, +420 vs -140, to lead 8-0.

Bd: 3		North	
Dir: South		$\spadesuit$ AQJ63	
Vul: E/W		$\heartsuit$ K42	
		$\diamond$ 4	
		$\clubsuit$ AKQ5	
West		East	
$\spadesuit$ 8		$\spadesuit$ 942	
$\heartsuit$ A8		$\heartsuit$ QJ95	
$\diamond$ KQ10976		$\diamond$ A853	
$\clubsuit$ 9432		$\clubsuit$ J10	
		South	
		$\spadesuit$ K1075	
		$\heartsuit$ 10763	
		$\diamond$ J2	
		$\clubsuit$ 876	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
Pass	$1\spadesuit$	Pass	$1NT(1)$
$2\diamond$	Dbf	$3\diamond$	$3\spadesuit$
All Pass			
(1) Semi-forcing			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
Pass	$1\spadesuit$	Pass	Pass
$2\diamond$	Dbf	$3\diamond$	Pass
Pass	Dbf	Pass	$3\spadesuit$
Pass	$4\spadesuit$	All Pass	

Bd: 4		North	
Dir: West		$\spadesuit$ AQJ987	
Vul: Both		$\heartsuit$ 9	
		$\diamond$ J7	
		$\clubsuit$ A532	
West		East	
$\spadesuit$ 5		$\spadesuit$ K643	
$\heartsuit$ K65		$\heartsuit$ 102	
$\diamond$ Q10986543		$\diamond$ A2	
$\clubsuit$ 10		$\clubsuit$ 98764	
		South	
		$\spadesuit$ 102	
		$\heartsuit$ AQJ8743	
		$\diamond$ K	
		$\clubsuit$ KQJ	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
$3\diamond$	$3\spadesuit$	Pass	$4\heartsuit$
All Pass			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
$4\diamond$	$4\spadesuit$	$5\diamond$	$6\heartsuit$
All Pass			

Either you bid  $4\spadesuit$  or you don't. You won't know whether it will be any good. Mori showed remarkable restraint in the Open Room, where Koneru showed a weak raise with three or four trumps, but L'Ecuyer, who had less expectation of a nice lie in hearts on the auction he saw, took the plunge. Landen

Fergani's  $6\heartsuit$  needed a miracle, and -200 was not an unjust result (diamond to the ace, club switch, won in dummy for a trump finesse; Landen switched to a spade when he won the  $\heartsuit K$ ). This time,  $4\diamond$  proved more effective than  $3\diamond$ , largely because it encouraged East to raise to  $5\diamond$ , forcing a decision on Fergani. Koneru's  $4\heartsuit$  was not exactly laydown either, after the lead of the  $\clubsuit 10$ . Koneru won in hand and played  $\heartsuit A$ ,  $\heartsuit J$ . Czyzowicz won the king, led the  $\diamond 3$  over to the ace, got his club ruff, and exited with a spade. Declarer judged correctly to win with dummy's ace, ruff himself in with a diamond, and run trumps, discarding all of dummy's spades. East was squeezed in the minors,

the position segueing neatly into a Vienna Coup matrix. Plus 620 for Koneru and 13 IMPs to USA, ahead now 13-8.



Ven "Babu" Koneru

ambiguous ♣K, three, seven (low encourages), five (attempting to discourage). Appropriately discouraged, Landen switched to the ♠9 to the queen and ace. Casen reverted to clubs, but played the queen rather than the eight. Had Fergani followed low, it would have been a serious option for Landen to overtake, playing Casen for queen-seven doubleton, but Fergani played the jack and now Landen could overtake safely...but he followed low. Now it was possible for Casen to go wrong by reverting to spades. He played a third club for one down, -100.

But how simple is simple? Cyzowicz felt he could afford to stay off clubs, and there is no doubt that he could have been right to do so. Backing his judgment, he led a trump. Koneru had time to discard a club on the ♦A after unblocking the ♦K and entering dummy with the ♥J; +620. 12 IMPs to USA, ahead 25-8.

Bd: 5	North		
Dir: North	♠ KQ2		
Vul: N/S	♥ J5		
	♦ AJ864		
	♣ 963		
	West		East
	♠ 984		♠ AJ653
	♥ 864		♥ 10
	♦ Q97		♦ 10532
	♣ AK104		♣ Q87
		South	
		♠ 107	
		♥ AKQ9732	
		♦ K	
		♣ J52	
	Open Room		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Cyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT(1)	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
(1) Semi-forcing			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦(1)
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
(1) Game-forcing inquiry			

Bd: 6	North		
Dir: East	♠ AK4		
Vul: E/W	♥ Q85		
	♦ Q1097		
	♣ 973		
	West		East
	♠ Q1082		♠ J97
	♥ ---		♥ AKJ9432
	♦ A52		♦ J84
	♣ KQJ1064		♣ ---
		South	
		♠ 653	
		♥ 1076	
		♦ K63	
		♣ A852	
	Open Room		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Cyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
		4♥	All Pass
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
		3♥	All Pass

Sometimes, simple is best. Landen led the

Both Souths led the ♦3, an excellent choice.

4♥ was -200, 3♥ -100. USA gained 3 IMPs, 28-8. My view of 4♥ is that it's an acquired taste. Maybe I'm a fossil.

Bd: 7		North	
Dir: South		♠ 7	
Vul: Both		♥ AQ87	
		♦ AKQJ4	
		♣ K108	
West		East	
♠ J10964		♠ AKQ	
♥ K9		♥ 105432	
♦ 1095		♦ 82	
♣ J63		♣ AQ7	
		South	
		♠ 8532	
		♥ J6	
		♦ 763	
		♣ 9542	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
Pass	1♦	Dbl	Pass
1♠	2♥	Pass	3♦
All Pass			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
Pass	1♦	Dbl	Pass
1♠	Dbl	Pass	2♦
2♠	3♦	3♠	All Pass

One of us should remember to ask Larry Mori why he didn't double 1♠ for takeout, but the answer might be perplexing. His 3♦ didn't handle well and he finished two down, -200. Against Landen's 3♠, L'Ecuyer cashed two diamonds and shifted to his trump. A heart to the nine lost to the queen, and Landen was in fair shape. L'Ecuyer shortened the play by continuing with the ♥A, then the ♥8. Landen saved dummy's ten, ruffed in hand, ruffed his last diamond, cashed the ♠Q, and led the ♥10, ruffed and over-ruffed. He drew trumps and took the club finesse to reach dummy's long heart; +140. 2 IMPs to Canada, 10-28.

