



NEC Bridge Festival

Thursday, February 10, 2005
Bulletin Number 3

Editors: Eric Kokish, Richard Colker

Poland Increases Its Lead in 2005 NEC Cup

Poland (Piotr Gawrys, Dariusz Kowalski, Piotr Bizon, Michal Kwiecien, Radoslaw Kielbasinski, NPC) scored only(!) 62 VPs yesterday to add to their 74 from the day before, but it should surprise no one that that was enough to keep them comfortably in first place, 18 VPs ahead of second-place USA (Steve Landen, Drew Casen, Venkatrao Koneru, Larry Mori) with 118 VPs. In third place, just 5 VPs behind USA, is Japan-Hana with 113, followed by Japan Open, Russia/Poland and Israel with 110 VPs each. The complete rankings are below; the individual results for matches 4-6 are on page 4.

NEC Cup: Standings After Day Two (Six Matches)

Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs
1	POLAND	136	17	GRYFFINDOR	94	33	COSMOS	83
2	USA	118	18	ENGLAND/NORWAY	93	34	ESPERANZA	78
3	HANA	113	19	CHINESE TAIPEI	92	35	PS-JACK	76
4/6	JAPAN OPEN	110	20/21	GIRASOL	91	36	KOREA	75
4/6	RUSSIA/POLAND	110	20/21	CHINA WOMEN	91	37	49ERS	74
4/6	ISRAEL	110	22/23	DRAMI & ALICE	90	38/40	HAYASHI	73
7/8	MORIMURA	105	22/23	MERRY QUEENS	90	38/40	RUSSIA WOMEN	73
7/8	USA/EGYPT	105	24/25	SUN FLOWERS	89	38/40	NAITO	73
9/12	TAJIMA	101	24/25	HIRATA	89	41/42	CONDOR	72
9/12	ABE-CHAN	101	26	CHARADE	88	41/42	KINKI	72
9/12	INDONESIA	101	27/28	THAILAND	87	43	HONG KONG	71
9/12	SKOTII	101	27/28	OZAWA	87	44/45	TEAM YASU	67
13	NETHERLANDS	100	29	FAIRY TALE	86	44/45	SOLARIS	67
14	JAPAN WOMEN	99	30	XYZ	85	46	FRIENDS	65
15/16	CANADA	97	31/32	MY-BRIDGE	84	47	SWAN	56
15/16	SPICE	97	31/32	JAPAN YOUTH	84			

Remember, today's lunch break is not until AFTER the last (8th) Swiss match.

NEC Cup Bridge Festival on the3 Web

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

Watch live free Vugraph matches at Bridge Base Online: <http://www.bridgebase.com/online/vg.html>
(Download the free BBO software at 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 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.

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

Systems No HUM 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 The team finishing 1st in the Swiss may choose their opponent from the teams finishing 4th-8th. The team finishing 2nd will have their choice of the remaining teams from the 4th-8th group. And so on.

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

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 Umezaki, 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, Sachiho 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

Wednesday's Match Results

Match 4

NETHERLANDS (41)	17-13	ISRAEL (32)
POLAND (40)	22-8	USA (6)
SPICE (31)	11-19	TAJIMA (52)
ENGLAND/NORWAY (41)	19-11	ABE-CHAN (23)
HANA (69)	24-6	JAPAN WOMEN (27)
USA/EGYPT (50)	21-9	CHINA WOMEN (20)
INDONESIA (69)	25-5	GRYFFINDOR (21)
49ERS (16)	4-25	RUSSIA/POLAND (70)
HONG KONG (8)	0-25	MORIMURA (90)
CANADA (59)	19-11	THAILAND (41)
CHINESE TAIPEI (39)	12-18	OZAWA (52)
HAYASHI (19)	5-25	HIRATA (70)
GIRASOL (71)	23-7	MY-BRIDGE (34)
CHARADE (13)	6-24	JAPAN OPEN (55)
SUN FLOWERS (44)	21-9	DRAM1 & ALICE (16)
FRIENDS (54)	18-12	FAIRY TALE (41)
ESPERANZA (50)	16-14	RUSSIA WOMEN (44)
TEAM YASU (30)	16-14	MERRY QUEENS (22)
KOREA (58)	23-7	SOLARIS (21)
SKOTII (64)	20-10	CONDOR (40)
XYZ (54)	24-6	COSMOS (12)
KINKI (62)	24-6	NAITO (19)
Three-way		
PS-JACK (56)	21-9	SWAN (28)
SWAN (35)	14-16	JAPAN YOUTH (40)
JAPAN YOUTH (58)	20-10	PS-JACK (32)

Match 5

RUSSIA/POLAND (51)	21-9	ENGLAND/NORWAY (21)
ISRAEL (17)	7-23	POLAND (56)
NETHERLANDS (49)	16-14	INDONESIA (46)
TAJIMA (34)	14-16	HANA (37)
MORIMURA (26)	10-20	USA (49)
HIRATA (47)	16-14	USA/EGYPT (39)
SPICE (56)	20-10	CANADA (33)
GIRASOL (33)	11-19	JAPAN OPEN (54)
ABE-CHAN (71)	17-13	OZAWA (60)
SUN FLOWERS (32)	12-18	CHINA WOMEN (45)
JAPAN WOMEN (56)	21-9	KOREA (29)
THAILAND (51)	16-14	XYZ (45)
FRIENDS (24)	2-25	CHINESE TAIPEI (92)
GRYFFINDOR (17)	15-15	ESPERANZA (15)
49ERS (19)	5-25	SKOTII (67)
FAIRY TALE (87)	25-1	TEAM YASU (11)
RUSSIA WOMEN (23)	9-21	MERRY QUEENS (51)
JAPAN YOUTH (59)	16-14	MY-BRIDGE (54)
DRAM1 & ALICE (77)	25-4	HAYASHI (22)
HONG KONG (36)	12-18	CHARADE (52)
PS-JACK (32)	18-12	KINKI (16)
SWAN (51)	9-21	COSMOS (82)

Match 6

RUSSIA/POLAND (41)	13-17	POLAND (52)
USA (61)	24-6	NETHERLANDS (18)
HANA (62)	20-10	INDONESIA (39)
TAJIMA (41)	12-18	USA/EGYPT (54)
ISRAEL (49)	24-9	SPICE (12)
JAPAN OPEN (85)	25-4	HIRATA (26)
MORIMURA (62)	21-9	ENGLAND/NORWAY (32)
ABE-CHAN (48)	20-10	CHINESE TAIPEI (23)
CHINA WOMEN (33)	11-19	JAPAN WOMEN (52)
FAIRY TALE (10)	9-21	SKOTII (40)
OZAWA (42)	10-20	CANADA (65)
DRAM1 & ALICE (33)	16-14	GIRASOL (27)
THAILAND (30)	14-16	SUN FLOWERS (35)
XYZ (29)	13-17	MERRY QUEENS (41)
KOREA (37)	7-23	GRYFFINDOR (75)
ESPERANZA (41)	8-22	CHARADE (73)
RUSSIA WOMEN (31)	12-18	JAPAN YOUTH (45)
MY-BRIDGE (71)	20-10	HONG KONG (46)
PS-JACK (40)	15-15	49ERS (41)
COSMOS (58)	24-6	FRIENDS (16)
TEAM YASU (25)	13-17	KINKI (34)
HAYASHI (59)	20-10	SWAN (33)
Three-way		
CONDOR (53)	19-11	NAITO (35)
NAITO (70)	25-4	SOLARIS (14)
SOLARIS (43)	20-10	CONDOR (19)

The 6th Generali World Masters

by Pietro Campanile

“Bridge is a partnership game.” The self-evident truth of this statement is that it is quite difficult to identify with absolute certainty the strongest player in the game. All too often a pair’s success is the result not only of the sum of their individual skill but also as of partnership chemistry which can unexpectedly raise or lower the quality of their performance.

The question of “Who is the best player?” remains an intriguing one and that is what the Generali World Masters Individual Championship attempts to answer by carefully selecting the top performing players all over the world and inviting them to compete with and against each other using the same convention card, based on a 5-card major, 15-17 NT structure, closely resembling a standard French system.

The 6th edition of this lucrative event has just taken place in the idyllic surroundings of Verona, Italy, from the 8th to the 11th of September. The championship was divided as usual in two sections, both matchpoint scored: the Men’s competition included a field of 52 participants playing two boards with each other for a total of 102 boards over four sessions; the Ladies’ competition included a field of 28, playing three boards with each other for a total of 81 boards over three sessions.

The wealth of talents in both championships was outstanding: in the Men were attending four of the previous winners (Pjotr Gawrys, Jon Baldursson, Paul Chemla and Antonio Sementa) as well as great champions like Alain Levy, Zia Mahmood, Bob Hamman, five out of six members of the new Italian Blue Team (only missing Lauria), Gabriel Chagas, Andrew Robson and many others.

Present in the Ladies, besides four of the previous winners (Maria Erhart, Nicola Smith, Migry Zur Campanile and Benedicte Cronier), were great names like Jill Meyers, Shawn Quinn, Janice Molson, Sabine Auken, Tobi Sokolow, Catherine d’Ovidio, Bep Vriend and many others.

Now let us jump straight into the action:

Bd: 3	♠ 106		
Dlr: South	♥ AJ2		
Vul: E/W	♦ 54		
	♣ Q98632		
♠ K8		♠ 72	
♥ Q10743		♥ 965	
♦ AKQ9		♦ 7632	
♣ J4		♣ AK75	
	♠ AQJ9543		
	♥ K8		
	♦ J108		
	♣ 10		
West	North	East	South
<i>Martens</i>	<i>Zia</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>De Falco</i>
			4♠
All Pass			

This deal is a clear example of how accurate signalling can make a world of difference even in a first-time partnership.

After De Falco bought the contract with his aggressive 4♠ opening, Martens led the ♦A, on which Bocchi played the ♦3, then continued with the ♦K, Bocchi following with the ♦2, as De Falco played the ♦10 and the ♦J. It was easy now for Martens to note that Bocchi had started with an even number of diamonds, very likely four, and he was strongly signaling for a club switch with his ♦3-2 echo. When the Pole complied with his partner’s wishes by playing a club, declarer had to concede one down for a very poor score.

At another table the bidding developed along rather different lines:

West	North	East	South
<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Baldursson</i>
			1♠
2♥	Pass	3♥	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Baldursson opted for a “normal” 1♠ opening and repeated his suit at the three level once the opponents discovered their heart fit. Bompis’s

pass over 4♥ at green vs red, when it seemed highly unlikely that 4♥ could possibly be a make on his cards, meant another difficult decision for Baldursson, who eventually decided to “save” in 4♠

Gitelman led the ♦A and Brogeland played the ♦2, presumably attitude discouraging a diamond continuation. Gitelman did not attempt to cash a second diamond, in order to keep defensive communication, and switched to the ♥10, the suit his partner had supported: an action that could easily have been right if declarer had the ♣K instead of the ♥K.

Baldursson won with the ♥K and immediately finessed the ♥J, discarding his club loser on the ♥A. Declarer eventually gave up a diamond and could not be prevented from ruffing his third diamond in dummy, losing just the ♠K for an unexpected +590 and a 100% score.

Bd: 14	♠ KJ3		
Dlr: East	♥ Q1095		
Vul: None	♦ J874		
	♣ Q9		
	♠ 972	♠ 65	
	♥ AKJ62	♥ 843	
	♦ 92	♦ A1063	
	♣ 1043	♣ AK86	
	♠ AQ1084		
	♥ 7		
	♦ KQ5		
	♣ J752		
West	North	East	South
<i>Mouiel</i>	<i>Zia</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Ferraro</i>
		1♣	1♠
Dbl	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥	Dbl	All Pass	

The lure of +300 meant that Zia did not hesitate to double Mouiel’s 3♥ bid and his decision seemed justified since at a first glance declarer looked like losing two spades, a diamond, a club and two hearts. Zia led his ♠K followed by the ♠J then switched to the ♦8. Declarer ducked the diamond, won by Ferraro with the ♦Q, and ruffed the spade continuation in dummy. After ♦A and a diamond ruffed in hand, he cashed the ♥A and both top clubs before leading the last diamond

from dummy, ruffing it low. Declarer then exited with his low club and Zia was obliged to ruff in and to gift Mouiel with the last two tricks, having to lead from his ♥Q10 into declarer’s ♥KJ. Essentially Mouiel succeeded in not conceding a single useful trick to the Q109x offside! 3♥ doubled making was worth +530 and a well deserved top.

Did you spot the winning defense? West must switch to a club at trick two (the ♣9 is better than the queen). East eventually scores the ♣J and is also able to lead a fourth club to force an early trump trick in the West hand, so the contract is defeated two tricks. Ironically, Zia had a better chance to defeat this hand if he held two small clubs! (If declarer held the ♣Q, a club shift would still set up a club ruff, which is needed to avoid the trump endplay.)

Bd: 11	♠ J1093		
Vul: None	♥ QJ42		
Dlr: South	♦ QJ102		
	♣ 2		
	♠ K874	♠ AQ5	
	♥ 93	♥ AK106	
	♦ 863	♦ 974	
	♣ 7643	♣ KQ5	
	♠ 62		
	♥ 875		
	♦ AK5		
	♣ AJ1098		
West	North	East	South
<i>Sokolow</i>	<i>Midskog</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>D'Ovidio</i>
			1♣
Pass	1♥	1NT	All Pass

1NT was the contract reached at six of the seven tables in play and the lead was the ♣J.

Auken took her ♣K and attempted to get some idea of the distribution by playing the ♠Q at trick two and looking out for helpful count signals. D'Ovidio duly petered with her ♠6 convincing declarer to look elsewhere for her seventh trick. Auken continued with a low diamond from her hand, won by Midskog with her ♦10. Back came another diamond and D'Ovidio cashed her two top cards in the suit before being faced with a tricky choice as to what to lead next. It must

have been tempting to play back a heart, especially since declarer's early spade play could easily mean that a spade return would give away the suit, but after careful analysis D'Ovidio realised that North was marked with 4441 shape (no club return) and therefore declarer had to be 3433 with concentrated heart values to make up the points needed for her 1NT bid and therefore made the correct play of a spade return to the ♠9 and the ♠A. Auken cashed her top hearts and continued with the spades but had to concede one down when the suit did not split for a 70% score to N/S. I think declarer should have made her contract. Instead of cashing her top hearts, she plays a spade to the king first, sees the 4-2 split for sure, and can also assume 4441 shape on her right. The ♥9 is led, and when East splits, declarer ducks. Eventually she will score three heart tricks. This also works when West has the ♥J, and East does not cover the 9. West will win and be endplayed.

At the end of the first session the top five positions were as follows:

1	Jens Auken	DENMARK	64.06%
2	Ishmael Del Monte	AUSTRALIA	59.72%
3	Bob Hamman	USA	59.55%
4	Tor Helness	NORWAY	58.68%
5	Luis Lantaron	SPAIN	58.51%

Thursday the 9th, the second day of competition, saw the start of the Ladies event:

Bd: 4		♠ AJ72	
Dir: West		♥ 5	
Vul: Both		♦ 74	
		♣ Q98752	
♠ Q854		♠ 1063	
♥ 109762		♥ AQ	
♦ J85		♦ AKQ62	
♣ A		♣ KJ10	
		♠ K9	
		♥ KJ843	
		♦ 1093	
		♣ 643	
West	North	East	South
<i>Sokolow</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>	<i>Migry</i>	<i>Osberg</i>
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Dbl	3NT	All Pass

After South led the ♣6 (top from three small, second best from four), declarer must have had that all too familiar sinking feeling when dummy came down and its stiff ♣A meant that the lead value of her ♣KJ10 was basically lost. At most other tables the lead against 3NT would probably come from a major suit and that in all likelihood would supply declarer with her ninth trick.