Bd: 9		North	
Dir: North		♠ J10	
Vul: E/W		♥ Q76543	
		♦ QJ10	
		♣ 62	
West		East	
♠ 53		♠ K976	
♥ AJ92		♥ 10	
♦ A9832		♦ K64	
♣ J7		♣ K9843	
		South	
		♠ AQ842	
		♥ K8	
		♦ 75	
		♣ AQ105	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
Pass	2♦(1)	Pass	2♠(2)
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
(1) Weak 2♥ or 20+-22 bal.; (2) Artificial, 12+			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
Pass	2♦(1)	Pass	2♥(2)
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
3♦	All Pass		
(1) Weak 2♥ or weak 2♠; (2) Pass-or-correct			

Assuming that Mori's 3♥ showed a minimum weak 2♥ opening, Koneru was gambling when he raised to four, but many would have raised to 4♥ a round earlier. Although the black kings were both onside, Mori lost two diamonds and three heart for -200.

A Fergani/Koneru partnership might have to spend a few weeks on standards for a first seat weak two bid at favorable vulnerability. Fergani bid very little and collected 200 on defense against 3♦, so Canada gained 7 IMPs and closed to within 12 IMPs of their opponents at 17-29.



Bd: 11	North		
Dir: South	♠ 1093		
Vul: None	♥ 962		
	♦ K93		
	♣ K872		
	West		East
	♠ AKQJ84		♠ 52
	♥ 7		♥ Q8543
	♦ 1072		♦ 5
	♣ AQ9		♣ J6543
		South	
		♠ 76	
		♥ AKJ10	
		♦ AQJ864	
		♣ 10	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
1♠	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♦	Pass	DbI
3♠	4♣	Pass	3♦
All Pass			4♦
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
1♠	Pass	Pass	1♦
Rdbl	2♣	Pass	DbI
2♠	3♦	3♠	2♦
			All Pass

The Open Room auction is one you won't often encounter. Koneru could have made 4♦ after establishing the ♣K, but spurned the heart finesse to go -50.



Nicolas L'Ecuyer

It took perfect defense to defeat Landen's 3♠, but his opponents were up to it, L'Ecuyer finding the strong opening lead of a trump. A second trump upon winning the first diamond was essential, and when North gave count in hearts at his earliest convenience, it was straightforward to cash out in the right order in the red suits upon winning the ♣K. One down, -50, and 3 IMPs to Canada, 20-29.

Bd: 13	North		
Dir: North	♠ J10987		
Vul: Both	♥ K1095		
	♦ Q74		
	♣ 5		
	West		East
	♠ K		♠ AQ3
	♥ 843		♥ QJ2
	♦ J62		♦ 853
	♣ AKQ962		♣ J1087
		South	
		♠ 6542	
		♥ A76	
		♦ AK109	
		♣ 43	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
2♣	DbI	2♠(1)	Pass
3♣	All Pass		
(1) Good raise in clubs			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
	2♥(1)	Pass	2NT(2)
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(1) Hearts and spades, weak; (2) Inquiry, first for range			

As 3♣ has at least five top losers, there's a lot to be said for trying 3NT with the E/W cards, where there's a nice payoff for imperfect defense.

The defense against 3♣ was not especially difficult: ♦4 to the king, ♥A, ♦A (no jack from North), diamond to the queen, ♥K. One

down, -100.

The defense against 3NT was not especially easy: ♠6...claim for +600. Perhaps the ♦A would have been a more practical choice, buying time to consider the best continuation. USA gained 12 IMPs and led by 20, 41-21.

Bd: 15		North	
Dir: South		♠ 6	
Vul: N/S		♥ A10942	
		♦ Q1094	
		♣ KQ8	
West		East	
♠ J8743		♠ Q109	
♥ KJ875		♥ Q63	
♦ AJ8		♦ K63	
♣ ---		♣ 10973	
		South	
		♠ AK52	
		♥ ---	
		♦ 752	
		♣ AJ6542	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
2♣(1)	Dbl	3♠	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
All Pass			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
1♠	2♥	2♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	

With the ♦J right and no diamond ruff out against him, Koneru brought home 5♣ in the fullness of time for +600.

Landen's 2♠ doubled didn't look like much fun on a club lead, but he got out for one down, -100, when L'Ecuyer rose with the ace on a low heart towards the queen to play a trump. Although Fergani scored all four of his trumps, L'Ecuyer was eventually thrown in with his second heart winner to lead from the

♦Q when he was out of clubs. USA gained 11 IMPs, 54-21.

Bd: 17		North	
Dir: North		♠ 732	
Vul: None		♥ AQ106	
		♦ A	
		♣ A10876	
West		East	
♠ KQ865		♠ A10	
♥ KJ		♥ 875	
♦ 542		♦ KQ10973	
♣ Q94		♣ K3	
		South	
		♠ J94	
		♥ 9432	
		♦ J86	
		♣ J52	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
1♠	1♣	1♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
1♠	1♣	1♦	Pass
	All Pass		

Landen's 1♠ was a safe contract, and he came to 11 tricks in unusual fashion when L'Ecuyer underled the ♣A at trick one (king from dummy) and underled it again when he won his ♦A; +200 the hard way.

Czyzowicz's 3NT was not a safe contract, but it was going to make on a club lead. Mori did not lead a club, however: he attacked with the ♥Q. Although the ace would have made everything clear, it should not have mattered. Koneru followed with the ♥4, ostensibly reverse attitude. When declarer won the king and led the ♦5, Koneru followed with the eight as Mori won the trick. Whether Reverse Smith came into play here is not clear, but if Koneru's carding said anything positive about hearts, it was not apparent to his partner. Mori switched to the ♠7 and Czyzowicz ran

for cover with 11 tricks and +460. Canada recouped 6 IMPs, but trailed 28-54 with only three deals remaining.

Bd: 18		North	
Dir: East		♠ A10	
Vul: N/S		♥ 932	
		♦ A73	
		♣ 108653	
West		East	
♠ 9632		♠ 84	
♥ AQ10854		♥ KJ7	
♦ 10		♦ Q964	
♣ J7		♣ AKQ2	
		South	
		♠ KQJ75	
		♥ 6	
		♦ KJ852	
		♣ 94	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
		1NT	2♠(1)
4♦(2)	4♠	All Pass	
(1) Spades and a minor; (2) Hearts			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
		1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♠(1)	Pass	4♥	All Pass
(1) 4♠, at least five hearts, FG			

Bd: 19		North	
Dir: South		♠ K1053	
Vul: E/W		♥ AK86	
		♦ QJ7	
		♣ Q5	
West		East	
♠ 9		♠ Q72	
♥ J94		♥ Q1072	
♦ 96		♦ AK103	
♣ KJ109863		♣ 74	
		South	
		♠ AJ864	
		♥ 53	
		♦ 8542	
		♣ A2	
Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	Pass	Pass	3♠
All Pass			
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

To show spades and diamonds, Fergani would have had to overcall 1NT with 2NT, and he was not keen to treat his hand as a one-suiter in spades. There was no easy way into the auction after that and Casen had an easy +420 coming in 4♥.

Many a mere mortal might be leery about committing to 4♠ in Mori's position, but he hit a home run by doing so. When no one doubled and Czyzowicz led his shortest suit rather than his longest, Koneru got out for -100 and USA gained 8 IMPs.

Koneru, in 3♠, made four when Czyzowicz led the ♣J, dummy's queen winning, by guessing the trumps: +170.

L'Ecuyer, in 4♠, was treated to three rounds of diamonds, West ruffing the last to return a heart. Declarer won, took a third-round heart ruff, cashed the ♠A to get the bad news, and drifted two down, -100. USA gained 7 IMPs, 62-28.



Bd: 20	North	
Dir: West	♠ 83	
Vul: Both	♥ AK1085	
	♦ 1053	
	♣ A65	
West		East
♠ 752		♠ A9
♥ Q6		♥ 743
♦ QJ42		♦ A876
♣ K732		♣ QJ108
	South	
	♠ KQJ1064	
	♥ J92	
	♦ K9	
	♣ 94	

Open Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Czyzowicz</i>	<i>Mori</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	All Pass	
Closed Room			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Landen</i>	<i>L'Ecuyer</i>	<i>Casen</i>	<i>Fergani</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Fergani's 4♠ needed a couple of finesses and nothing bad to happen. He was +650 on a club lead. Mori's 2♥ made four on a club lead for +170. Canada gained 10 IMPs for dessert, but the main feast went to USA, who won the battle of North America 69-38, or 21-9 in VP.

### 10<sup>th</sup> NEC Bridge Festival Daily Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Wednesday (Feb. 9)	10:00-12:50	NEC Cup Swiss (4)	F201/F202
	12:50-14:00	Lunch Break	
	14:00-16:50	NEC Cup Swiss (5)	
	17:10-20:00	NEC Cup Swiss (6)	
Thursday (Feb. 10)	10:00-12:50	NEC Cup Swiss (7)	F201/F202
	13:10-16:00	NEC Cup Swiss (8)	
	16:00-17:10	Lunch Break	
	17:10-20:00	NEC Cup Quarter-Final (1)	
Friday (Feb. 11)	10:00-12:50	NEC Cup Quarter-Final (2)	F206
	12:50-14:00	Lunch Break	
	14:00-16:50	NEC Cup Semi-Final (1)	
	17:10-20:00	NEC Cup Semi-Final (2)	
Saturday (Feb. 12)	10:00-17:00	Yokohama SRR & Swiss Teams (1)	F201-204
	10:00-12:20	NEC Cup Final (1) & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Playoff (1)	
	12:30-14:50	NEC Cup Final (2) & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Playoff (2)	
	14:50-16:00	Lunch Break	
	16:00-18:20	NEC Cup Final (3)	
Sunday (Feb. 13)	18:30-20:50	NEC Cup Final (4)	F201-204
	10:00-17:00	Yokohama SRR & Swiss Teams (2)	
	10:00-17:00	Asuka Cup	
	18:00-20:30	Closing Ceremony	

Swiss & Semi-Final segments = 20 boards; Final and 3<sup>rd</sup> place playoff segments = 16 boards

# DATUM

## Qualifying Round 1

Bd	DATUM	CHINA WOMEN		CANADA		POLAND		USA/EGYPT		NETHERLAND		USA		CH. TAIPEI		INDONESIA		ENG/NOR		ISRAEL		RUSSIA WOM		RUS/POL	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	90	3	0	3	-2	2	0	14	0	2	0	0	-1	0	1	3	-2	0	5	-1	1	0	-2	0	0
2	210	9	9	10	9	10	16	9	-9	-13	-11	10	12	10	-9	9	9	11	9	10	9	-16	13	-7	7
3	90	1	-2	3	5	7	5	1	-1	1	5	1	-1	1	-1	2	-1	1	-1	1	5	1	-1	1	-1
4	-610	-1	1	-1	2	-1	1	-1	0	-2	1	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-9	12	1	-1	1
5	600	1	-1	2	-1	1	-2	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1
6	70	1	-1	1	-1	4	-1	-5	4	4	-1	-3	-1	-3	5	6	3	-4	-1	-3	4	1	3	2	-1
7	140	0	2	-1	-2	0	1	1	-2	1	-8	-1	-4	0	0	0	-1	14	-2	0	1	0	0	0	1
8	480	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	10
9	-160	6	-6	-4	10	6	10	6	10	-10	-6	8	-6	-10	11	6	-6	2	-6	8	10	-10	10	8	-10
10	90	2	7	2	5	2	-1	-5	-2	2	7	2	-1	1	0	3	-3	2	5	2	-1	2	-2	2	5
11	290	-3	-4	-4	8	4	8	-4	-4	4	8	3	8	-8	-4	4	-4	-8	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4
12	-100	4	8	5	1	-1	2	-1	1	-2	8	0	2	-1	2	-2	3	4	1	-1	1	-1	-5	4	1
13	-430	-5	-6	7	6	5	5	6	-6	-6	5	7	5	6	-6	-6	6	-6	6	6	5	-5	-7	-5	5
14	-400	-2	1	6	1	-1	-6	-1	1	-1	1	-2	2	-1	2	-1	1	-1	1	0	1	-1	1	10	1
15	370	-5	-6	6	-6	6	8	6	-6	-6	-6	6	-6	-8	2	6	-9	6	10	6	-9	-5	5	11	8
16	50	-4	12	2	-8	-4	3	4	4	6	5	6	4	-4	-4	-3	-8	-3	-2	8	3	-4	-6	-3	4
17	90	2	0	2	-2	-1	1	-4	1	-5	-2	2	-2	2	-2	0	-2	2	6	2	-2	0	-2	2	5
18	490	-8	-4	-8	7	4	8	4	-4	4	-4	4	7	4	-4	4	-4	-8	-4	4	8	-11	8	4	-4
19	100	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	10	5	-9	3	0	0	4	-9	0	3	-5	-4	5	3	-5	-4	-5
20	70	8	-1	-5	5	4	-2	6	-1	8	-1	1	5	-5	-4	-7	-2	16	5	2	-2	-7	5	-7	-2
IMP +		37	40	49	59	60	73	63	31	38	40	54	46	25	28	44	23	62	50	54	54	24	46	49	48
IMP -		28	31	23	22	8	12	21	36	46	49	7	23	42	35	30	43	32	26	11	28	61	35	27	28