Migry took the lead perforce in dummy and returned to hand with a high diamond to play a spade up. South went in with her ♠K and exited safely with a diamond, taken by declarer in her hand. A second spade went to the ♠9, ♠Q and the ♠A and von Arnim played back the ♥5 to the ♥Q and Osberg's ♥K, who continued with a heart to declarer now known stiff ♥A.

Declarer could now take stock of the position since the heart return had provided a lot of information to help her guessing the actual layout: Osberg had five hearts and very likely two spades (the ♠9 had to be a true card), probably three clubs (since von Arnim should at least have a six-carder for her aggressive lead directing double on queen empty) and therefore three diamonds, giving von Arnim 4126 shape.

This was the current position with East to play:

♠ J7	
♥ ---	
♦ ---	
♣ Q985	
♠ 85	♠ 10
♥ 1097	♥ ---
♦ J	♦ Q62
♣ ---	♣ KJ
♠ ---	
♥ J84	
♦ 9	
♣ 43	

Backing her analysis, Migry continued with the ♠10 putting the German in an impossible bind: ducking would give declarer her 9th trick, while taking would leave her the choice of exiting towards declarer's club tenace or giving her access to the good spade in dummy. Thus she succeeded in making 3NT after the very club lead which the Editor of the Generali Bulletin had claimed would be fatal to declarer's chances.

It's worth noting that exiting with her last diamond after taking her ♥K would not have helped Osberg much since Migry could now make the hand by cashing her diamonds, squeezing East down to the ♠J and ♣Q9. Then a spade lead would force a club return. 3NT making was worth only 65% as at the other tables South led a heart, while two pairs went overboard in 6♦.

The top five rankings at the end of the session:

1	Tobi Sokolow	USA	62.04%
2	Gloria Ho	TAIPEI	58.33%
3	Benedicte Cronier	FRANCE	56.48%
4	Sabine Auken	GERMANY	54.48%
5	Catherine d'Ovidio	FRANCE	54.17

The Men's second session was also held on Thursday afternoon. The surprise leader, Jens Auken, continued to accumulate good results in the early rounds only to flounder towards the end, holding onto a narrow lead over a tight closing pack headed by Andrew Robson.

Eric Kokish is widely known for his great analytical skills coupled with an impressive technical knowledge. These two characteristics often bring out of him remarkable bidding actions which pinpoint exactly the problems of the hand. Here are two extraordinary examples.

Bd: 18		♠ J1083	
Dlr: East		♥ 4	
Vul: N/S		♦ 52	
		♣ AK8754	
♠ KQ9		♠ A642	
♥ KQ1096		♥ A532	
♦ J1074		♦ K83	
♣ 2		♣ Q6	
		♠ 75	
		♥ J87	
		♦ AQ96	
		♣ J1093	
West	North	East	South
<i>Wolff</i>	<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Kokish</i>
		1♦	Pass
1♥	2♣	2♥	3♥
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

4♥ was the contract reached at most of the tables and 11 times out of 12 the declarers managed to make it, usually after North tried cashing the second top club. Here Eric showed a good value raise in clubs and no qualms in doubling the final contract to protect his likely +130.

Against Wolff, Nystrom also led the ♣A on which Kokish followed with the ♣J, showing a four card raise after his 3♥ bid. The Swedish champion correctly deduced that a trick in spades would not be enough to defeat the game and therefore he played Kokish for a "magic" diamond holding, continuing with the ♦5. Kokish did not take long to cash ♦Q, ♦A and to return a diamond for his partner to ruff. Both players must have felt quite surprised when their defence provided them with a 90% score on the board.

Nystrom's view was exceptionally good since most players would have interpreted the ♣J, coming from club length advertised by the 3♥ bid, as showing four with a suit preference for spades. The Swede's decision might have been easier if Kokish had followed with the ♣10 to ask for a diamond switch. It was suggested later that South bid 3♦ instead of 3♥. This is more descriptive but may have the effect of convincing West not to bid 4♥. Kokish did not want to "tip the hand" to Wolff, so he bid 3♥ and later doubled the final contract to suggest a diamond lead (dummy's first-bid suit) when it was too late for the opponents to do anything about it! This, no doubt, influenced Nystrom to make the diamond shift.

The third session for the Men started off very well for Jens Auken, the provisional leader:

Bd: 1	♠ 93	
Dlr: North	♥ K85	
Vul: None	♦ 72	
	♣ AKQ1084	
♠ AJ72		♠ Q106
♥ 432		♥ AQJ107
♦ A10653		♦ KJ8
♣ 3		♣ 97
	♠ K842	
	♥ 96	
	♦ Q94	
	♣ J652	

West	North	East	South
<i>Kokish</i>	<i>Chemla</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Chagas</i>
	1♣	1♥	1♠
Dbl	2♣	2♦	3♣
3♥	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

Here Eric's choice of a competitive double over 1♠ was meant to suggest diamond values as well as heart tolerance and his 3♥ bid completed the picture he was trying to draw for his partner of a limit raise in hearts with values in the pointed suits. Therefore, he was very well placed for an "action double" in the pass-out position over 4♣, indicating a hand which was happy to play in 4♥ but had enough defense to battle against 4♣. Auken had no reason to move with his balanced hand and left the double in.

The lead was the ♦8, to the ♦4 and Kokish's ♦10. Back came a heart which Chemla covered with the ♥K, hoping against hope that the ♥A was well placed. But Auken won. The Dane cashed a second heart, then continued with ♦K and ♦J, ruffed by declarer who had yet to concede two spades for three down and -500, a huge result for E/W.

A few boards later, Auken found some more help from a rather unexpected quarter:

Bd: 4		♠ Q108	
Dlr: West		♥ 95	
Vul: Both		♦ 875	
		♣ J9874	
		♠ J754	♠ A92
		♥ KQJ7	♥ A64
		♦ Q9	♦ K4
		♣ 652	♣ AKQ103
		♠ K63	
		♥ 10832	
		♦ AJ10632	
		♣ ---	
West	North	East	South
<i>Auken</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Zia</i>
Pass	Pass	2NT	3♦
4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

When Zia decided to step in with 3♦, Auken took

the inferior, but perhaps safer, option to bid 4♦ asking partner to choose a major, an action usually guaranteeing a better fit than the 4-4 he was offering. Yet the normal alternative of doubling for take-out might have been misinterpreted and one of the key factors for success in this competition is never to make a call which might be misunderstood, given the nature of two-board makeshift partnerships.

Anyway, Jansma closed the auction with 4♥ and Zia led the ♦A and the ♦2, a tell-tale suit preference signal. Jansma took his ♦K and drew three rounds of trumps, discovering the 4-2 split. After some thought, declarer drew the last trump, Forrester discarding a club and a diamond (with hindsight a spade would have been best, but that was not at all easy to see as Zia's ♦2 could show the ♣K and no spade values).

A more careful analysis would have made clear to Forrester that a spade pitch was quite safe since when Jansma played the fourth trump he could be placed with an original holding of only three of them, which gives him also three spades and not four (otherwise he would have replied 4♠ to 4♦), therefore Zia had to have started with a 3460 shape with the ♠K or ♠A (otherwise declarer would have had 23 points).

Jansma now had all the clues he needed: South had come up with ten red cards and had asked for a club back, while North had steadfastly hung on to his spades, a sign that spade strength was split between the defenders. This meant that Zia was an overwhelming favorite to have a club void and Jansma correctly guessed the suit, finessing the ♣10 immediately and gathering 11 tricks for a 90% score.

Auken's results were much worse in the second half of the third round and he was eventually overtaken by Robson, Bocchi and Levy.

The ranking at the end of the third session:

1	Andrew Robson	ENGLAND	59.46%
2	Norberto Bocchi	ITALY	55.78%
3	Alain Levy	FRANCE	55.16%
4	Jens Auken	GERMANY	55.00%
5	Bobby Wolff	USA	54.11%

In the Ladies competition, Tobi Sokolow and the surprise of the tournament, Gloria Ho from

Chinese Taipei, stretched their lead thanks to a solid second session, while Benedicte Cronier hung on in pursuit.

Ho's chase for first place was halted by this disaster against Migry and Sabine Auken:

Bd: 19		♠ Q1043	
Dir: South		♥ J1073	
Vul: E/W		♦ J96	
		♣ 32	
		♠ K2	♠ J
		♥ AQ9865	♥ K42
		♦ Q752	♦ A10
		♣ A	♣ K1098764
		♠ A98765	
		♥ ---	
		♦ K843	
		♣ QJ5	
West	North	East	South
<i>Campanile</i>	<i>Lara</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Ho</i>
			1♠
2♥	2♠	3♠	4♠
5♥	Dbl	All Pass	

Lara's 2♠ raise with her meager holding, instead of a pre-emptive 3♠, allowed Auken to better qualify her heart support with a 3♠ cue-bid and, after Ho's 4♠, Migry Zur Campanile had an easier task in bidding on to the five level, despite being red vs green.

5♥ was doubled aggressively by Lara, presumably because of her trump holding, without thinking too much of the likely inference that her partner would draw from the 2♠ bid and the double of 5♥, actions which should indicate rather more working cards in defense than the ♥J10xx she had been dealt.

The Portuguese player led a small spade to her partner's ♠A and Ho, no doubt concerned about dummy's impressive club suit and probably misled by the auction, decided to knock out one of dummy's entries early in rather dramatic fashion by returning the ♦K (the so-called "Merrimac Coup"). That essentially solved all of declarer's problems and 11 tricks were quickly gathered for +850 and a 90% score.

Interestingly enough, declarer can survive even after a passive spade return: win the ♠K pitching a diamond from dummy, diamond to the ♦A, club ruff (she would lose to a trump promotion if she tried to cash the ♣K first), second diamond ruff, ♥K and finally ♣K throwing the last diamond, while North can only ruff with her trump trick.

If East returns a club at trick two, declarer can make her contract by setting up clubs: ruff the ♠K, ruff a club, and lead out four rounds of trumps. So in a way, Ho was right to dislodge that ♦A. Perhaps she had to lead a low diamond at trick two and put declarer to a guess. But then declarer can make it the first way, by ruffing two diamonds and pitching one. Successful defense really required a diamond opening lead, which would have been inspired.

The last session for the Men started in disastrous fashion for the overnight leader, Andrew Robson, who managed only a 10% average on the first six boards, essentially losing almost all of his lead to the pursuing pack and in particular to the Italian star Norberto Bocchi who had been closing fast.

A late pick up in Robson's fortunes seemed to be enough to keep his lead to the end and in fact with one board to go he simply needed to equal Bocchi's score to hold on to the trophy. What did he pick up on that crucial last hand? A zero count of course!

Bd: 26		♠ KJ8	
Dir: East		♥ A86	
Vul: Both		♦ 105	
		♣ AK984	
		♠ 96543	♠ AQ
		♥ J7	♥ KQ92
		♦ AQJ64	♦ K97
		♣ 2	♣ QJ63
		♠ 1072	
		♥ 10543	
		♦ 832	
		♣ 1075	

Sitting South and partnering the Bulgarian Drumev, Robson saw Chemla-Del'Monte as E/W get to the normal contract of 3NT after West had correctly transferred to spades and then invited game with 2NT. Most of the field, including

Bocchi who was also defending the same contract, had conceded 630, losing to North's obvious three tricks.

Robson led the ♥3 to his partner's ace and Drumev had a decision to make: either cash out while he could, knowing that the diamonds and the spades were likely to provide declarer with a lot of tricks, or imaginatively look for the magic ♣Jxx in Robson's hand and play for declarer to misguess the position with ♣Q10x. Unfortunately for Robson, Drumev elected to go for the second option and played back a small club, a switch that allowed declarer to shine by taking his ♣Q and cashing his red-suit winners, thus setting up a show-up squeeze on the Bulgarian who was forced to jettison a top club honor. Finally declarer took a spade finesse and finished with 11 tricks for +460 and a top that cost the Englishman first place and \$4000 US!

It's worth adding that Drumev, feeling desperately sorry for his partner's plight, made a point of apologizing publicly to him during the prize giving ceremony for making the play that

cost him the victory.

The final ranking of the Men:

1	Norberto Bocchi	ITALY	56.68%
2	Andrew Robson	ENGLAND	56.23%
3	Jens Auker	DENMARK	55.28%
4	Antonio Sementa	ITALY	53.82%
5	Herve Mouiel	FRANCE	53.44%

The Ladies event saw the well-deserved victory of Tobi Sokolow who had led throughout the tournament.

The final ranking of the Ladies:

1	Tobi Sokolow	USA	59.67%
2	Benedicte Cronier	FRANCE	58.13%
3	Nicola Smith	ENGLAND	56.58%
4	Gloria Ho	TAIPEI	54.84%
5	Betty Ann Kennedy	USA	54.22%.

Some of the hands described here were first published in the Generali Daily Bulletin.

Images of Our Game



"Well I'll be darned, where in the heck has that ace of spades I had during the auction go to?"



"I think I feel Excedrin headache number 37 coming on."



"The last time I saw a dummy that ugly was in a mental hospital in Vladivostok!"

Round Three: Poland versus USA/Egypt

by Eric Kokish

Two of the teams on everyone's list of favorites to reach the knockout stage of the NEC Cup are Poland (Piotr Bizon/Michal Bizon, Piotr Gawrys/Dariusz Kowalski) and USA/Egypt (Rita Shugart/Andrew Robson, Walid El Ahmady/Tarek Sadek). Their third-round encounter in the Swiss had the potential to change the odds of both teams qualifying in comfort.

Poland exploded from the starting blocks...

Bd: 1	North			
Dlr: North	♠ 10974			
Vul: None	♥ 4			
	♦ QJ743			
	♣ 1054			
West		East		
♠ AQJ		♠ K2		
♥ AQ86		♥ 932		
♦ 109		♦ K2		
♣ KQJ6		♣ A98732		
		South		
		♠ 8653		
		♥ KJ1075		
		♦ A865		
		♣ ---		
Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
<i>Bizon</i>	<i>Robson</i>	<i>Bizon</i>	<i>Shugart</i>	
	Pass	1♣(1)	Pass	
1NT(2)	Pass	2♣(3)	Pass	
2♦(2)	Pass	2♠(4)	Pass	
2NT(2)	Pass	3♣(5)	Pass	
3♥(6)	Pass	3♠(7)	Pass	
4♦(8)	Pass	4NT(9)	Pass	
5♣	All Pass			
(1) 11-21, natural or balanced (2+♣); (2) Game-forcing relay; (3) Unbalanced, natural; (4) Minimum, several possibilities; (5) 6+♣, no shortness; (6) RKCB♣; (7) One key card or four; (8) Asks specific kings; (9) ♥K or two other kings				



Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
	Pass	1♣	1♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	Pass	1♠
Dbl	All Pass		

When Shugart did not enter the auction over 1♣, Bizon initiated a strong relay sequence with his artificial 1NT response, and eventually learned that slam would not be a good contract. It would have been best to play 3NT or 4NT from the East side, but as that was no longer possible, Bizon arranged for his partner to declare 5♣, which was definitely not cold at single dummy. There was no reasonable line leading to defeat this time, however, and Kwiecien was able to discard a diamond on a spade. After a diamond to the king and ace, South continued diamonds. Kwiecien slipped a heart through to the eight for +420.