Bd	DATUM	KOREA		THAILAND		HONG KONG		JAPAN OPEN		JAPAN WOMEN		TAJIMA		HIRATA		MORIMURA		DRAMIA&ALICE		ABE-CHAN		ESPERANZA		GIRASOL	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	90	2	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	-4	1	-1	1	2	-3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	-1	0
2	210	9	-9	-9	12	0	0	3	-11	10	2	10	12	10	-13	9	9	-7	7	9	9	-12	-12	9	-10
3	90	1	-2	1	4	0	0	2	-1	1	-3	1	-1	2	-1	1	5	2	-2	1	-2	2	5	1	-1
4	-610	-1	1	-1	-11	0	0	-13	1	-1	1	-2	-12	9	1	-1	2	-1	10	10	1	-13	0	-1	1
5	600	2	-1	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	12	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-12	12	1	-1
6	70	1	-1	4	-4	0	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-2	1	-4	1	4	-3	-4	1	-1	-5	3
7	140	-1	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	1	0	0	-1	0	1	0	1	1	1	-2	-1	-1	6	0	0
8	480	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	0	1
9	-160	6	10	6	-6	0	0	6	10	6	-6	6	10	-11	-6	6	10	8	-6	8	-6	-10	10	-11	10
10	90	-5	-1	-10	-2	0	0	2	-2	3	-1	2	-1	2	5	2	5	3	-2	2	-2	0	-2	0	-1
11	290	-8	-4	3	-4	0	0	4	-4	3	3	4	8	-8	-4	4	-4	4	8	-9	-4	4	-4	4	8
12	-100	4	2	-2	1	0	0	-1	1	4	2	0	2	-1	1	4	7	4	-4	-1	1	-1	1	-2	1
13	-430	6	-6	6	-7	0	0	-6	-6	6	6	6	5	7	6	7	6	12	5	-2	5	-5	5	6	-6
14	-400	0	1	0	-7	0	0	-1	1	6	1	-1	-6	-1	2	-1	2	-1	0	5	1	-1	1	-2	1
15	370	-5	8	-5	2	0	0	6	-9	-6	5	-5	5	6	11	-5	8	-8	5	6	-6	-10	-4	-2	8
16	50	-4	4	-5	4	0	0	2	-6	-4	-4	-6	-4	8	5	2	3	-4	4	-5	-8	2	3	4	4
17	90	-4	-1	-4	0	0	0	1	-2	2	5	-1	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-1	2	5	0	4	2	-2
18	490	4	-4	-7	-4	0	0	5	8	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	11	4	7	4	-4	4	7	4	-4
19	100	0	0	7	4	0	0	3	0	0	9	0	-1	0	-5	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	9	-4	0
20	70	1	-6	1	-2	0	0	2	7	3	-1	2	-2	1	-1	-5	-1	4	-2	12	-2	4	5	4	5
IMP +		36	27	29	28	0	0	38	28	51	36	37	55	55	33	44	74	46	52	60	24	19	69	35	42
IMP -		29	38	43	48	0	0	22	43	15	21	17	35	21	42	12	12	21	18	23	40	66	23	28	25



# DATUM

## Qualifying Round 1

Bd	DATUM	HANA		GRYFFINDOR		SKOTII		SPICE		PS-JACK		FAIRY TALE		CONDOR		OZAWA		NAITO		SWAN		MERRY QUEEN		SUN FLOWER	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	90	2	0	0	0	-1	4	3	-2	0	-2	-1	1	0	-3	2	-3	0	0	-1	1	0	-14	2	-3
2	210	-13	16	0	0	-2	-10	9	-9	-16	-10	-12	-10	-9	-9	-9	-9	-12	9	-9	-10	9	-9	-9	-10
3	90	1	-1	0	0	3	-1	2	-1	-5	-7	1	-1	2	-1	1	-2	-4	-1	-5	-1	1	-1	-5	-3
4	-610	-1	-12	0	0	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	12	2	-1	1	-1	1	11	1	9	1	0	1	-2	1
5	600	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	-2	2	-1	-12	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-2
6	70	-3	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-4	1	-1	1	-1	-3	-6	4	-4	-4	3	-4	5	1	-1
7	140	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	1	-1	0	1	0	-2	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	2	-1	2	1
8	480	0	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0
9	-160	-10	10	0	0	6	-6	-10	-6	-10	-6	-10	-6	6	-6	6	-6	6	-6	-10	-8	-10	-6	-10	4
10	90	2	-2	0	0	1	-3	1	5	1	-2	1	-2	-7	-2	3	-3	2	10	1	-2	2	5	-5	-2
11	290	4	-4	0	0	-3	-3	4	8	-8	-4	-8	-4	4	3	4	-4	4	-3	4	-4	4	4	-8	4
12	-100	5	1	0	0	-2	-4	-2	-4	-2	1	-2	0	-8	-4	-3	2	-1	2	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-5
13	-430	7	5	0	0	-6	-6	6	-6	-5	-5	-5	-6	6	5	-6	6	7	-6	-5	-6	6	-6	-6	-7
14	-400	-1	1	0	0	-1	-6	-1	0	6	1	6	1	-1	2	-1	1	7	0	-1	0	-1	1	-1	-6
15	370	-5	5	0	0	-5	6	-8	5	-8	-6	-5	5	6	5	9	-6	-2	5	9	-6	6	-6	6	-6
16	50	6	4	0	0	4	4	-4	4	-3	4	4	6	-12	4	8	3	-4	5	-3	-8	-4	-4	8	-2
17	90	2	0	0	0	-5	-2	1	4	-1	1	2	1	0	-2	2	0	0	4	2	-2	-1	4	2	-2
18	490	-8	11	0	0	4	-4	4	-4	-8	-4	4	-4	4	8	4	-4	4	7	-8	-4	4	-4	-7	8
19	100	5	-3	0	0	-9	0	0	0	-5	-5	1	0	0	0	0	9	-4	-7	-5	4	-10	-5	0	0
20	70	-5	7	0	0	1	-3	6	-1	2	-4	2	-2	1	-8	2	7	2	-1	2	-2	1	-6	-5	5
IMP +		35	61	0	0	21	15	38	29	12	8	35	17	31	28	43	30	48	43	28	11	36	21	22	23
IMP -		46	24	0	0	36	51	27	36	73	60	55	37	40	37	23	44	28	29	54	54	31	63	59	49