With East declarer, 6♣ can be made. Declarer discards a heart on a spade and runs his clubs, on the last of which South must discard from three hearts and two diamonds. A diamond discard allows declarer to discard a heart from dummy and play a small diamond to catch the ace. 6♣ was bid and made four times (it failed more often) but at this time we know only that at two of the "winning" tables South led the ♦A.

A sidebar: in Israel vs Gryffindor, Yoko Nehoni got the lead of the ♦4 against her 3NT. A lesser declarer would have played the ♦K from dummy and conceded -50. Nehoni, after very considerable thought, played low from dummy and made five.

At the other table, El Ahmady came out hunting for heads, identities not quite certain. It would appear that his pass of 1♥ was forcing, for Sadek's double would be difficult to swallow otherwise. Gawrys judged well to run from 1♥ doubled and the eight-card spade fit was located in efficient fashion. It takes considerable moxie to defend 1♠ doubled with only five combined trumps when your side might have an easy slam,

but Walid is not a man short on courage. He led a high club and Kowalski ruffed to play $\diamond A$, diamond. The $\heartsuit 9$ was covered by the jack and queen, and El Ahmady switched to the $\spadesuit Q$. When that held, he played the $\spadesuit A$, dropping the king, and the $\spadesuit J$, then cashed two club tricks, but Gawrys had the rest for one down, -100. 8 IMPs to Poland.

Bd: 2		North	
Dir: East		♠ 82	
Vul: N/S		♥ AK8532	
		♦ Q7	
		♣ KQ4	
West		East	
♠ J97		♠ A6543	
♥ 76		♥ J94	
♦ AK963		♦ J	
♣ 1086		♣ J752	
		South	
		♠ KQ10	
		♥ Q10	
		♦ 108542	
		♣ A93	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Bizon	Shugart
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	Dbl(1)	Pass
1NT	2♥	2♠	3♥
All Pass			
(1) At least four spades			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Against 3 \heartsuit the defense started with three rounds of diamonds. Robson elected to ruff with the $\heartsuit 8$, catering to jack-nine-doubleton or tripleton in West; +140.

The stakes were higher at the other table, but after the lead of the $\diamond J$ to the king and North's queen, El Ahmady switched to the $\clubsuit 6$. Gawrys won and drew trumps for +620 and 10 IMPs to Poland, 18-0. Had West played three rounds of

diamonds, I'm sure that Gawrys would have ruffed with the ace to lead a trump to the ten to make his contract, so the swing was really in the bidding, Shugart's conservative approach working badly this time.

Bd: 3		North	
Dir: South		$\spadesuit AQ10$	
Vul: E/W		$\heartsuit 84$	
		$\diamond KQ1062$	
		$\clubsuit AK6$	
West		East	
$\spadesuit J652$		$\spadesuit 83$	
$\heartsuit J62$		$\heartsuit K73$	
$\diamond A987$		$\diamond J4$	
$\clubsuit 93$		$\clubsuit QJ10842$	
		South	
		$\spadesuit K974$	
		$\heartsuit AQ1095$	
		$\diamond 53$	
		$\clubsuit 75$	

Robson and Gawrys declared 3NT as North after South showed five hearts and four spades. Both ducked the opening lead of the $\clubsuit Q$ and won the club continuation. Gawrys played on hearts and eventually came to 11 tricks where he might have been held to 10, +460.

Robson got much more involved in the play. At trick three he advanced the $\diamond K$, which held. Then he crossed to the $\spadesuit K$ to lead a diamond to the ten and jack. Kwiecien, with no future in clubs, played a second spade. Robson won and continued diamonds, but Bizon could win and drive out the $\spadesuit Q$. When he won the fourth round of diamonds (Robson cashed the $\clubsuit K$ first), he had a spade to cash before having to lead around to dummy's $\heartsuit AQ$. One down, -50, and 11 IMPs to Poland, ahead 29-0 after only three deals.

USA/Egypt stopped the bleeding on the next deal, albeit with a little help from their friends...



Bd: 4		North	
Dir: West		♠ AJ5	
Vul: Both		♥ J87	
		♦ J987	
		♣ 986	
West		East	
♠ K963		♠ 82	
♥ Q5		♥ A642	
♦ 53		♦ AKQ2	
♣ KQ1073		♣ AJ4	
		South	
		♠ Q1074	
		♥ K1093	
		♦ 1064	
		♣ 52	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
Pass	Pass	1♣(1)	Pass
1♥(2)	Pass	1NT(3)	Pass
2♣(4)	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT(5)	Pass	3NT(6)	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Dbl	Pass(7)	Pass
4NT	All Pass		
(1) 11-21, natural or bal.; (2) 4+♠; (3) 18-20 bal.; (4) Puppet to 2♦; (5) FG, waiting; (6) Regressive; (7) No ♠A or ♠Q			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Sadek, in 3NT, got a low heart lead from Kowalski. He won the jack and took his winners, North discarding a heart and a spade on the way. Sadek exited with his losing diamond and Gawrys had to give dummy the ♠K for +460.

After Kwiecien's 1♣ opening, Bizon tried a bit harder to reach 6♣, and in the process gave Robson the opportunity (hardly obvious, however) to make a lead directing double of 4♠. That got Shugart off to the effective lead of the ♠4, ducked to the jack. Robson switched to the ♦7, which Kwiecien took with the ace to lead the

♠8, Shugart covering with the ten. Kwiecien was now in a position to get home by ducking in dummy and later leading low a spade to catch the ace, but he covered with the king. Robson won and played a heart and there was no way for Kwiecien to make his contract. In practice, he ducked; Shugart won the ♥K and cashed the ♠Q.

Bd: 6		North	
Dir: East		♠ AQ8	
Vul: E/W		♥ 842	
		♦ A75	
		♣ K642	
West		East	
♠ J65		♠ 109432	
♥ J1093		♥ AKQ6	
♦ J862		♦ K104	
♣ Q10		♣ 3	
		South	
		♠ K7	
		♥ 75	
		♦ Q93	
		♣ AJ9875	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
		1♠	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
		1♠	2♣
Pass	2♠	Dbl(1)	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
(1) Don't lead spades			

With hearts four-four, N/S +400 was a flat board. Both N/S pairs could dare to hope for a positive swing, but in truth, it's unrealistic to reach 5♣ and go down unless hearts become a more obvious concern. Canape systems might just do that, with East opening 1♥ and West raising, obstructively, to 2♥.



Bd: 7		North	
Dir: South		♠ 96	
Vul: Both		♥ J10	
		♦ QJ107	
		♣ QJ965	
West		East	
♠ 103		♠ Q	
♥ AQ643		♥ K985	
♦ A864		♦ K532	
♣ A8		♣ K743	
		South	
		♠ AKJ87542	
		♥ 72	
		♦ 9	
		♣ 102	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
			4♠
Dbl All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
			4♠
Dbl	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

West is perhaps closer to a penalty double than a takeout double of 4♠, but really has neither. Perhaps that is why so many Wests passed in this situation and defended 4♠ undoubled for +200. As it happens, E/W can make 5♥ (North is squeezed in the minors after declarer concedes a diamond) but not 5♦ (North has two sure trump tricks), so if West doubles for cooperative takeout and East takes out to 4NT—certainly a likely scenario—West will reply in diamonds, as East could easily have both minors, and E/W will go minus in 5♦ or 6♦. El Ahmady/Sadek avoided the “diamonds” trap but got a level too high in their best strain for one down, –100. Meanwhile, Bizon/Kwiecien achieved a great result when Kwiecien passed his partner’s double—4♠ doubled was down 500, and Poland was back in business with a 12-IMP gain, 41-13.



Bd: 9		North	
Dir: North		♠ KQ32	
Vul: E/W		♥ J1042	
		♦ Q	
		♣ A863	
West		East	
♠ A54		♠ 10	
♥ Q7		♥ 9863	
♦ K7653		♦ AJ98	
♣ KQ7		♣ J1052	
		South	
		♠ J9876	
		♥ AK5	
		♦ 1042	
		♣ 94	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
	1♣(1)	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	
(1) 2+♣			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣(1)	Pass	2♠(2)
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
(1) Drury-Fit; (2) No game interest			

In 2♠, after three rounds of trumps, Shugart played the ♥AK for convenience and made four, +170.

In 4♠, with one round of diamonds among the three rounds of trumps, Sadek discarded the ♥6, then the ♦9. When he followed with the ♥8 when Kowalski led *towards* his ace, it seemed clear that East had not started with queen-fourth or fifth of hearts, so Kowalski also dropped the ♥Q doubleton offside. Here, however, the reward was much higher, and +420 gave Poland another 6 IMPs, 48-13.



Bd: 10		North	
Dir: East		♠ 104	
Vul: Both		♥ AJ1087	
		♦ K	
		♣ K8643	
West		East	
♠ K83		♠ J52	
♥ Q964		♥ K532	
♦ Q873		♦ A106	
♣ AJ		♣ 1097	
		South	
		♠ AQ976	
		♥ ---	
		♦ J9542	
		♣ Q52	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
		Pass	Pass
1♣(1)	1♥	1♠(2)	Pass
1NT	2♣	All Pass	
(1) 11-21, natural or bal.; (2) Values, < 4♠			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
		Pass	2♠(1)
All Pass			
(1) 6-11, 5+♠/5+m			

It looks as if Kowalski had a shot at making 2♠ on a low trump lead to the jack and queen, but when he played the ♣Q to the ace at trick two, and played the jack on El Ahmady's heart switch, there was still a lot of work to be done. He ruffed away Sadek's ♥K and led a diamond to the king and ace, ducked the trump return to the king, and had to deal with the ♣J. He elected to win and concede a club, leaving the ♥A in dummy as a potential entry. Sadek exited with a trump and there was no way home now for Kowalski. When he exited with the ♦J, he ensured that E/W could take only one more diamond trick on this layout and so he got out for one down, -100.

In 2♣, Robson received the lead of the ♣10, which he ducked to West's ace. The ♣J ran to dummy, and a diamond went to the king and

ace, Kwiecien clearing trumps. The ♠10 was covered by the jack and queen, and Bizon had to withhold his king to kill the suit. Robson ruffed a diamond, went to the ♠A, and conceded a spade to Bizon, discarding a heart. When West tried to get off play with the ♦Q, Robson discarded another heart, so the defenders had to play on hearts, and Robson made two heart tricks to land his contract, +90. 5 IMPs to USA/Egypt, 18-48.

Bd: 11		North	
Dir: South		♠ AJ852	
Vul: None		♥ AQ76	
		♦ Q62	
		♣ Q	
West		East	
♠ KQ6		♠ 93	
♥ 9543		♥ K102	
♦ A104		♦ K975	
♣ K86		♣ A432	
		South	
		♠ 1074	
		♥ J8	
		♦ J83	
		♣ J10975	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
			Pass
1♣(1)	1♠	Dbl	Pass
2♥	All Pass		
(1) 11-21, natural or bal.			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
			Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
1NT	2♥	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Bizon's 2♥ was an ugly little contract that went one down after Robson's imaginative lead of the ♠2, -50.

Gawrys' 2♠ was hardly secure either, and required plenty of play. Sadek's diamond lead was a good start for declarer's diamond winner,

but any lead would have been bad for the defense. El Ahmady won the $\diamond A$ and switched to the $\clubsuit 6$ to the queen and ace, a second club demolished the king and Gawrys continued with the $\diamond Q$, which held, and another diamond to the king. Sadek exited with a club, giving declarer one heart discard and access to another club winner, which El Ahmady ruffed with the $\spadesuit K$. Gawrys over-ruffed and led a trump to the ten and queen. El Ahmady switched to a heart but Gawrys won the ace, drew trumps, and lost a heart for +110. 2 IMPs to Poland, 50-18.

Bd: 13	North			
Dlr: North	♠ Q9			
Vul: Both	♥ Q10943			
	♦ 10742			
	♣ 86			
West		East		
♠ KJ643		♠ 2		
♥ ---		♥ AKJ7652		
♦ Q98		♦ AKJ5		
♣ AQ942		♣ K		
		South		
		♠ A10875		
		♥ 8		
		♦ 63		
		♣ J10753		
Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart	
	Pass	2♣	Pass	
2♠(1)	Pass	3♥	Pass	
3♠	Pass	4♥(2)	Pass	
5♣	Pass	6♥	All Pass	
(1) 3+ controls; (2) Forcing				
Closed Room				
West	North	East	South	
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski	
	Pass	1♥	Pass	
1♠	Pass	2NT(1)	Pass	
3♣(2)	Pass	4♦(3)	Pass	
5♣	Pass	5NT(4)	Pass	
6♣	Pass	6NT	All Pass	
(1) FG, unbal.; (2) Relay; (3) 6+♥/4♦; (4) Pick a slam				

Both Souths overcalled 1 \heartsuit with 1NT. Both Norths transferred to spades and invited game with 2NT. Where Kowalski declined the invitation, Shugart took a shot at game, perhaps because she figured to be far behind in the match. When Kwiecien overtook the $\heartsuit Q$ with the king, Shugart had no chance, and she lost three hearts and two spades for one down, -100.

In 2NT, Sadek did not overtake the $\heartsuit Q$, but Kowalski won and passed the $\spadesuit J$. Sadek allowed that to hold, and Kowalski played ace-king and another club. West might have played a diamond here, but he exited in spades and East cashed the $\heartsuit K$ when he won the $\spadesuit Q$: +120. Poland gained 6 IMPs, 56-18.



"I think she's following us."

Winning 3 IMPs for 6 \heartsuit down one against 6NT down two will not go into the highlight film of Bizon/Kwiecien: 59-18, nonetheless.

Bd: 15	North	
Dlr: South	♠ J1093	
Vul: N/S	♥ Q65	
	♦ AQ76	
	♣ 98	
West		East
♠ 876		♠ Q52
♥ AJ10		♥ K4
♦ K53		♦ 982
♣ AQJ3		♣ 107654
	South	
	♠ AK4	
	♥ 98732	
	♦ J104	
	♣ K2	

West declared 1NT at both tables, and North led the ♠J, which held. Robson continued with the ♠9, then the ♠3 on the third round. Shugart accurately switched to the ♦J for two down, -100.

Gawrys continued with the ♠3 at trick two. Kowalski won and switched to the ♥8. El Ahmady picked up the clubs by leading the ten, Kowalki covering: +120. USA/Egypt gained 6 IMPs, 24-61.

Bd: 16	North	
Dlr: West	♠ J64	
Vul: E/W	♥ 64	
	♦ 2	
	♣ AJ109854	
West		East
♠ K983		♠ Q1052
♥ AQ7532		♥ 98
♦ A3		♦ KQJ95
♣ K		♣ 76
	South	
	♠ A7	
	♥ KJ10	
	♦ 108764	
	♣ Q32	



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
1♥	3♣	Dbl	Pass
3♠	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
1♥	3♣	Dbl	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Both Bizon and El Ahmady took 10 tricks, so USA/Egypt gained 10 IMPs, 34-61. In a post-game interview with Bizon, the issue of whether 3♠ should be forcing was discussed. As East must double with a wide variety of hands, including club one-suiters aiming for 3NT, West can't afford to jump to 4♠ and a cue-bid is very awkward. When East does not have spades support he will have a good hand, and when he has spades, the partnership will be close to 4♠ on values, so treating 3♠ as forcing is really the logical way to play. Alas, Kwiecien saw things differently, so Bizon's thoughtful 3♠ achieved a poor result. I will try to discover whether 3♠ is forcing in the Land of the Pharaohs.