Bd	DATUM	FRIENDS		XYZ		SOLARIS		TEAM YASU		HAYASHI		CHARADE		MY-BRIDGE		49ERS		KINKI		COSMOS		JAPAN YOUT	
		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	90	-5	0	0	0	-1	0	3	-2	0	0	0	0	0	-2	0	-2	0	0	0	0	1	0
2	210	-9	-11	-9	-9	-9	-9	13	-10	11	-3	-7	7	12	12	11	13	-7	7	0	0	-12	-10
3	90	1	-1	-5	-1	2	-1	1	-2	1	-2	2	-2	-5	-2	-5	-1	1	-1	0	0	1	-1
4	-610	-1	1	-2	1	-1	-10	-1	-9	-1	13	-10	1	0	13	-1	2	-1	1	0	0	-1	0
5	600	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-12	12	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	1	-1
6	70	1	4	4	-1	4	3	2	-1	1	-1	-4	-1	1	-1	1	-4	1	-2	0	0	1	3
7	140	2	-14	-1	0	1	2	-1	0	0	1	-1	-1	-6	1	8	-1	-1	0	0	0	4	1
8	480	-1	1	-1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	1	0	1	-10	0	0	0	0	1
9	-160	6	-2	-10	-6	6	-8	6	11	-10	-6	6	-8	-10	10	6	10	10	-8	0	0	6	-8
10	90	-5	-2	-5	-2	2	-2	-5	-2	2	-2	2	-3	2	0	-7	-2	-5	-2	0	0	1	-2
11	290	4	8	4	-4	4	9	4	8	4	-4	-8	-4	-4	-4	-8	-4	4	-4	0	0	-8	-3
12	-100	-1	-4	-7	-4	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	4	-4	-1	1	-8	2	-1	-4	0	0	-2	0
13	-430	-6	6	-6	-7	-5	2	-6	-7	6	6	-5	-12	-5	5	-5	6	-5	5	0	0	-5	-7
14	-400	-1	1	-2	1	-1	-5	-2	1	-1	1	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-10	0	0	-2	2
15	370	-10	-6	-8	5	6	-6	-11	-6	9	-6	-5	8	4	10	6	6	-8	-11	0	0	6	-6
16	50	2	3	-3	-2	8	5	-5	-8	6	-2	-4	4	-3	-2	-5	-6	-4	3	0	0	-4	-6
17	90	-6	-2	2	-2	-5	-2	2	-2	2	-1	1	-2	-4	0	2	5	-5	-2	0	0	2	-2
18	490	4	8	-11	-4	4	-4	4	-4	-8	-5	-7	-4	-7	-4	4	-4	4	-4	0	0	-7	-4
19	100	5	-3	-4	-1	0	0	5	0	0	-3	0	0	-9	0	9	-5	5	4	0	0	0	-3
20	70	-5	-16	1	5	2	-12	1	-1	-7	-2	2	-4	-5	-4	1	-8	2	7	0	0	-5	-1
IMP +		26	32	12	12	40	23	42	21	43	22	18	21	23	66	49	46	28	27	0	0	23	7
IMP -		50	62	74	44	24	60	33	55	28	38	52	46	69	19	40	38	48	49	0	0	46	54

# DATUM

## Qualifying Round 2

Bd	DATUM	CHINA WOMEN		CANADA		POLAND		USA/EGYPT		NETHERLAND		USA		CH. TAIPEI		INDONESIA		ENG/NOR		ISRAEL		RUSSIA WOM		RUS/POL	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	-400	-1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	7	2	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	-7	0	0	0	0
2	-210	-5	5	6	-6	1	5	1	5	2	3	6	-6	-5	-6	-5	-1	-5	5	2	-3	7	5	-5	-6
3	380	1	10	1	6	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-6	-1	1	-1	-5	10	1	-1	1	-1	1	10	1	-1
4	250	9	-9	-10	-9	9	8	-8	11	10	-9	9	10	9	8	9	-9	9	8	9	8	-8	8	9	-9
5	-20	12	2	-2	-12	-2	2	-2	2	-2	3	12	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	5	-2	2	4	2	-2	-12
6	100	0	-3	0	-3	3	0	3	0	0	-3	3	0	0	-3	3	-3	3	-5	0	0	-12	0	3	-3
7	-20	-7	5	-3	5	4	7	-3	2	-3	7	-5	3	4	2	3	-6	-2	4	3	2	3	-4	3	-4
8	-450	0	-7	0	-1	-1	0	0	-1	0	15	1	0	0	0	1	1	-1	0	0	1	1	-1	0	0
9	0	3	2	5	3	-2	-3	4	3	4	2	-3	-5	5	2	4	3	-2	-3	-2	2	3	3	4	2
10	-690	0	-1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	1	0
11	-30	4	1	2	1	-2	9	4	3	2	1	-1	-2	2	-2	4	-4	4	3	2	-4	11	1	4	-4
12	670	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0	-1
13	-110	-1	10	-10	-5	5	9	-1	10	-3	-7	5	10	-1	0	-1	0	-3	1	-1	3	-3	1	6	0
14	150	0	0	-2	-1	-1	0	1	1	-1	-6	1	2	1	0	0	5	1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0
15	330	7	11	-6	-7	7	-7	7	10	7	13	7	6	-10	-7	-1	10	7	-7	7	5	7	-7	7	-7
16	-660	0	0	1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	-130	-8	-5	-2	8	-1	-5	5	0	-8	0	-8	2	1	7	1	0	-11	8	5	1	1	2	-2	0
18	-420	0	0	0	-8	0	0	0	0	-1	0	8	0	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	10	-2	-9	-3	-4	-2	2	9	2	-2	3	4	3	-2	2	9	3	-2	2	-3	2	-2	3	-2	3
20	300	-4	-8	8	4	8	4	8	3	-3	4	-4	-8	-3	3	-3	4	-3	-8	8	-8	8	3	8	-8
IMP +		36	46	23	29	39	47	45	54	34	56	56	38	23	34	34	39	25	38	37	27	46	39	46	5
IMP -		28	42	38	56	11	16	15	2	23	26	29	23	23	19	17	23	31	25	9	24	26	12	11	55