Bd: 17	North		
Dlr: North	♠ 5		
Vul: None	♥ J102		
	♦ QJ1032		
	♣ A986		
West		East	
♠ J1087		♠ AK4	
♥ 863		♥ AQ74	
♦ 765		♦ A984	
♣ QJ5		♣ 73	
	South		
	♠ Q9632		
	♥ K95		
	♦ K		
	♣ K1042		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♦(1)	Pass	2♥(2)
All Pass			
(1) ♦+M; (2) Pass-or-correct			

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♣(1)	Dbl	Pass
2♠	All Pass		
(1) ♦+another suit			

Two very unusual sequences, given the hands making some of the bids. In 2♥ Shugart did rather well, even after two rounds of trumps. She scrambled seven tricks for one down, –50, making a trick with the ♠Q.

El Ahmady, in 2♠, also took seven tricks for –50, so Poland gained 3 IMPs, 64-34.

There was one more swing left in the cards...

Bd: 20		North	
Dir: West		♠ 4	
Vul: Both		♥ K94	
		♦ 10986	
		♣ 109632	
West		East	
♠ Q962		♠ K1073	
♥ 2		♥ AQ765	
♦ AKJ743		♦ Q	
♣ A7		♣ K85	
		South	
		♠ AJ85	
		♥ J1083	
		♦ 52	
		♣ QJ4	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Bizon	Robson	Kwiecien	Shugart
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦(1)	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♠(2)	All Pass
(1) Artificial game force; (2) Fast Arrival			



"So what gave you the idea to ruff that loser in a 3NT contract?"

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
El Ahmady	Gawrys	Sadek	Kowalski
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣(1)	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

4♠ is high enough with the E/W cards, so Bizon/Kwiecien's controlled auction deserved its sound result: +650.

6♠ is not a sound contract, but it will make in practice on a routine club lead if West wins in hand and leads a trump to the king and ace. Later, declarer will lead the ♠10 from dummy and will be able to neutralize South's remaining jack-eight-five whether or not South covers the ten.

But Gawrys did not lead a club: he attacked with the ♥9. Although this sort of lead (it always seems to be the nine) in dummy's suit is inevitably regarded with suspicion, there are many cases where declarer simply *can't* finesse, and this was one of them. El Ahmady won with the ♥A and led a spade to his queen, so he was going down anyway, but had he started spades more propitiously, it would not have helped him, as South can play a heart to force the closed hand when he wins the ♠A, building a second trump winner by force. El Ahmady was two down, –200, and Poland won the match 79-34, or 24-6 in VP.

In England/Norway vs Hana, both E/W pairs were in 6♠. Both Norths—Justin Hackett and Sei Nagasaka—led...the ♥9!



"Tell me, have you ever eaten a camera?"

Meet Team USA



Ven "Babu" Koneru

Ven "Babu" Koneru, 44, was born in India and moved to the US when his father emigrated there in 1965. He has a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University and an MS in Systems Management from the University of Southern California. He joined the US Air Force after college and is currently a Lt. Colonel at Brooks Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He is married with a 13 year old daughter, Ranika. Bridge-wise, Ven was very lucky to go to high school and college with Eric Rodwell, under who's guidance Van has been passionate about the game since age 14. The NEC is Van's first bridge tournament outside of North America, but he is no stranger to winning, having won over 80 regional events in North American and his first national title in the North American Swiss Teams in Orlando last fall. His other top finishes include a fourth with Eddie Kantar in the IMP Pairs in Albuquerque in 1997, a fifth with Jeff Meckstroth in the national Swiss Teams in Kansas City, circa 1994, and a sixth with Jim Krekorian in the Blue Ribbon Pairs in Phoenix in 2002. A modest individual, Ven says he's been very fortunate to have partnered many world-class players (Eric Rodwell, Geoff Hampson, Pratap, Geir Helgemo) in national events. Van also plays professionally occasionally and says he especially enjoys the camaraderie at Regional tournaments in the US that is often hard to attain at NABCs.



Steve Landen

Steve Landen, , is a computer consultant and

bridge professional whose wife, Lynne, plays seriously and also has a serious career. Their two children are not quite teenagers and for years they used to split each North American Championship to ensure that one parent would be at home. Steve has a regular partnership of over 20 years with Pratap Rajadhyaksha, the longevity of which they attribute to similar lifestyles, interests and hobbies (golf in particular) and a genuine friendship. Steve attributes their recent success to Pratap's dedication to the game and focus at the table. According to Pratap their common interest in partying has been replaced by a joint commitment to winning. Steve has had his greatest success recently with wins in the 2002 Reisinger Teams and the 2003 US Team Trials, the latter followed by a strong Bronze Medal performance in the 2004 Bermuda Bowl in Monte Carlo.



Larry Mori

Larry Mori, 56, is of Japanese descent though he was born in the US (on Halloween) while his father was attending Yale Law School there. Larry moved to Japan in 1951 (his father received his law degree from Chuo University) and grew up there both bilingually and bi-culturally. "It is tough being a descendent of Mori Motonari, a very important warlord in the 16th century, who everybody in Japan knows from schooling." The legacy of important diplomats, ministers, doctors, etc., has been replaced in Larry's life for the past 30-plus years by a career as a professional bridge player and teacher and a gambler of many games. He started playing duplicate bridge in late 1964 at a national tournament in Japan (which was not told to him until he appeared there). He finished third in the Mainichi Cup in 1966 and then left Japan to pursue a collegiate career in the US. he didn't play much bridge until 1970 when he started playing money bridge, which became a means of

support for him. He received a BA in Psychology from Wayne State University in 1972 and a MSW in Clinical Social Work from the University of Michigan in 1977. He practiced Social Work full and part-time, progressing from a trainee in 1973 to a Clinical Social Worker from 1977-1989. Since then he has occasionally done some consultations but his primary focus since 1977 has been on teaching and playing professional bridge. He is an expert at gin, backgammon and poker. He has several North American titles (the Swiss Teams in 1990 & 2004, Mixed Pairs in 1992, Open Pairs in 1991) and was Intercollegiate Champion at the University of Michigan in 1976.



Drew Casen

Drew Casen, 54, a former accountant and bridge professional, is now a very successful professional gambler (he wagers on sporting events). He currently resides in Las Vegas, Nevada with his wife of 3 years Teri and his Maltese puppies, Teddy and Bear. An expert at almost all games (gin, backgammon, poker), Drew enjoys the Las Vegas poker life. His favorite subject is his 16 year old son, Jimmy, who is currently attending a private high school in Chicago and is planning a career in chemical engineering so that he can invent an automobile than runs on solar energy. "My son is half Armenian and half Jewish, so he all the genes he needs to succeed." Drew is a WBF World Master who won a Silver medal in the Rosenblum Teams in Geneva in 1990 (his team lost to a fierce but unheralded German team in the final). He also has two North American titles and nine second-place finishes to his credit. In 1987 Drew won the Cavendish Invitational Pairs playing with Jim Krekorian. Away from the bridge table, Drew is a 9-handicap golfer and an expert Texas Hold 'Em (poker) player.



Hecht Cup 2004 (Sept 24-26, Copenhagen)

by Eric Kokish

The 5th Hecht Cup, an invitational Barometer Pairs event scored at Matchpoints, was held at Blaksets Bridgecenter in Copenhagen in late September. The creation of Denmark's generous and supremely enthusiastic Peter Hecht-Johansen, this year's field of 52 pairs, which included 20 foreign entries, was reputedly the strongest ever. Starting with the Calcutta auction and Pro-Am on Friday evening, there was wall-to-wall activity for the participants and the keenly interested local bridge crowd. The Hecht Cup was covered on the Internet by both Swan Games and Bridge Base Online and with 117 deals to be played on Saturday and Sunday there was no time to be wasted. Blaksets Bridgecenter is a magnificent club located by the sea with a wraparound terrace that provides not only some spectacular vistas but also an attractive scenario for the smokers to indulge themselves between rounds. It goes without saying that those who needed a nicotine fix tended to play at breakneck speed, and the staff had its hands full luring the participants back to the table to start the new round.

Complete standings, deal records and frequencies were circulated minutes after each session was completed and the organization was simply magnificent. Events like this one are sadly unavailable in North America, where the focus seems too often to be on the distribution of masterpoints in two-day flighted or stratified knockouts and two-session pairs events. Despite the brisk pace of play (66 boards on Saturday between 10:30 am and 8:30 pm calls for stamina and focus) the Hecht Cup is a very social tournament; it's difficult to imagine anyone not enjoying the event. Peter Hecht and Lars/Knut Blakset are extremely conscious about pleasing the players and each year ask for suggestions to improve the next edition of their wonderful event. It would be difficult to take exception to anything about this year's event.

The Calcutta auction raised 25,880 Euros, which (after a 5% deduction for the Blaksets' Junior Fund) would be divided between the owners of the top three finishers and three "lottery" picks, one drawn from each third of the field, based on the final rankings. So, while there was certainly

a premium for playing well and in good fortune, it was also desirable if your "horses" were drawn from one of the three mini-groups of also-rans!

Here are a couple of early lead problems to see whether this is going to be "your" event...

You, North, hold: ♠K103 ♥K7 ♦J862 ♣KQ53			
(1) West	North	East	South
			Pass
1NT ₍₁₁₋₁₄₎	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

You, North, hold: ♠J52 ♥A ♦Q106 ♣KQ10732			
(2) West	North	East	South
1♦	2♣	Dbl	3♣
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Solutions:

(1) In general it's a good idea to clear trumps against a low-level part-score when you suspect that your side has at least its share of the high cards and the opponents hold no more than eight trumps. Even if you blow a trump trick you often do no worse than break even when declarer loses some of his ruffing tricks. And so I have nothing but sympathy for Knut Blakset for his lead of the ♥K on Board A3. Unfortunately, this was the complete layout:

Bd: A3		North	
Dir: South		♠ K103	
Vul: E/W		♥ K7	
		♦ J862	
		♣ KQ53	
		West	East
		♠ QJ2	♠ A65
		♥ AQJ5	♥ 8642
		♦ K10	♦ Q9754
		♣ J1084	♣ 6
		South	
		♠ 9874	
		♥ 1093	
		♦ A3	
		♣ A972	

Declarer won the ♥A and tried the ♦K. Peter Hecht-Johansen won the ace and continued trumps. Declarer won and led the ♦10, intending to pass it. Knut covered and West could establish diamonds, losing only a club and a spade in addition for +170 and +21 matchpoints (top=+25).

The play was also interesting at the table where Michel Bessis declared 2♥ from the East seat against Nadia Bekkouche/Trine Binderkrantz. Trine led the ♦A and switched to the ♠4, dummy's queen winning. Declarer called for the ♣J, a good shot on this layout as Nadia covered, making it particularly difficult for Trine to overtake to continue spades. When the ♣Q held, North continued with a low club. Bessis ruffed, crossed to the ♦K, ruffed another club, and advanced the ♦Q, ruffed low and over-ruffed. Dummy's last club was ruffed in the closed hand and South ruffed the continuation of the ♦9, over-ruffed again. Declarer crossed to the ♠A and could have endplayed North in trumps by exiting with a spade. Instead, he led the thirteenth diamond and when South failed to ruff, he discarded dummy's spade loser. North ruffed behind dummy but the ace-queen of trumps took he last two tricks. Plus 170 the hard way.

Although +170 was the second-best E/W result it was some distance short of the +1640 in 2♥ redoubled (making four) achieved by Austria's Martin Schifko/Andreas Gloyer at the expense of England's Andrew McIntosh/David Bakhshi. As you will see, this deal was the nadir for Tosh and Bakshi, who would make relentless progress through the field to challenge for the title.

(2) "Ace of hearts, what else?" That would be the reflex answer, I guess, North hoping to find his partner's entry to obtain a heart ruff. Or two. The danger in starting hearts is that this will usually be dummy's source of tricks and the defenders will often relinquish a tempo and obtain insufficient compensation for their ruff...if they can arrange one. This was the full deal:



"I bet a genie lives in there."

Bd: A4	North	
Dlr: West	♠ J52	
Vul: Both	♥ A	
	♦ Q106	
	♣ KQ10732	
West		East
♠ AK73		♠ Q10986
♥ J3		♥ KQ10872
♦ K832		♦ 5
♣ A85		♣ 6
	South	
	♠ 4	
	♥ 9654	
	♦ AJ974	
	♣ J94	

Here South would follow to the lead of the ♥A with the nine, suit preference for diamonds, and the defenders would take three tricks. Remarkably, that would earn them +22 as only four of 26 N/S pairs found this defense. Two declarers managed 12 tricks, presumably when South contributed an illegible heart to trick one and North switched to clubs; now all the diamonds disappeared on dummy's clubs. Although N/S have a paying save at 5♣ it's difficult to see how they should find it. Indeed, if you're not going to get your three tricks against spades you can save at 6♣ and show a profit.

Bd: A5	North	
Dlr: North	♠ 9864	
Vul: N/S	♥ A	
	♦ AKQ8	
	♣ K653	
West		East
♠ Q10753		♠ K2
♥ K9872		♥ QJ106
♦ 53		♦ J942
♣ Q		♣ J92
	South	
	♠ AJ	
	♥ 543	
	♦ 1076	
	♣ A10874	

6♣ is a respectable slam but you'd rather be in 5♣, especially when West shows a major two-suiter. 5♣ making six was over average (+5) and

only Martin Schaltz/Soren Christiansen bid and made 6♣ for a complete top. Eight pairs fetched up in 3NT, seven of them scoring +630 (+17) and one going -100 for a joint bottom. Seven pairs missed game and four defended 4♥ or 5♥ doubled for 300 or 500. After 1♦-Pass-1NT-2♦ (♥ and ♠), it's not clear how North should proceed. 2♥, 3♣ and double are all reasonable actions. East should jump to 4♥ with his big fit for the majors and South will have it easiest at the tables where North has shown clubs, choosing between 5♣, 4♠ and perhaps 4NT. With weak black suits it won't occur to North to bid 6♣, so I suspect that the successful Danish pair started with a 2♣ response by South and took the push to slam under pressure from their luckless opponents, Geoff Hampson/Steve Landen of the USA.

Most experts would prefer to play IMPs rather than Matchpoints, surely because the objectives for each side are far clearer at IMPs and because Matchpoints requires deeper analysis or fine judgment on nearly every deal. Consider Board 6, for example

Bd: A6		North	
Dir: East		♠ 5	
Vul: E/W		♥ A10876	
		♦ 964	
		♣ KQ98	
West		East	
♠ Q109874		♠ AK63	
♥ KQ92		♥ 43	
♦ Q5		♦ J73	
♣ 4		♣ 7653	
		South	
		♠ J2	
		♥ J5	
		♦ AK1082	
		♣ AJ102	
West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♦
1♠	Dbl	3♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	?

With the opponents vulnerable it is surely tempting for South to pass the second double, which is defined as "cards, cooperative takeout."

Nine Souths passed and eight of them were -730, the other -930. Do you think North should bid differently? Taking out to 4♣, which seems like a close call, yielded +130 and a surprisingly strong score of +19.

It's not that playing 66 deals on Saturday was so tiring in an absolute sense, but when you consider that nearly every one of those deals featured this type of pressure decision, those 66 deals felt more like 100. If you're looking for a real challenge, a tough Matchpoint event is much more draining than an IMP competition. The precursor to the Hecht Cup used to be a Butler Pairs, but Peter insisted on Matchpoints from the outset for his new event and that has made for an exciting contest each year.