Bd	DATUM	KOREA		THAILAND		HONG KONG		JAPAN OPEN		JAPAN WOMEN		TAJIMA		HIRATA		MORIMURA		DRAM&ALICE		ABE-CHAN		ESPERANZA		GIRASOL	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	-400	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	7	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0
2	-210	1	5	-5	-3	0	0	1	5	-5	5	6	5	1	-2	-5	-1	3	-2	2	-1	1	-3	-5	-6
3	380	-10	5	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1
4	250	9	-9	9	10	0	0	9	8	-8	-9	9	10	9	10	-8	-9	-8	-9	-10	-9	-8	-9	-10	-9
5	-20	-2	2	12	-4	0	0	-2	2	-5	2	-2	2	-2	-4	-2	2	-2	2	4	2	12	2	-2	2
6	100	3	-3	5	12	0	0	0	0	5	-3	0	6	0	0	0	-3	0	0	0	0	0	-3	-6	0
7	-20	6	-3	4	-4	0	0	4	-4	-4	2	3	4	5	-7	-4	-2	-3	-5	-4	-5	2	-3	-3	
8	-450	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	1	0	0	-1	0	0
9	0	-3	-4	3	2	0	0	-2	3	3	2	-3	3	3	-4	3	2	-2	2	4	-3	-3	3	-3	3
10	-690	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	-1
11	-30	4	-4	4	9	0	0	-1	-4	-3	-4	2	2	-9	-4	-9	2	4	-2	4	9	-9	7	-2	-2
12	670	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
13	-110	0	1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	3	-9	1	7	-6	-9	-5	-3	1	6	-7	0	-7	-1	9
14	150	-5	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	3	0	-1	6	0	0	0	0	1	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-6
15	330	-10	1	-1	-5	0	0	-11	10	7	-7	5	10	7	-5	7	-7	-5	-7	5	-7	5	-7	-10	-5
16	-660	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	-130	0	-1	5	8	0	0	0	-5	-8	11	1	-5	0	0	5	1	-1	-5	0	0	5	-5	5	-1
18	-420	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	1	-1	-11	0	0	0	0	11	1	-1	-6	-1	1
19	10	-3	-9	-2	2	0	0	-2	2	-2	2	-3	3	-2	-4	-2	2	-2	3	4	2	9	3	-3	3
20	300	-4	3	-4	4	0	0	-9	4	8	3	8	4	-3	-8	-4	-8	8	-8	8	3	-3	-8	-4	-8
IMP +		23	17	43	51	0	0	26	39	25	31	42	50	32	15	16	11	24	9	50	17	33	18	6	18
IMP -		39	34	14	17	0	0	29	14	38	25	18	6	17	50	47	39	27	37	15	32	32	50	50	42

# DATUM

## Qualifying Round 2

Bd	DATUM	HANA		GRYFFINDOR		SKOTII		SPICE		PS-JACK		FAIRY TALE		CONDOR		OZAWA		NAITO		SWAN		MERRY	QUEEN	SUN	FLOWER
		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	N-S	E-W
1	-400	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	6	0	0	-1	0	0	-10	0	1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
2	-210	6	5	0	0	2	0	-5	-6	7	-6	6	5	-5	-1	-5	5	-5	-1	-5	-7	3	5	6	5
3	380	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	-1	-10	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-10	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	2	-1
4	250	9	-9	0	0	-8	10	9	-9	9	8	-8	-9	-8	-9	9	-9	-11	8	-10	8	-10	-9	-11	-9
5	-20	12	2	0	0	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-12	-2	2	-2	2	4	-12	4	2
6	100	3	-3	0	0	0	-3	0	-3	3	-3	3	0	0	3	0	0	-3	-6	0	-12	-5	-12	-3	
7	-20	4	-3	0	0	3	-3	4	-3	-5	2	-2	-4	4	-4	-5	7	-2	3	3	-3	4	-4	-5	13
8	-450	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
9	0	-2	-4	0	0	-2	2	-3	-3	-2	-7	-2	-5	-3	2	-2	-3	-3	-4	-4	2	-2	-3	-3	-4
10	-690	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-1	1	0	0	-2	-1	0	-1	0	2	0
11	-30	4	-4	0	0	4	4	4	9	-3	9	2	-2	4	1	-1	-4	-3	-4	4	2	-9	-4	12	3
12	670	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	-13	1
13	-110	0	-6	0	0	-1	1	-1	-7	7	0	0	1	0	1	-10	1	-10	1	-1	0	0	1	6	1
14	150	0	0	0	0	-1	1	-2	1	0	0	0	-1	-3	1	0	0	-1	-1	1	0	0	1	0	-7
15	330	7	-7	0	0	-10	-7	10	13	-15	6	7	10	-10	11	-11	-7	-10	-7	-5	1	5	1	7	-5
16	-660	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1
17	-130	0	2	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	1	0	-7	-1	5	0	5	8	0	-5	5	-10	-8	-5	2	-1
18	-420	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	-1	1	-5	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	-6
19	10	-3	2	0	0	-2	-9	-2	3	-3	-9	-2	2	-2	2	9	2	-2	-9	-2	2	-2	2	9	3
20	300	8	-8	0	0	-3	4	-3	4	-3	5	-3	3	-4	9	8	4	-3	-8	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4
IMP +		55	11	0	0	12	27	29	39	28	34	19	23	14	29	42	28	2	15	14	22	17	14	50	46
IMP -		5	46	0	0	30	23	20	34	45	27	34	23	39	26	46	36	54	45	40	21	51	43	48	37

Bd	DATUM	FRIENDS		XYZ		SOLARIS		TEAM YASU		HAYASHI		CHARADE		MY-BRIDGE		49ERS		KINKI		COSMOS		JAPAN		YOUT	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	-400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-6	1	0	0	-2	-7	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	-210	0	-2	6	-7	-5	6	-6	5	6	5	7	5	-3	-2	3	-1	-5	-7	0	0	-5	-6		
3	380	1	-1	1	10	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-10	-1	0	0	1	-2		
4	250	-10	8	-8	-9	-8	8	-8	8	9	-9	-8	10	9	-10	9	8	-8	8	0	0	9	11		
5	-20	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-3	2	-2	-12	-2	-4	0	0	-2	-4		
6	100	3	0	3	-3	3	12	-12	-3	3	0	0	6	3	0	3	0	0	12	0	0	3	12		
7	-20	3	-3	-2	5	-2	-3	3	2	3	-4	3	-3	-7	3	-2	5	4	-3	0	0	-13	5		
8	-450	-1	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-15	0	1	0	1	-1	0	0	-14	0		
9	0	-2	2	7	2	-2	-4	4	2	3	3	-2	4	-2	-4	-3	3	-3	-3	0	0	4	3		
10	-690	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-2		
11	-30	-4	-4	-9	3	4	-4	4	-4	-9	-4	-2	-4	-1	-2	-7	9	-1	-11	0	0	-3	-12		
12	670	0	0	-1	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	0	0	-1	13		
13	-110	-1	1	0	-7	0	1	-1	0	7	1	0	1	7	3	7	0	-1	3	0	0	-1	-6		
14	150	-1	1	0	0	0	-1	1	0	-1	2	0	-1	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0		
15	330	7	10	-6	15	13	10	-10	-13	-13	-10	-1	5	-13	-7	7	-5	7	-7	0	0	5	-7		
16	-660	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	1	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		
17	-130	0	1	0	-1	1	1	-1	-1	1	0	10	-5	0	8	5	-5	-2	-1	0	0	1	-2		
18	-420	-1	-1	-1	1	0	-3	3	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	6	0		
19	10	9	2	9	3	-3	2	-2	3	-3	2	-2	2	-3	2	-3	-9	-3	2	0	0	-3	-9		
20	300	-4	3	-5	3	-9	4	-4	9	-4	3	-4	4	-4	3	8	3	-3	-8	0	0	-4	4		
IMP +		23	30	27	45	23	47	17	31	34	20	21	40	26	23	50	32	12	26	0	0	37	48		
IMP -		27	12	34	28	31	17	47	23	39	29	22	14	56	34	18	33	39	46	0	0	46	50		