It's not always so exciting, of course, as George Mittelman and I could confirm after the next round, in which we scored -33 for sitting in the wrong seats. Well, maybe. On the first two deals our opponents bid a normal, if mildly aggressive 24-point 4♠ (-9 for us) and an even more routine 6NT with two balanced hands and 34 HCP (-6 for us). The third board was perhaps a trifle less random...

Bd: A9		North	
Dir: North		♠ 1082	
Vul: E/W		♥ Q2	
		♦ 9543	
		♣ KQ92	
West		East	
♠ AJ		♠ KQ97	
♥ AJ1064		♥ 53	
♦ AQ6		♦ J1072	
♣ 1065		♣ J43	
		South	
		♠ 6543	
		♥ K987	
		♦ K8	
		♣ A87	
West	North	East	South
LL Madsen	Mittelman	ML Madsen	Kokish
	Pass	Pass	1♥
1NT	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Morten Lund Madsen's sequence showed invitational values with only four spades and his brother Lars accepted with a marginal hand (he might have had 18 HCP for his 1NT overcall). Mittelman led the ♥Q and I discouraged with the nine (reverse signals only in "own" suits at trick one). Declarer won the ace and led a low club towards the jack. North went in with the queen and played a second heart. South, unwilling to give declarer the rest of the heart suit and unaware that the defense could take three more club tricks, put in the ♥7. Declarer won the jack, cashed the ♠A, overtook the ♠J and willed the ten to drop tripleton, cashed two more spades, and took the diamond finesse for his contract: +18 for E/W. Lars explained that he would have taken four diamond tricks (of course!) for +630 if he felt he needed the overtrick for a good result. Three E/W pairs bid 3NT; all of them made at least three. Thanks for sharing that with us, Master Madsen.

Bd: A17	North		
Dlr: North	♠ AQ		
Vul: None	♥ 653		
	♦ AJ832		
	♣ J92		
West		East	
♠ 106542		♠ KJ73	
♥ 98		♥ A1042	
♦ K7		♦ 1094	
♣ AQ73		♣ 64	
	South		
	♠ 98		
	♥ KQJ7		
	♦ Q65		
	♣ K1085		

Eight E/W pairs were doubled in 3♠, one in 2♠. None of the N/S pairs had the material to defeat them and Magnus Lindkvist/Johan Ebenius managed a tenth winner for all the matchpoints. Once North opened the bidding it was difficult for South to sell out passively when E/W competed to 3♠. In the event only Hampson/Landen and Boye Brogeland/Erik Saelensminde did that, saving themselves a bundle of points in the process.

To verify that you and your partner are on the same page, what action would West take after:

1♦-Pass-1♥-? Pass, 1♠ and double are all reasonable actions, but it's always been my belief that with nine cards in the unbid suits it pays to get into the auction early. With poor spades and strong clubs double is more attractive than 1♠. At our table, this was the complete auction:

West	North	East	South
<i>Kokish</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>	<i>Landen</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Dbl	Rdbl(3♥)	2♥	Dbl
2♠(5♠)	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2NT	Dbl	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

I'm certain I haven't seen that sequence of bids before. N/S were able to express their values and describe their heart length accurately. When Hampson couldn't (wouldn't) double 3♠ Landen felt he had done enough and refused to double out of spite. Well judged, say I.

How far would you go with this hand (as West) after your partner opens 1♦ as dealer at favorable vulnerability?

♠J10875 ♥K3 ♦4 ♣AKQ64

The auction begins this way:

West	North	East	South
		1♦	1♥
1♠(4+♠)	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	3♦	3♥
Dbl	Pass	4♦	Pass
?			

A 2♦ opening bid would have been natural and weak, but fairly constructive in context.

The winning decision is to pass 4♦ as this is the full deal:



"Walid. You can't bid 6NT on every hand."

Bd: A18	North	
Dlr: East	♠ Q632	
Vul: N/S	♥ Q95	
	♦ A6	
	♣ J1092	
West		East
♠ J10875		♠ A9
♥ K3		♥ 104
♦ 4		♦ KQJ1072
♣ AKQ64		♣ 875
	South	
	♠ K4	
	♥ AJ8762	
	♦ 9853	
	♣ 3	

Ten tricks is the limit for E/W and 3♥ doubled would have been touch-and-go. While I consider the East hand appropriate for a weak 2♦ opening at any vulnerability, most of my nearest and dearest associates beg to differ.

Bd: A19	North	
Dlr: South	♠ QJ865	
Vul: E/W	♥ 10982	
	♦ 6	
	♣ 1097	
West		East
♠ A7		♠ 32
♥ AKQJ		♥ 7
♦ A872		♦ KQJ105
♣ Q42		♣ KJ653
	South	
	♠ K1094	
	♥ 6543	
	♦ 943	
	♣ A8	

6♦ is the top spot for E/W and two-thirds of the field reached it. To try 6NT instead implies great courage or temporary insanity. Consultation with Torsten Bernes/Lauge Schaffer and Tino Terraneo/Beppo Simon might reveal which of those conditions applied to them, but it is reported here that both pairs made their contract when North led the ♥10 and not a killing spade. As for the 7NT doubled contract reached by Paul Chemla/Philippe Cronier, it would be a mistake to question them too closely about their state of

mind at the time. Had the E/W hearts divided three-two the 6♠ sacrifice found by Messrs IC Bank/Brian Skjonnemann would have been a raging success at a mere –1100. Alas, the price was 1400 and Gitte Hecht-Johansen/David Levy were +21 for being the recipients of the penalty.

One deal doesn't prove much, but would you come in over a strong notrump, both sides vulnerable, as South, holding:

♠ AK53 ♥ KQ53 ♦ 87 ♣ 632?

Those who did and those who had an easy takeout double of a 1♦ opening where E/W were playing weak notrumps, found their 2♥ contract and generally bought the auction for an excellent result. I confess to having remained silent over 1NT, a sin of omission. I know that Fredrik Nystrom and Peter Fredin both bid over 1NT, which tells us something about the way of life in Sweden.

Less than one-third of the N/S pairs bid 6♥ on Board A23:

Bd: A23	North	
Dlr: South	♠ J3	
Vul: Both	♥ KQJ9652	
	♦ Q	
	♣ KJ5	
West		East
♠ 76		♠ Q942
♥ 1083		♥ 74
♦ 1073		♦ AKJ4
♣ Q10863		♣ 974
	South	
	♠ AK1085	
	♥ A	
	♦ 98652	
	♣ A2	

Our Dutch opponents Ricco van Prooyen/Jan Jansma made it look easy...



"I want this one for my sign collection."

North	South
<i>Van Prooyen</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
	1♠
2♥(FG)	2♠
3♥	4♣
4♦ (Dbl)	4♠
4NT	5♦
6♥	Pass

4♣, 4♦ and 4♠ were all control-showing bids, with hearts agreed. RKCB did the rest. There are many routes to 12 tricks. Van Prooyen was able to establish a long diamond after the lead of the ♦A. Bidding the slam was worth +18.

After the first of four sessions and 30 deals, the top of the leader board delighted the hometown fans.

(1) Ulrik/Peter Zeeberg	Denmark
+184 62.27%	
(2) Morten Bilde/Jorgen Hansen	Denmark
+160 60.67%	
(3) Michael Asgaard/Gregers Bjarnarson	Den.
+135 59.00%	

The top foreign pair was Dessy Popova/Rosen Gunev of Bulgaria, 5th with +84, 55.60%.

Bd: B2	North
Dlr: East	♠ K7
Vul: N/S	♥ KQ6543
	♦ 9
	♣ 10873
West	East
♠ A62	♠ QQJ9
♥ AJ8	♥ 97
♦ AK43	♦ J10862
♣ A62	♣ J95
	South
	♠ 108543
	♥ 102
	♦ Q75
	♣ KQ4

This was nearly everyone's 3NT, E/W, the exceptions being Lindkvist/Ebenius and Michal Kwiecien/Piotr Bizon, who stopped in notrump partscores for +120 and lost a few points, and Peter Lund/Thomas Berg, who bought the

contract at 2♥, N/S, for +110 and a top. 3NT produced anywhere from 7-10 tricks, with +400 the popular result. At our table, Mittelman defended well by leading the ♥Q (a weak king-queen combination) and switching to the ♣8 when he won the first trick, South discouraging with the deuce. Declarer tried the ♣9 from dummy, queen, ace. He cashed a high diamond, then reverted to clubs, hoping North held the king. The jack lost to the king and the defenders cleared hearts. Declarer conceded a diamond and could take only seven tricks for -100 and +20 to N/S. On a low heart lead around to the jack declarer would clear diamonds to establish an eighth trick and might manage a ninth in the endgame as North comes under pressure on the run of the diamonds.

Bd: B3	North
Dlr: South	♠ A10632
Vul: E/W	♥ AJ
	♦ 75
	♣ 9865
West	East
♠ Q54	♠ 9
♥ 10932	♥ Q54
♦ AKQ964	♦ J1032
♣ ---	♣ J10742
	South
	♠ KJ87
	♥ K876
	♦ 8
	♣ AKQ3

Although 6♠ is hardly laydown, it is a respectable contract for N/S. In the event, only seven pairs bid it. It was considerably less respectable after West doubled for a club lead, however, and this transpired on five occasions. Where declarer called for a trusting low club from dummy at trick one he was out for -100, saving 6 matchpoints for -17. Those who played an honor from dummy lost a trick in the wash for -300 and -23.

After 1♣-1♦-1♠-3♦, what is South worth? Playing weak notrumps I'm sure that 3♠ is enough, although I bid 4♦ at the table to stay even with the field. That North drove to slam with no further encouragement confirms that he was expecting a bit more and that 4♦ was an overbid. Mea culpa, Giorgio. Well, sort of. Over 3♠ and West's

4♦ George volunteered a somewhat bizarre 5♦ rather than 4♥. Then he raised 5♠ to 6♠. Had he settled for 4♥ he might have passed 4♠, but even if he were to have continued with a “telling” 5♠ in that scenario, South would have passed. Who knows whether he would have made that or whether West would have doubled? Four N/S pairs doubled E/W in 5♦. Those who set it two tricks were +21 for +500, while the pair that let a trick get away were –9 for their +200.

What would you do holding ♠K7 ♥A86 ♦Q532 ♣QJ53 as West in this situation?

West	North	East	South
1NT(11-14)	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
?			

2♠ is invitational, normally with five spades. The weak notrump is very popular in Denmark and this should really be a bread and butter sequence that requires little deliberation. Anders Hagen converted to 2NT and played there, Thomas Kampmann (East) producing:

♠AJ1054 ♥1093 ♦A876 ♣7.

Mittelman found the best lead of a heart from jack-fourth and although declarer had five spade tricks and diamonds were as friendly as could be, he had to lose six tricks for a score of –23. In our style, conversion to 2NT is constructive: opener is expected to pass with minimum values, in no small part because responder will often have a light distributional invitation with which he hoped to catch three-card support and primary values. Thus, with a balanced 11-count and five spades responder should choose a different sequence, perhaps Stayman, then 2NT. Nonetheless, we were surprised to see our opponents pay such a heavy price for choosing the wrong strain at the two level.

Care to match your competitive judgment against the great Paul Chemla's? With both sides vulnerable he held, as East:

♠542 ♥A9 ♦Q653 ♣K854

West	North	East	South
<i>Cronier</i>		<i>Chemla</i>	
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	Dbl	2♥
3♦	3♥	?	

Paul's negative double denied as many as four spades. Would you bid 4♦, pass, or double?

Paul voted for 4♦, albeit with misgivings. This was the full deal:

Bd: B10	North		
Dlr: East	♠ Q7		
Vul: Both	♥ K76542		
	♦ J		
	♣ AJ92		
	West	East	
	♠ AK6	♠ 542	
	♥ 103	♥ A9	
	♦ A108742	♦ Q653	
	♣ Q10	♣ K854	
	South		
	♠ J10983		
	♥ QJ8		
	♦ K9		
	♣ 763		

On a low heart lead Philippe Cronier won dummy's ace and led a low club to his ten, playing to make an overtrick if the ♣J were in South and the ♦K dropped singleton. As a result he finished two down as the defenders had time for a spade trick before declarer could reach dummy for a discard on the ♣K. Minus 200 produced an unsatisfactory score of –22, but had Cronier made 4♦ (by leading the ♦Q from dummy) his side would still have been below average. The winning decision would have been for Chemla to double or pass 3♥, collecting 500 or 200 points, respectively. Perhaps E/W would have benefited by having a Good/Bad 2NT at their disposal to separate the different strengths of potential 3♦ bids by opener, but even so, Chemla's problem would have been a difficult one.

With N/S vulnerable, South holds:

♠Q1083 ♥A98 ♦K10 ♣A853

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dbl
Pass	1♥	Pass	Pass
2♦	Dbl	Pass	?

North's double shows a maximum 1♥ response (about 7-8 HCP), only four hearts, fewer than four spades (else a 1♠ response), fewer than five clubs. Chose your poison.

Had E/W been vulnerable this would have been an easier decision, as the upside in defending 2♦ doubled would have been much higher. At the prevailing vulnerability it was entirely possible that bidding 2♥ would yield +110 while passing would earn +100.

This was the full deal:

Bd: B12	North		
Dlr: West	♠ K5		
Vul: N/S	♥ 10732		
	♦ A63		
	♣ J964		
West		East	
♠ 764		♠ AJ92	
♥ J64		♥ KQ5	
♦ Q874		♦ J952	
♣ K72		♣ Q10	
	South		
	♠ Q1083		
	♥ A98		
	♦ K10		
	♣ A853		

Although the West hand looks like a normal raise to 2♦ over the double, the French like to have a fifth trump or some distribution. Cronier's delayed 2♦ set this problem for us, and we felt Philippe had won this battle when I passed Mittelman's double and collected +100, with 2♥ a likely make for us. As it happened, we scored +9 on the deal when four N/S pairs were +50 and 12 others went minus declaring 2♥, 3♥ or 2NT or defending 1NT doubled unsuccessfully.

What would you bid with the North hand after: Pass-Pass-1♦-Double; 2♦-?

A responsive double will locate an eight-card fit

in hearts or clubs whenever South is not 4=3=3=3, so there is much to recommend it. However, 2♥ will land you in a major, albeit possibly the wrong one, and it may be important to score 30 points a trick rather than 20 to obtain a good matchpoint result. That's one of the subtle considerations that makes Pairs such an interesting format.

Bd: B16	North		
Dlr: West	♠ J1086		
Vul: E/W	♥ K2		
	♦ QJ1082		
	♣ KJ		
West		East	
♠ AQ5		♠ K9432	
♥ J1043		♥ 86	
♦ 4		♦ A65	
♣ 108432		♣ 976	
	South		
	♠ 7		
	♥ AQ975		
	♦ K973		
	♣ AQ5		

Where North opened (and very many did), N/S generally rolled into 3NT (with remarkable success) or 5♦ (the better game, which yielded a score of -5). Where North passed and South opened 1♥, North had to find a suitable continuation after South's 2♦ rebid over a 1♠ response. North's hand seems potentially too "slow" for 3NT unless South can bid that over a raise to 3♦, but at the same time 3♦ covers a lot of ground and North does have a lot of high cards for his original pass. Mittelman raised to 3♦ and the likely misfit in the majors convinced me that game in either strain would be odds-against. Wrong! Plus 150 yielded -15.

At the table where Matthias Bruun (West) and Peter Fredin (East) faced the Austrians Doris Fischer (North) and Bernd Saurer (South), the bidding was the same as at our table, but Bernd converted 3♦ to 3NT. Matthias unerringly led the ♠A, continued with the queen, and cleared the suit. The ♦A was Fredin's entry to cash the long spade for one down and a score of +21.

When we played the highly regarded Norwegians Brogeland/Saelensminde they were

last in the field. When they finished with us they were still last but had scored +31 for the round, playing their usual enterprising game. First they bid a pushy 23-point 3NT and made an overtrick on a favorable lead (+16 for them).

Then Erik played in everyone's 3NT...

Bd: B20	North		
Dlr: West	♠ 862		
Vul: Both	♥ J108763		
	♦ Q7		
	♣ Q4		
West		East	
♠ Q973		♠ AK	
♥ K4		♥ AQ	
♦ 108654		♦ K932	
♣ J5		♣ AK1072	
	South		
	♠ J1054		
	♥ 952		
	♦ AJ		
	♣ 9863		

Cover the N/S cards and plan the play on the opening lead of the ♠5 (attitude), three, deuce (standard count), king.

It's a complex position as there are several possibilities in the minors. If you use your entry to dummy to lead towards the ♦K you might make six with ace-and-one diamond onside and a later club finesse or black-suit squeeze, but that line involves an early commitment and might lead to defeat in 3NT if the diamond play fails. Erik decided to first secure his contract by leading a low club from hand to the jack and queen. North switched to the ♥8, which declarer won with the ace to finish the clubs, the last of which caught South in a somewhat obscure squeeze in three suits. A diamond discard would allow declarer to take all the remaining tricks but one if he judged the diamond position correctly and a spade would give up a clear trick to dummy's nine. It seemed more politic to discard a heart, but declarer unblocked the ♠A, led his remaining heart to dummy, cashed the ♠Q, and exited with the ♠9. South had to give declarer the ♦K in the end. Giving up the spade would have produced the same result. How revolting! We were pleased to be no worse than -10.

The third deal was a quiet 1NT our way. The defenders gave nothing away on defense, which earned them +5. We were glad to move on to another table, and the round seemed to kick-start our Norwegian friends' game, as they turned things around for themselves for the rest of the session.

Bd: B22	North		
Dlr: East	♠ 7643		
Vul: E/W	♥ Q5		
	♦ 965		
	♣ QJ83		
West		East	
♠ Q8		♠ AKJ10	
♥ J1064		♥ K9832	
♦ 10		♦ A74	
♣ A109542		♣ K	
	South		
	♠ 952		
	♥ A7		
	♦ KQJ832		
	♣ 76		

Seven E/W pairs bid and made this slightly-less-than-even-money slam for +19, while stopping short and taking 12 tricks scored -5. The big result was the +650 recorded by Bulgarians Ivan Nanev/Vladimir Mihov and local heroes Morten Andersen/Knud Harries, who led a trump to the king in search of a swing. They got their swing but -24 was not what they were hoping for.

Bd: B28	North		
Dlr: West	♠ K10542		
Vul: N/S	♥ KQJ8		
	♦ KJ		
	♣ J9		
West		East	
♠ Q8		♠ 73	
♥ 1076542		♥ 93	
♦ Q85		♦ 1097632	
♣ 84		♣ KQ5	
	South		
	♠ AJ96		
	♥ A		
	♦ A4		
	♣ A107632		

The par contract for N/S is 6NT, which can be made without having to guess the location of the ♠Q because clubs come in for five tricks. Four pairs played in 6NT. Three of them (Mik Kristensen/Mikkel Nøhr, Herve Mouiel/Michel Bessis, Hampson/Landen) took the obvious 12 tricks for +1440 and a score of +20, but Jesper Gamrath/Kjeld Hansen left par in their wake, slipping the ♣9 past East, then finding the ♠Q for +1470 and +24. Schiffko/Gloyer, underscoring the Austrian penchant for bidding every slam imaginable, went one down in 7NT, and were fortunate to score only −19 as three other pairs were −100. But the worst N/S result was recorded by Morten Bilde/Jorgen Hansen, who finished −200 in 7♠, for −24. Benedicte Cronier/Sylvie Willard were also fortunate to be only −2 for their +1100 vs Bruun/Fredin's 3♥ doubled. Five other pairs missed slam but scored better than they might have expected because of the five pairs going minus.

was a pity for him as playing low would have secured the contract. He won the ♥A and led a trump to the queen and ace. A second heart went to the queen, and now a third heart would have promoted the setting trick in trumps (to go with the ♠K). Not very difficult, you would think.

The fact that East was most unlikely to have a second trump, let alone the jack, hardly begins to justify trying to cash the ♣K first, as East would surely have cashed the ♣A had he held it before leading the second heart. I've attempted to console myself by reflecting that we all make plays as bad as that one a few times a year. I am failing miserably at this self-consolation business.

Bd: B33 North
 Dlr: North ♠ 986
 Vul: Neither ♥ K2
 ♦ A983
 ♣ 9653

West	East
♠ K753	♠ AQ104
♥ AQJ74	♥ 963
♦ ---	♦ KJ7
♣ A1072	♣ KJ8

South
♠ J2
♥ 1085
♦ Q106542
♣ Q4

Eight E/W pairs bid and made 6♠, which was worth +17. Three pairs went down in slam, two of them in 6♥, Chemla/Cronier in an undignified 6♣. Slam is respectable, but hardly a bargain. Where West shows heart length, diamond shortness and primary spade support East will hate his wasted diamond strength and unsuitable holding in his partner's suit. Even with his strong trumps and useful club values he won't be keen to go past 4♠. If West makes a further try East will cooperate, but West has no five-level security facing a minimum-range balanced or semi-balanced hand and will probably pass 4♠ in such a scenario. In the event +480 was dead average as in addition to the three pairs going minus six others took only 10 or 11 tricks in game.

If North follows low to the first heart finesse after a diamond lead, ruffed in dummy, declarer might well draw trumps and take a second heart

Bd: B30	North		
Dlr: East	♠ Q9		
Vul: None	♥ 108654		
	♦ KQ52		
	♣ AJ		
		West	East
		♠ K64	♠ 1073
		♥ KQ73	♥ J9
		♦ 106	♦ AJ
		♣ K864	♣ Q107532
	South		
	♠ AJ852		
	♥ A2		
	♦ 98743		
	♣ 9		

West	North	East	South
<i>Kokish</i>	<i>Sorensen</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>	<i>Henriksen</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Dbl
Pass	2♦	3♣	3♦
4♣	4♦	All Pass	

This is the sort of deal I love—a competitive partscore involving at least one “last guess.” In this case Denmark blinked last. Mittelman led the ♥J and it was too dangerous for HK Sorenson to duck after the 1♥ opening, which

finesse, allowing North to cash the $\diamond A$. I did not hear about this taking place, but that doesn't mean that it didn't.

Board B34, dealer East, N/S vulnerable.

West		East	
\spadesuit 632		\spadesuit AKJ	
\heartsuit Q104		\heartsuit AJ2	
\diamond KQ9762		\diamond J84	
\clubsuit 8		\clubsuit Q1072	

West	North	East	South
		1 \clubsuit	1 \spadesuit
DbI	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All pass		

You declare 3NT from the East seat after rebidding 1NT to indicate 15-17 HCP. On a spade lead you'd have no decisions to make, but South tries a surprise attack with the $\heartsuit 6$. How would you proceed?

At IMPs I believe you should win the first trick with the $\heartsuit A$ to force an entry to dummy lest an opponent hold up the $\diamond A$ twice. At Matchpoints it's rarely right to take a safety play in a normal contract, and if you deem 3NT the popular spot you should win the first trick cheaply and play on diamonds, hoping to take a lot of tricks. After nearly two sessions you have learned that everyone bids a lot in Denmark and that in this field West would be more inclined to raise to 3NT than invite game by showing a decent diamond suit. Still, if the $\heartsuit K$ is in South it won't hurt and might well be essential to win the first heart with the ace. It's only when the $\diamond A$ is short and North holds the $\heartsuit K$ or when the defenders can do some business in clubs that it will be an error to make the best play for the contract.

Would your choice of plays be affected by knowing that seven pairs played the E/W cards in a diamond partscore?

This was the full layout.



North		East	
\spadesuit 107		\spadesuit AKJ	
\heartsuit K93		\heartsuit AJ2	
\diamond A10		\diamond J84	
\clubsuit J96543		\clubsuit Q1072	

West		South	
\spadesuit 632		\spadesuit Q9854	
\heartsuit Q104		\heartsuit 8765	
\diamond KQ9762		\diamond 53	
\clubsuit 8		\clubsuit A K	

As you can see, winning the first heart cheaply would lead to at least 10 tricks, 11 if North switches to spades upon winning the $\diamond A$ and declarer catches South in a black-suit endplay after taking all his red-suit winners. Plus 460 was worth +16, +430 was just 3 points over average and +400 yielded -6.

At the end of the first day, with 66 deals under everyone's belt, there were new Danes at the top of the leader board:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| (1) HK Sorensen/Niels Henriksen | Denmark |
| +323 59.79% | |
| (2) Morten Bilde/Jorgen Hansen | Denmark |
| +312 59.45% | |
| (3) Martin Schifko/Andreas Gloyer | Austria |
| +225 56.82% | |



"It's quite simple, actually. You just play really, really quickly and then claim."

Bd: C1	North		
Dlr: North	♠ 108753		
Vul: None	♥ Q72		
	♦ 43		
	♣ 864		
West		East	
♠ J9		♠ AKQ4	
♥ 5		♥ J106	
♦ AKQ62		♦ 875	
♣ AJ1032		♣ Q95	
	South		
	♠ 62		
	♥ AK9843		
	♦ J109		
	♣ K7		

With the ♣K onside and diamonds breaking anyone attempting 6♣ or 6♦ had to make it. Seven pairs were in that group, for +19. Two nameless Danish pairs gilded the lily by bidding seven and might have gotten away with it had North not led a heart. It's a tough game, kids! 5♣ and 5♦ making six was exactly average, a particularly just result. Other anomalies included one pair stopping in 4♣, another in 3NT, and another settling for +300 against 3♥ doubled. Two declarers in game took only 11 tricks to round out a mixed bag.

Bd: C4	North		
Dlr: West	♠ 743		
Vul: Both	♥ AK6		
	♦ AQ106		
	♣ AK3		
West		East	
♠ Q5		♠ AK982	
♥ J752		♥ Q9843	
♦ K5432		♦ 8	
♣ 54		♣ J7	
	South		
	♠ J106		
	♥ 10		
	♦ J97		
	♣ Q109862		

For money, IMPs or Matchpoints, N/S would like to be in 3NT, but where North opened 2NT and reached 3NT, East could lead a low spade (a legible fourth best would make East's decision to

cover the jack infinitely easier) and defeat the contract. This happened only nine times and the luckless N/S pairs were -16 as a consequence. Of the other Norths in 3NT, one took nine tricks, eschewing the diamond finesse after a heart lead for +1, another took 10, presumably after winning the spade jack at trick one for +9, three took 11 (a curious number of tricks) for +13, three 12 (heart lead, diamond finesse) for +19 and one all 13 (perhaps with the ♠J as the odd trick) and +24. Rosen Gunev/Dessy Popova must have been thrilled to score +6 for their 5♣, +620, as were the three pairs missing game, who were just a bit below average.

At favorable vulnerability, you hold, as North:

♠J6 ♥Q986 ♦108 ♣QJ1076

West	North	East	South
		1♠	Dbl
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	?		

Are you a passer or a bidder?

Bd: C6	North		
Dlr: East	♠ J6		
Vul: E/W	♥ Q986		
	♦ 108		
	♥ QJ1076		
West		East	
♠ K1092		♠ AQ8743	
♥ 10742		♥ J	
♦ 5		♦ K7643	
♣ A985		♣ 4	
	South		
	♠ 5		
	♥ AK53		
	♦ AQJ92		
	♣ K32		

If you pass and defend accurately you can beat 4♠ a trick (+11) and if you take out to 4NT or 5♣ you will reach a five-level contract you can't make (scoring anywhere from -4 to -11)... unless you push East to 5♠, which you can double for 500 (+19). Denmark's Michael Askgaard/Gregers Bjarnarson, who were lying fifth at the time, made 5♣ doubled for +24 and

three E/W pairs were permitted to make 4♠, one of them, rather remarkably, not doubled.

The conversation piece of the 2004 Hecht Cup was surely...

Bd: C8	North	
Dlr: West	♠ AQJ1053	
Vul: None	♥ 6	
	♦ K1073	
	♣ A5	
West		East
♠ K4		♠ ----
♥ 4		♥ AKQJ9753
♦ A9852		♦ ----
♣ 107632		♣ KQJ8
	South	
	♠ 98762	
	♥ 108	
	♦ QJ64	
	♣ 94	

Sixteen E/W pairs were permitted to play 6♥. The part I find most remarkable is that nine of them were not doubled. Once South shows spade support North knows that 6♠ will be a cheap sacrifice if E/W can make 6♥, so it makes no mathematical sense to do nothing. If they're going down, double them, but if they're making 6♥, take the save. This lecture will be repeated every year at the same time. Don't miss it. Those who did not double 6♥ were -3. Those who did were -19. I'm not touting the virtues of doubling, but rather the wisdom of backing your judgment. In contrast, selling out to 5♥ when East embarks on a cat-and-mouse game of minimum heart bids at every turn (Fredrik Nystrom, for one, overcalled 1♠ with 2♥, then protected with 5♥ over South's jump to 4♠, then went on to 6♥ when North reopened in turn with 5♠; he was doubled for his efforts) makes more sense and in the event would have produced a score of +7. N/S pairs who competed to 6♠ scored very well whether or not they were doubled and whether or not they pushed East to 7♥.



Bd: C11	North	
Dlr: South	♠ Q98	
Vul: Neither	♥ Q63	
	♦ 106	
	♣ A7632	
West		East
♠ J63		♠ K102
♥ A10942		♥ KJ75
♦ Q2		♦ KJ83
♣ 1084		♣ QJ
	South	
	♠ A754	
	♥ 8	
	♦ A9754	
	♣ K54	

It's not easy for E/W to buy the contract at 2♥, because if West overcalls 1♦ with 1♥ East won't be inclined to stop so low, and if West doesn't overcall, North's 1NT will silence East, leaving South to choose from among pass, 2♦, and 2♣. While I consider 2♣ a standout, it's not without risk, as North will pass or raise with most hands containing three diamonds and only four clubs. If South passes 1NT West might protect with 2♥ but it's not an attractive action. If South rebids 2♣ West is to an extent in a pre-balancing situation and 2♥ becomes a more interesting gamble. Where South rebids 2♦, there is no guarantee that N/S have a viable fit and 2♥ is a wild stab. It's interesting, then, that at no table was the final contract 2♦, but the range of destinations includes 1NT doubled making by North for +180 and +25 and 3NT by East, also making, for +400 and +25 the other way. More normal results like 3♣ down one and 3♥ down one were both over average for N/S. 2♥ was declared only three times, and in each case it was made with an overtrick for +17. If North leads the ♦10 against a heart contract declarer can place South with four spades, five diamonds and three clubs (presumably North would have taken some action with a sixth club) and therefore only one heart. Georg Norris/Henrik Normann were the only N/S pair to make 3♣ and scored +21 for doing so; declarer needs a little help to achieve that result.