# DATUM

## Qualifying Round 3

Bd	DATUM	CHINA WOMEN		CANADA		POLAND		USA/EGYPT		NETHERLAND		USA		CH. TAIPEI		INDONESIA		ENG/NOR		ISRAEL		RUSSIA WOM		RUS/POL	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	-300	-5	12	-3	-8	5	3	-3	-5	-4	12	-4	12	8	-8	-4	5	-4	5	-4	-8	-4	-8	8	3
2	420	5	11	5	-6	5	7	-7	-5	6	-5	-7	7	5	-5	5	-5	5	-6	5	7	5	11	6	-5
3	440	1	0	1	0	1	10	-10	-1	1	0	-7	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	1	0	-1
4	-630	0	0	0	0	-1	-12	12	1	-1	0	-1	1	0	1	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	-13	0	0
5	120	-2	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-6	1	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	-9	-1	0	0
6	320	2	-2	2	3	2	-2	2	-2	2	6	2	-2	2	9	2	-2	2	-2	2	5	-5	6	-3	-2
7	-280	-9	-9	9	-2	9	6	-6	-9	2	6	9	-9	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-6	6	-8	6	2	-9
8	430	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	2	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	170	-7	-1	0	0	6	0	0	-6	1	0	8	2	1	0	6	0	-1	7	0	0	-1	-4	0	0
10	40	2	-2	2	8	-4	-2	2	4	2	4	2	-6	-4	-2	-6	-4	-6	-2	-4	4	-6	-2	-8	-2
11	20	2	4	1	-2	3	-1	1	-3	-2	-5	-4	-4	-3	-4	7	-3	1	-1	2	4	-4	4	2	-1
12	-50	5	6	4	-3	5	2	-2	-5	-2	6	-4	6	4	2	5	6	-2	2	-4	-4	-2	4	3	-4
13	20	2	12	5	-7	5	-2	2	-5	5	-2	-12	12	-12	-2	7	16	5	-5	5	12	5	-5	7	-5
14	150	0	0	-2	0	1	1	-1	-1	1	0	-6	-1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	-6	0	0	2
15	-10	-3	3	-3	-3	-3	-3	3	3	-3	2	-3	2	3	3	-4	-2	-4	3	-2	3	-3	3	3	3
16	-220	11	-9	-9	9	-9	-2	2	9	8	2	12	-2	-10	9	-9	-2	-2	9	-2	-3	-2	-5	-9	9
17	50	-4	-4	2	0	0	3	-3	0	0	-3	0	-1	1	0	-4	3	2	0	0	-2	-3	0	0	-2
18	-180	0	-3	0	6	1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	1	6	7	0	1	-1	1	0	0	-1	2	0	-6	0
19	440	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	1	-1	0	0	0
20	-410	-6	-11	-6	-12	12	6	-6	-12	-6	14	-6	14	11	-11	-6	6	12	-12	-7	14	-6	6	12	6
IMP +		31	48	31	26	55	40	24	17	28	54	34	64	47	24	40	36	32	23	19	53	16	38	43	23
IMP -		36	42	23	43	17	24	40	55	19	16	61	26	29	36	32	25	17	35	28	21	57	41	26	31

Bd	DATUM	KOREA		THAILAND		HONG KONG		JAPAN OPEN		JAPAN WOMEN		TAJIMA		HIRATA		MORIMURA		DRAM&ALICE		ABE-CHAN		ESPERANZA		GIRASOL	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	-300	-4	4	-5	4	8	3	8	-8	-4	3	-12	4	8	-8	8	-8	-12	4	-3	4	-12	-11	8	-8
2	420	6	7	5	-5	-6	7	5	-6	-6	6	-7	7	5	-5	6	-5	5	-6	-6	6	-6	-5	5	-5
3	440	-1	-1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	7	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	1	-1
4	-630	-1	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	-1	0
5	120	0	-1	0	2	0	0	-2	0	-2	0	-1	6	1	0	0	2	-2	0	0	2	0	2	1	0
6	320	-5	4	2	-2	-5	5	2	5	3	-2	2	-2	-9	-2	-5	-2	-6	-2	2	-3	-4	-2	2	-2
7	-280	9	-9	2	-2	-8	8	2	-2	2	6	9	-9	2	-2	2	-2	-6	-2	-6	-2	9	6	2	-2
8	430	0	1	0	0	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	1	-2	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	170	0	1	0	-6	-6	2	0	-6	0	7	-2	-8	0	-1	6	0	0	-1	-7	0	0	1	-1	0
10	40	2	-2	4	6	2	-2	2	-2	-4	4	6	-2	2	4	2	-2	-4	-2	-4	4	2	-2	3	4
11	20	3	-1	3	-7	2	-1	-4	-1	-4	-1	4	4	3	1	4	5	2	1	4	4	-2	4	4	-1
12	-50	5	-5	-6	-5	-2	-4	4	-4	-4	4	-6	4	-2	-4	4	-4	-6	2	-4	4	4	8	5	-4
13	20	5	-2	-16	-7	5	12	5	-5	2	-5	-12	12	2	12	5	-5	2	-5	5	-2	-12	-7	7	-2
14	150	-1	0	0	-2	7	0	0	0	1	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	4	0	-2	-1
15	-10	-2	-3	4	-3	-3	5	3	3	-3	-3	-2	3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-2	3	3	3	-3	2	-2	3
16	-220	9	-8	2	9	-9	-9	-9	9	-2	9	2	-12	-9	10	-9	9	-2	-8	-9	2	-9	-3	8	-2
17	50	2	-2	-3	4	0	3	2	4	2	-2	1	0	0	-1	-4	-2	3	0	2	-2	0	0	2	0
18	-180	0	-1	1	-1	1	1	-6	-1	-6	0	-6	-1	0	-7	1	6	1	1	0	6	1	6	1	0
19	440	0	-1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	0
20	-410	-14	-12	-6	6	11	7	-6	-11	11	-11	-14	6	11	-11	11	6	-14	6	11	-11	11	5	-6	6
IMP +		41	17	25	32	37	54	34	21	22	40	26	61	36	29	47	28	16	19	24	36	32	35	49	13
IMP -		28	49	36	40	40	17	28	47	36	24	64	34	24	47	21	34	54	28	40	22	48	32	13	28