Bd: C13	North		
Dlr: North	♠ AJ83		
Vul: Both	♥ 76		
	♦ J9876		
	♣ 109		
West		East	
♠ KQ106		♠ ----	
♥ J983		♥ AKQ54	
♦ ---		♦ AKQ54	
♣ AQ632		♣ J54	
	South		
	♠ 97542		
	♥ 102		
	♦ 1032		
	♣ K87		

Bd: C14	North:		
Dlr: East	♠ KJ		
Vul: Neither	♥ Q98		
	♦ KQ8632		
	♣ K9		
West		East	
♠ Q943		♠ A87652	
♥ K1072		♥ A4	
♦ 104		♦ ---	
♣ 1063		♣ J8754	
	South		
	♠ 10		
	♥ J653		
	♦ AJ975		
	♣ AQ2		

Exactly half the E/W pairs reached the par contract of 6♥ and 10 of those 13 made their overtrick, only to score −6. Making only 12 tricks was a disaster (−19). Two pairs stopped short of slam, but 11 bid seven and made it, Lars Blakset/Andreas Marquardsen after a misunderstanding which prompted Doris Fischer to double, which cost her side 11 matchpoints.

On the next deal, North held:

♠KJ ♥Q98 ♦KQ8632 ♣K9

The bidding proceeded:

West	North	East	South
		1♠	Dbl
3♠	3NT	4♠	Pass
Pass	?		

Neither side vulnerable. Would you double, bid 5♦ or try 4NT?



"You say he has 5 spade, 3 hearts, 4 diamonds and 4 clubs!?"

On a club lead declarer would have to build a major-suit winner to get home in 4NT, but at the table East usually led a spade, as you would expect and +430 yielded a score of +12. Schaffer/Bernes were the only E/W pair to defeat 4NT but three pairs judged to bid 5♦, which went one down (−20). The winning action for E/W is to compete to 5♠, which costs only 300. Four pairs did this and were over average.

Special Crouching Tiger awards are being held for Kwiecien/Bizon and Burghout/Ramondt for doubling 3NT and 4NT, respectively. Not that either of those doubles was successful: their opponents scored 25 and 23 (also respectively).

At the lunch break, with one long session remaining, the overnight leaders and runners-up had traded places, and had opened a significant gap over the new third place pair:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| (1) Morten Bilde/Jorgen Hansen | Denmark |
| +375 58.93% | |
| (2) HK Sorensen/Niels Henriksen | Denmark |
| +325 57.74% | |
| (3) Doris Fischer/Bernd Saurer | Austria |
| +243 55.79% | |

There were four other pairs over 55%: Magnus Magnusson/Matthias Thorvaldsson (Iceland), Andrew McIntosh/David Bakhshi (England), Ulrik/Peter Zeeberg (Denmark) and Michael Askgaard/Gregers Bjarnarson (Denmark) and another five pairs over 53% with legitimate hopes of finishing in the top three.

Bd: D6	North	
Dlr: East	♠ 74	
Vul: E/W	♥ J3	
	♦ J109532	
	♣ J63	
West		East
♠ K		♠ AQ962
♥ Q9654		♥ K1087
♦ 76		♦ A
♣ KQ1042		♣ A95
	North	
	♠ J10853	
	♥ A2	
	♦ KQ84	
	♣ 87	

Half the E/W pairs reached the decent 6♥ and all but one of them (Lars Munksgaard/Allan Cohen) got the hearts right and made it. Where West was willing and able to respond 2♥ to 1♠ it was almost inevitable that E/W would reach slam, but after 1♠-1NT it's more challenging. The key decision is West's, over East's 2♥ rebid. With no special agreements in place, 4♥ was the inadequate solution, but really, West should have two strong options at his disposal: 4♣ (fit-showing) and 3NT (spade honor). East would love his hand in either case.

Bd: D8	North	
Dlr: West	♠ 86532	
Vul: Neither	♥ 83	
	♦ K52	
	♣ J53	
West		East
♠ Q10		♠ AK7
♥ AK1072		♥ J4
♦ AJ7		♦ 984
♣ AKQ		♣ 109762
	South	
	♠ J94	
	♥ Q965	
	♦ Q1063	
	♣ 84	

Only nine E/W pairs bid this decent 6NT. Christina Klemmensen/Tina Ege had no trouble against us when West described 24-25 HCP and East drove to six, both players adding a point for

their five-card suits. Three of those pairs in 6NT made seven when South discarded a heart and declarer finessed. South can delay his critical discard for a while and North can use his club spots to show his intention to keep diamonds, and while holding declarer to 12 tricks would have saved 9 matchpoints, N/S could do no better than -14 for their care.

Bd: D9	North		
Dlr: North	♠ AJ106		
Vul: E/W	♥ J10973		
	♦ 432		
	♣ 10		
West		East	
♠ 42		♠ 8753	
♥ Q8		♥ K52	
♦ Q97		♦ AJ	
♣ AKQJ76		♣ 9542	
	South		
	♠ KQ9		
	♥ A64		
	♦ K10865		
	♣ 83		
West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1NT(11-14)
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥(1)	Pass	Pass
3♣	All Pass		
(1) No game, at least four-four in the majors.			

West declared 3♣ seven times for +110 and +11 matchpoints. N/S can make 3♥. What's wrong with this picture?

The answer is that North should bid 3♥. As South passed 2♥ he can be expected to hold three of these and North has a pure hand with enough to think that 2♥ would have made. At any form of scoring it's reasonable to bid again, and as double is just too rich, 3♥ is all that's left. Once in a while North would be turning a small plus into a small minus, but it's a question of frequency and North should take the plunge.



Bd: D20	North		
Dlr: West	♠ AQ		
Vul: Both	♥ A2		
	♦ 65432		
	♣ K1098		
West		East	
♠ 6		♠ 753	
♥ KJ53		♥ Q10976	
♦ Q87		♦ AKJ10	
♣ AJ653		♣ Q	
		South	
		♠ KJ109842	
		♥ 84	
		♦ 9	
		♣ 742	
West	North	East	South
<i>Kristenson</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>	<i>Nohr</i>	<i>Kokish</i>
Pass	1NT	2♥(♥+m)	4♥(♠)
5♥	All Pass		

If N/S don't find their diamond ruff E/W can make 5♥ while N/S can make 4♠ if West goes up with the ♣A when South leads the suit after trumps are drawn. Both winning defenses are not particularly difficult to find, but there were several tables where one of those contracts was made. Remarkably, there were eight tables at which E/W were allowed to play in 4♥ or 4♥ doubled, and another at which E/W declarer 3♥. There were 13 tables where N/S declared 4♠ or 4♣ doubled. 5♥ down one was +8 for N/S. It's difficult to see why anyone should double but doing so and then getting the defense right would have given N/S an additional 6 matchpoints.



"It was just a misguess—no need to hit me!"

Bd: D23	North		
Dlr: South	♠ AJ10974		
Vul: Both	♥ K93		
	♦ 75		
	♣ 107		
West		East	
♠ 6		♠ KQ8532	
♥ J10852		♥ 6	
♦ 104		♦ J8	
♣ AJ982		♣ Q543	
		South	
		♠ ----	
		♥ AQ74	
		♦ AKQ9632	
		♣ K6	

Around the halfway mark in the fourth session the event had evolved into a battle between Fischer/Saurer and McIntosh/Bakhshi. Boards D22-24 were huge for the Austrians but dreadful for the English, with this deal underscoring the trend at their respective tables. Fischer/Saurer were one of six pairs to try 6♦ and one of three to make it for a score of +21. McIntosh/Bakhshi were one of three pairs to double South in 3NT and the only pair to defend it redoubled. A spade lead held declarer to six (all 13 tricks would be taken on a low club lead to the queen and king as West is squeezed in hearts and clubs after that start), but that was +2200 for N/S and –25 for the intrepid Brits. Two N/S pairs stopped at 5♦ and one bid seven. Another declared 3NT from the North side and went down on a club lead through the king. Argggghh!

McIntosh/Bakhshi recovered their poise to play well against us in the next round. This board was particularly well-judged...



"Hi. I'm Friendly AI of Friendly AI's used cards."

Bd: D27		North	
Dir: South		♠ 62	
Vul: Neither		♥ 5	
		♦ AQJ106	
		♣ AKQ98	
West		East	
♠ K1093		♠ AQ875	
♥ Q103		♥ AJ764	
♦ K753		♦ 84	
♣ 72		♣ 5	
		South	
		♠ J4	
		♥ K982	
		♦ 92	
		♣ J10643	
West	North	East	South
<i>Mittelman</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Kokish</i>	<i>McIntosh</i>
Pass	1♦	2♦(♥+♠)	Pass
4♠	Dbl	All Pass	

As 5♣ is off three cashing tricks it was best to take the money, such as it was from 4♠, and Bakhshi's double left both possibilities open. He cashed the ♣A and switched to his singleton heart. When declarer ducked in an attempt to make his contract, he was headed for down two. McIntosh won and returned a heart for his partner to ruff, but North cashed the ♦A, costing his side a trick. That was +11 for N/S nonetheless, as 17 N/S pairs were going down in 5♣. The second undertrick would have netted the English another 12 matchpoints.



"No alcohol until my first finesse loses."

Bd: D28		North	
Dir: West		♠ AJ3	
Vul: N/S		♥ 6	
		♦ KJ102	
		♣ Q10752	
West		East	
♠ 9		♠ Q7654	
♥ AKQ1098742		♥ 3	
♦ 4		♦ 976	
♣ 83		♣ AJ64	
		South	
		♠ K1082	
		♥ J5	
		♦ AQ852	
		♣ K9	
West	North	East	South
<i>Mouiel</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Kokish</i>
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
5♥	Dbl	All Pass	

Enough with the nine-card suits already! 5♥ doubled went one down, +17 for N/S. 13 N/S pairs sold out to 4♥ and three of them allowed declarer an eleventh trick (−12). One of those 13 pairs doubled 4♥ and held it to four (−19). One N/S pair played in 5♠ doubled, down one (also −17). Thomas Vang Larsen/Stig Werdelin were the only N/S pair permitted to declare 5♦, and they made it doubled for +25 matchpoints.

Going into the 39th and final three-board round, the Austrian lead over the English pair was 20%, or 12 matchpoints, so either pair could win.



"No alcohol until my first finesse wins."

This deal settled the matter:

Bd: D32	North	
Dlr: West	♠ KJ64	
Vul: E/W	♥ J983	
	♦ 632	
	♣ 104	
West		East
♠ 9832		♠ Q5
♥ A102		♥ Q764
♦ A		♦ KQ84
♣ K9853		♣ QJ2
	South	
	♠ A107	
	♥ K5	
	♦ J10975	
	♣ A76	

Half the N/S pairs allowed E/W to take at least nine tricks in notrump games or partscores. Fischer/Saurer did not give anything away on defense and set 3NT, for a score of +21. McIntosh/Bakhshi declarer a sensible 3♣, which they made, but +110 was not good enough as only four E/W pairs went minus. Rather cruelly, they scored –14. The Austrians won the round +8 to –18 and won the 5th Hecht Cup with a stellar performance.

The final leader board:

(1) Doris Fischer/Bernd Saurer	Austria
+365 56.24%	
(2) Andrew McIntosh/David Bakhshi	England
+327 55.59%	
(3) Bettina Kalkerup/Ulla Koch	Denmark
+271 54.63%	
(4) Nicolai Kampmann/Jens Auken	Denmark
+262 54.48%	
(5) Ulrik/Peter Zeeberg	Denmark
+252 54.31%	
(6) Georg Norris/Henrik Normann	Denmark
+249 54.26%	
(6) Morten Bilde/Jorgen Hansen	Denmark
+249 54.26%	
(8) Sabine Auken/Janice Seamon-Molloy	USA/Dmk
+234 54.00%	
(9) Martin Schifko/Andreas Gloyer	Austria
+222 53.79%	
(10) Michael Askgaard/Gregers Bjarnason	Denmark
+218 53.73%	

The closing party was held at a special restaurant in the middle of a forest. Those of us who walked the last few thousand metres were pleased to cross paths with several elk in full antler. The elk did not join us for dinner, or for dancing, which went on until the wee hours. The Danes sure know how to party. Peter brought his own juke box, which earns him my undying respect.



Round Four: Israel versus The Netherlands

by Eric Kokish

Israel (Doron and Israel Yadlin, Michael Barel/Migry Zur Campanile), last year's silver medalists in the NEC Cup, were third at the end of the first day of play on Tuesday evening. For their Round Four opponents, they drew the 2004 Olympiad Open Teams runners-up from The Netherlands (Jan Jansma/Louk Verhees, Bas Schollaardt/Maarten Drijver), lying fourth in the NEC Cup.

clubs, Israel parting with the three and seven of hearts and his two remaining low spades. Doron had a shrewd idea that a diamond shift was in order and returned the $\diamond 9$. Israel won the king and played the $\diamond J$, and Verhees was soon one down, -100.

Drijver's choice of leads was the $\heartsuit 10$. When the jack won, Barel saw no reason to risk the spade finesse as he had no indication that clubs were four-zero. When Drijver discarded the $\heartsuit 7$ on the first high club, Barel was in trouble. He cleared clubs, East releasing the $\heartsuit 3$, the $\spadesuit 2$, and $\spadesuit 8$. Either red suit at this point would have worked well for Schollaardt, but instead he switched to the $\spadesuit 7$. Barel finessed the queen and claimed nine tricks for +400 and 11 IMPs to Israel.

Bd: 1		North	
Dir: North		♠ AQ	
Vul: None		♥ AK64	
		♦ 105	
		♣ AKQ83	
West		East	
♠ K107		♠ J832	
♥ 82		♥ Q109753	
♦ A987		♦ KJ4	
♣ J1062		♣ ---	
		South	
		♠ 9654	
		♥ J	
		♦ Q632	
		♣ 9754	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
	1♣(1)	1♥	Pass
1NT	Dbl	2♦	Pass
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		
(1) Polish-style, F1			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
	2♣	3♥	Dbl
Pass	3NT	All pass	
(1) Artificial, weak			

When Verhees in effect bid 3NT on his own, Doron felt that his club stopper and prime values merited a penalty double. Israel led the $\heartsuit 5$, an anti-systemic choice of spot-card. When the jack held, Verhees took a spade finesse and cleared

Bd: 5	North	
Dlr: North	♠ AQ	
Vul: N/S	♥ KJ83	
	♦ AJ8	
	♣ K862	
West		East
♠ 7532		♠ KJ984
♥ A10764		♥ 2
♦ 763		♦ K92
♣ 9		♣ A1043
	South	
	♠ 106	
	♥ Q95	
	♦ Q1054	
	♣ QJ75	
Open Room		
West	North	East
Doron	Verhees	Israel
	1♣(1)	1♠
3♠(2)	All Pass	Pass
(1) Polish-style, F1; (2) Preemptive		
Closed Room		
West	North	East
Schollaardt	Barel	Drijver
	1♣	1♠
3♠(1)	3NT	Dbl
(1) Preemptive		All Pass

After two rounds of trumps, Israel had to lose a spade, two diamonds and a club, for +140. In 3NT doubled, Barel was treated to the lead of the ♠4, around to his tenace. A club to the queen held, and a second club went to the king and ace. Drijver cleared spades, and as Barel still had the ♣8 in his hand, he could not count on reaching dummy twice in clubs (East could play the ten on the six if necessary). Therefore, he could not take four diamond tricks unless West had the singleton king or king-low, and so it was heavily odds-against to go after diamonds, risking a second doubled vulnerable undertrick. He played a heart to the queen and was soon one down, –200. 2 IMPs to the Netherlands, 3-11. Barel was glad to see that East held the ♦K.