# DATUM

## Qualifying Round 3

Bd	DATUM	HANA		GRYFFINDOR		SKOTII		SPICE		PS-JACK		FAIRY TALE		CONDOR		OZAWA		NAITO		SWAN		MERRY QUEEN		SUN FLOWER	
		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	N-S	E-W
1	-300	-5	4	8	4	-3	-8	8	4	0	0	11	-8	8	-8	-4	4	-4	0	0	0	8	3	11	12
2	420	6	-5	-7	-5	6	11	-11	-5	0	0	-6	8	5	-5	5	-5	6	-5	0	0	-11	6	5	6
3	440	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	6	1	-1	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	1	0	1	0
4	-630	0	-1	0	1	-1	1	13	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	11	0	-1	-1
5	120	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	0	0	1	2	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	-2	0
6	320	2	-2	-5	-2	2	-2	-6	5	0	0	2	6	2	-2	2	5	2	-2	0	0	-5	-2	2	4
7	-280	2	-2	-6	6	2	6	-6	8	0	0	5	-2	2	-2	-6	8	-9	-2	0	0	-8	6	-6	-9
8	430	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	170	-7	1	0	0	-1	-1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	6	2	0	0	0	1	-1	0
10	40	2	6	-4	4	3	-2	2	6	0	0	-4	-4	-4	-3	2	4	2	-4	0	0	1	4	2	-2
11	20	1	-1	-4	-2	1	4	-4	4	0	0	1	-3	1	-4	-4	-1	3	-2	0	0	-4	4	-4	2
12	-50	-2	2	4	4	-2	-5	-4	2	0	0	5	-4	4	-5	-8	6	-8	4	0	0	4	-4	-8	-4
13	20	5	-5	-12	-5	5	-5	5	-5	0	0	-12	-2	2	-7	5	-5	-12	12	0	0	10	-2	7	12
14	150	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	-1	7	0	0	0	1	2	0	-4
15	-10	4	2	2	-3	3	-3	3	-3	0	0	3	2	-3	2	-3	3	4	-3	0	0	3	2	-2	3
16	-220	-9	2	3	2	3	-11	5	2	0	0	-9	2	2	-8	8	-8	-9	-3	0	0	8	-8	3	9
17	50	0	-2	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	-2	0	-6	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
18	-180	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	1	-2	0	-1	1	1	2	-6	0	0	1	1	-6	-1
19	440	0	0	-1	-1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	1	1	0
20	-410	12	-12	-14	7	-5	5	-6	6	0	0	11	7	-6	6	-5	5	-7	-12	0	0	12	6	-5	-11
IMP +		35	17	21	28	28	28	41	57	0	0	43	37	28	13	24	38	33	19	0	0	61	41	32	48
IMP -		23	32	53	19	12	38	38	16	0	0	31	25	13	49	31	27	49	40	0	0	29	16	35	32

Bd	DATUM	FRIENDS		XYZ		SOLARIS		TEAM YASU		HAYASHI		CHARADE		MY-BRIDGE		49ERS		KINKI		COSMOS		JAPAN YOUT	
		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	-300	-4	4	8	3	-3	-8	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	0	4	-12	5	-3	-8	8	-11	0	0
2	420	-7	-6	-11	-6	-7	6	-11	-5	5	-5	5	11	5	-6	-11	-5	-6	11	-8	6	0	0
3	440	1	1	1	0	0	-1	0	1	1	0	-1	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-6	0	0	0
4	-630	1	1	-1	1	0	1	1	1	-1	0	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	-11	-2	0	0	0
5	120	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	-1	-1	-2	-1	0	0
6	320	-4	5	2	-2	-5	5	2	-4	-5	-2	4	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	5	-6	-2	0	0
7	-280	9	-9	-6	-2	-8	8	2	-2	-8	6	2	-2	2	9	9	9	-6	8	2	-5	0	0
8	430	-1	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	170	-1	0	1	1	-2	6	0	1	-1	0	-1	0	-2	-6	1	7	-1	0	0	0	0	0
10	40	2	-2	2	-3	2	-2	2	-2	-4	-2	2	-2	4	-2	2	-2	-4	-1	4	4	0	0
11	20	1	-3	-4	-1	1	-2	2	4	1	4	-4	-2	2	-3	-4	-2	-4	4	3	-1	0	0
12	-50	5	-5	5	2	4	2	-2	-4	-6	8	4	2	-4	8	-6	-5	4	-4	4	-5	0	0
13	20	2	-5	5	-5	-12	-5	9	-5	5	-5	5	-9	-12	12	-12	-2	2	-10	2	12	0	0
14	150	0	1	0	-1	0	-7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-7	0	0	-2	-1	-2	-1	0	0
15	-10	3	2	3	-3	-5	3	-2	-4	-3	3	4	2	3	-4	-3	3	-2	-3	-2	-3	0	0
16	-220	8	-9	11	-3	9	9	3	-5	8	-8	5	-3	3	9	9	-11	8	-8	-2	9	0	0
17	50	2	-2	0	-1	-3	0	2	0	6	0	0	-2	0	0	4	4	-4	0	0	-2	0	0
18	-180	1	0	0	0	-1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	-1	1	6	-2	3	0	-1	-1	2	-1	0	0
19	440	1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0
20	-410	12	14	-5	5	-7	-11	-5	7	-5	5	-7	5	12	7	11	6	-6	-12	-7	-11	0	0
IMP +		49	28	38	12	17	40	23	20	27	31	32	25	40	49	42	36	16	29	25	31	0	0
IMP -		17	41	28	28	54	37	25	32	38	24	20	23	19	33	48	31	41	61	37	43	0	0