Bd: 6		North	
Dir: East		♠ 8	
Vul: E/W		♥ 98753	
		♦ 94	
		♣ KJ954	
West		East	
♠ K1053		♠ AQJ7	
♥ AKQ42		♥ J10	
♦ 7		♦ K1062	
♣ 1082		♣ Q63	
		South	
		♠ 9642	
		♥ 6	
		♦ AQJ853	
		♣ A7	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
1♥	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣(1)	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
(1) 4th suit		4♠	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
1♥	Pass	1♦	Pass
4♦(1)	Pass	1♠	2♦
(1) Splinter raise of spades		4♠	All Pass

The fast way to beat 4♠ is to arrange an early club ruff, but both Souths started reasonably with a trump, declarer taking two rounds in hand. Israel, with no clues from the bidding, started on hearts, but Jansma ruffed the second and switched to ace and another club (Verhees had discarded an encouraging club on the second spade and followed with relatively low hearts) to get his ruff for two down, –200.

Drijver, who knew at least ten of Campanile's cards after Barel's encouraging club discard at trick two, found the good shot of a low club towards dummy. Campanile went up with the ace and demonstrated that a club ruff was not required to defeat 4♠ by returning a trump. Declarer won with the ten and led towards the ♣Q. Barel won with the king and also eschewed the club ruff, returning the ♦9. Drijver played the king, hoping Campanile would win and continue with a "safe" diamond, which would allow the contract to make. It is rumored that South giggled before playing her last trump. Barel clutched all his hearts to the end, so Drijver could not untangle his winners and had to go one down, teased to within an inch of his life. That was an awful lot of work for –100. 3 IMPs to The Netherlands, 6-11.

Bd: 7		North	
Dir: South		♠ J3	
Vul: Both		♥ A10862	
		♦ QJ	
		♣ KQ83	
West		East	
♠ K8542		♠ AQ106	
♥ 54		♥ J7	
♦ K86		♦ A10942	
♣ A52		♣ 97	
		South	
		♠ 97	
		♥ KQ93	
		♦ 753	
		♣ J1064	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	3♠	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
Pass	1♥	1NT(1)	2♥
4♠	All Pass		
(1) 4♠/5+m			

It's difficult to see what either of the Dutch players might have done differently, but 4♠ was a poor contract. Still, looking at all the cards, we can see that it can be made. Schollaardt ducked the opening lead of the ♣K, an ambiguous honor lead for the Israelis. South gave count with the four, an even card, but Barel continued with a low club to the ten and ace. Driver drew trumps, ruffed his remaining club, and called for the ♥J. South took the queen and king, then switched to the ♦5, low, queen, ace. When she followed to the next diamond with the seven, Schollaardt must have been very close to getting it right, but he finessed the eight to go one down, -100. The elements of double-cross are very strong on this hand. To avoid having to break diamonds, the defense could cash two hearts before reverting to clubs. Can they know to do so, however? Declarer also has to deal with South's diamond cards on his own and also the fact that she did not lead an honor after cashing her hearts, leaving declarer a different guess. Isn't bridge fun?

Meanwhile, Doron made six in 3♠ on the lead of the ♦Q, discarding his heart losers on the now-running diamonds after playing low from dummy at trick one: +230. Israel gained 8 IMPs to lead 19-6.



Bd: 8		North	
Dir: West		♠ Q1042	
Vul: None		♥ K75	
		♦ 92	
		♣ 10975	
		West	East
		♠ A8653	♠ KJ7
		♥ Q632	♥ AJ8
		♦ 83	♦ AJ107
		♣ A3	♣ QJ8
		South	
		♠ 9	
		♥ 1094	
		♦ KQ654	
		♣ K642	

Schollaardt/Drijver finished in 3NT by East after South overcalled in diamonds. Campanile led the ♥10, which ran to the jack. Drijver cleared hearts and Barel switched to the ♦9, jack, king, low. Campanile switched to her singleton spade, but that was of no use to the defense on this layout. Drijver passed the ♣J (covering would not have mattered) and cleared spades for +430.

The Yadlins reached 4♠ from the East side with no opposing bidding after a strong notrump opening. Jansma led the ♦K, three, deuce (reverse signals), ace. Israel played ♠A, ♠K, ♦J, pleased to see the nine appear. Jansma switched to the ♥10, covered all around, and led the ♣Q, king, ace. He crossed to the ♣J and played a diamond winner to discard a heart from dummy, and still had the ♥A to reach the remaining diamond winner. Verhees got two trump winners, but that was all: +420. No swing.



"Grace, is that our luggage being loaded on the bus to Kyoto?"

Bd: 10		North	
Dir: East		♠ AJ742	
Vul: Both		♥ KJ	
		♦ A83	
		♣ J95	
West		East	
♠ Q		♠ K9	
♥ A987653		♥ Q42	
♦ K62		♦ QJ1094	
♣ AQ		♣ K84	
		South	
		♠ 108653	
		♥ 10	
		♦ 75	
		♣ 107632	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	2♠	4♠
5♥	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	2♠	4♠
Dbl(1)	All Pass		
(1) Interest in bidding 5♥, extra values			

If a pass of 4♠ would be forcing, there's much to be said for passing with the West hand, with its defensive values in the minors, but as West has opened in third position and N/S are vulnerable, there's nothing explicit about the auction to suggest that a pass should be forcing. In that context, Schollaardt's double said he was keen to go forward, but was willing to give his partner the option of defending. Bingo! A diamond lead would have been best by a wide margin for the defense against 4♠ doubled (down three was a real possibility), but Drijver led the ♥2. Best defense now would have been to cash two high clubs and play a diamond, but Schollaardt returned a diamond. Barel won, discarded dummy's diamond on the ♥K, ruffed a diamond, came to the ♠A, ruffed a diamond, and exited with a trump. With clubs blocked, the defense had to concede a ruff and discard, so Barel lost

only two clubs and the major-suit aces for one down, –200. The Netherlands gained 7 IMPs, closing to within 6 IMPs at 13-19.

Bd: 11		North	
Dir: South		♠ 2	
Vul: None		♥ QJ108	
		♦ QJ865	
		♣ A32	
West		East	
♠ A76		♠ K84	
♥ A97532		♥ 4	
♦ 104		♦ K97	
♣ 107		♣ QJ9854	
		South	
		♠ QJ10953	
		♥ K6	
		♦ A32	
		♣ K6	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
			1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
			1♠
2♥	2NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The defenders got two trumps, the ♥A, a heart ruff, and a diamond at both tables, so Jansma's 2♠ produced +110, Campanile's 4♠ was –100. 5 IMPs to The Netherlands, 1 IMP behind now at 18-19.



"I dunno, those look very much like designs for pyramids to me."

Bd: 15		North	
Dir: South		♠ K762	
Vul: N/S		♥ KJ2	
		♦ J52	
		♣ K83	
West		East	
♠ J84		♠ AQ1093	
♥ Q86		♥ ---	
♦ AKQ		♦ 108763	
♣ 7542		♣ QJ9	
		South	
		♠ 5	
		♥ A1097543	
		♦ 94	
		♣ A106	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
			3♥
Pass	4♥	4♠	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
			3♥
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Both Souths led the ♥A against 4♠. Drijver ruffed, crossed to the ♦A, passed the ♠J, led a spade to the ten, unblocked both diamond honors in dummy, took another trump finesse, and claimed ten tricks, +420.

Israel ruffed the heart lead, crossed to the ♦8, ran the ♠8, and continued with the ♠J, which Verhees covered. Now, if the ♦J drops on the second round, declarer can finish trumps, unblocking the ♦Q on the fourth trump, but if the ♦J does not appear, he must risk playing the third high diamond, as Drijver did. Losing his concentration for a moment, Israel played a third high trump before dealing with the offending diamond honors. He could no longer recover and managed to get out for one down, -50. That was 10 IMPs to The Netherlands, who claimed the lead for the first time in the match, 28-20.

Bd: 16		North	
Dir: West		♠ 10763	
Vul: E/W		♥ J7642	
		♦ AK	
		♣ 102	
West		East	
♠ KJ42		♠ 9	
♥ 9		♥ A108	
♦ Q752		♦ 109643	
♣ KQ76		♣ AJ95	
		South	
		♠ AQ85	
		♥ KQ53	
		♦ J8	
		♣ 843	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	Dbl
1♠	3♥	5♣	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
Dbl	2NT(1)	4♦	All Pass
(1) Game try			

There were three losers for E/W in both 5♣ and 4♦, so The Netherlands gained 6 IMPs, 34-20.

Bd: 19		North	
Dir: South		♠ QJ109854	
Vul: E/W		♥ 32	
		♦ 3	
		♣ 1053	
West		East	
♠ AK6		♠ 73	
♥ 95		♥ AQJ	
♦ J9865		♦ K74	
♣ AQJ		♣ K9742	
		South	
		♠ 2	
		♥ K108764	
		♦ AQ102	
		♣ 86	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
			Pass
1NT	3♠	Dbl	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
			2♦(1)
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(1) Weak 2♥ or weak 2♠			



"I'm going to do it; he'll never notice."

3♠ doubled had six losers when the defense started with a club to the ace, ♠K, ♣Q, ♣J: down 300. The South hand was inappropriate for both 1♥ and a Multi in Jansma's style.

3NT produced a relatively painless +600 on a spade lead, declarer testing clubs before losing a heart to South. The Netherlands gained 7 IMPs to lead by 21, 41-20.

There was one swing left in the match and it went to the trailing team...

Bd: 20	North	
Dlr: West	♠ 642	
Vul: Both	♥ 94	
	♦ 8743	
	♣ A762	
West		East
♠ Q1098		♠ AKJ75
♥ QJ10		♥ 32
♦ A10		♦ Q52
♣ J1094		♣ Q83
	South	
	♠ 3	
	♥ AK8765	
	♦ KJ96	
	♣ K5	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Doron</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♥
2♠	Pass	Pass	2NT(1)
Dbl	3♣(2)	All Pass	
(1) Long hearts, a secondary minor; (2) Intended as "pass with clubs, else correct to diamonds"			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Schollaardt</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♥
2NT	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Jansma felt that Verhees could pass over Doron's double to hear which minor South held and that 3♣ was therefore natural. After a high spade and a club shift, Verhees won the ♣K and played three rounds of hearts, discarding a spade on the third. Trumps were continued, and although he guessed diamonds correctly, he could take no more tricks. Five down, -500.

Against 3♠, the defense started with three rounds of hearts, Barel ruffing to kill any potential discard. Drijver had to lose two clubs and a diamond for one down, -100. That was 12 IMPs to Israel, who lost the match 32-41. The Netherlands won 17-13 in VP.



"You were expecting, maybe, Zia?"

Crocodile Coup Foils Gu

by Matthew Granovetter (bridgetoday.com)

Dir: East		North	
Vul: None		♠ 7532	
		♥ 7632	
		♦ 852	
		♣ 43	
West		East	
♠ K9		♠ 10	
♥ Q1054		♥ KJ	
♦ AKQJ6		♦ 10973	
♣ Q5		♣ J109862	
		South	
		♠ AQJ864	
		♥ A98	
		♦ 4	
		♣ AK7	
West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♣(1)
Pass	1♦(2)	Pass	1♠
2♦	2♠	4♦	4♠
All Pass			
(1) Precision, 16+ HCP; (2) Negative (< 8 HCP)			

Opening lead: ♦A.

Ling Gu has many fine achievements, including winning last year's NEC Cup. Here's a hand from a World Championship that she played perfectly, but was foiled in the end by her opponent, who had to execute the famous Crocodile Coup at the last moment to stop Gu

from succeeding.

The auction began with a Precision Club, showing 16 or more points. West (Lisa Berkowitz) passed to await developments and North bid one diamond with her terrible hand, showing less than 8 points. South rebid one spade and now West overcalled two diamonds. North decided to raise spades based solely on her four-card support. This raise influenced her partner to bid game.

Mrs. Berkowitz led the ♦A and continued diamonds, ruffed by South. Ms. Gu cashed the ♣AK and then played the ♠A. When the king did not fall, she ruffed a club in dummy and ruffed a diamond in her hand. Then she led a trump to West's king. Mrs. Berkowitz led a heart to East's king and South's ace. Now Ms. Gu returned the ♥8. This was the crucial moment.

Mrs. Berkowitz was down to the ♥Q10. If she had played the ten, her partner would have won the trick with the jack and East would have been forced to give declarer a ruff and sluff with a minor-suit lead; declarer would discard her ♥9 from her hand and ruff in dummy. Instead, Mrs. Berkowitz executed the Crocodile Coup by playing the queen on South's lead of the eight. The queen "swallowed" her partner's jack. Mrs. Berkowitz then cashed the ♥10, which was the fourth trick for the defense, and defeated the contract.



Round Five: Russia/Poland versus England/Norway

by Eric Kokish

Two mighty transnational teams faced off in Round Five, neither of them secure in their quest for a place in the quarter-finals. Let's call Russia/Poland R/P (Cezary Balicki/Adam Zmudzinski, Andrei Gromov/Alexander Dubinin) and England/Norway E/N (Justin and Paul Hackett, Geir Helgemo/Tor Helness).

The first swing of the match was a big one...

Bd: 2	North		
Dlr: East	♠ 75		
Vul: N/S	♥ 953		
	♦ AQ874		
	♣ K43		
West		East	
♠ KQJ1096		♠ 432	
♥ J6		♥ Q107	
♦ KJ105		♦ 932	
♣ 6		♣ J1095	
	South		
	♠ A8		
	♥ AK842		
	♦ 6		
	♣ AQ872		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Dubinin</i>
1♠	2♠(2)	Pass	1♣(1)
4♠	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	6♣
(1) Precision, strong, F1; (2) Bal. positive, no spade stopper			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Paul</i>
3♠	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	4♣

With the ♦K onside and hearts three-two, Dubinin was able to deal with the four-one club break and coast home safely in 6♥, +1430. Paul could not comfortably afford the diamond finesse

in 4♥ and settled for +650, ruffing a club in dummy. 13 IMPs to R/P, with a tip of the hat to Lady Luck.

Bd: 4	North		
Dlr: West	♠ J762		
Vul: Both	♥ QJ		
	♦ A2		
	♣ KQ864		
West		East	
♠ AKQ94		♠ 3	
♥ A82		♥ 109653	
♦ 1095		♦ KQJ64	
♣ 103		♣ J9	
	South		
	♠ 1085		
	♥ K74		
	♦ 873		
	♣ A752		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Dubinin</i>
1♠	2♣	Dbl	3♣
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Paul</i>
1♠	Pass	1NT	All Pass

Players that believe it's right to overcall 2♣ with a hand like North's are pretty sure they're doing the right thing, so there's nothing left to say on the subject. Gromov went one down in 3♣ for -100.

I have much more sympathy for Paul Hackett's lead of the ♦3 against Balicki's 1NT, but it worked dreadfully. The club switch held declarer to seven tricks and +90, so R/P emerged with a flat board. Not without a further nod to Lady Luck, says this reporter.



Bd: 5		North	
Dir: North		♠ KJ872	
Vul: N/S		♥ AQ	
		♦ KQ2	
		♣ 652	
West		East	
♠ Q6		♠ A3	
♥ 6542		♥ K109873	
♦ A1043		♦ 97	
♣ AJ9		♣ Q73	
		South	
		♠ 10954	
		♥ J	
		♦ J865	
		♣ K1084	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Gromov	Helness	Dubin
	1♠	2♥	3♠(1)
4♥	All Pass		
(1) Preemptive			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Justin	Balicki	Paul
	1NT	2♥	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

The luck continued to run with the bold in the early going. At both tables, South's minor-honor lead in spades was covered all around, and declarer exited in spades.

Against 3♥, Paul let Justin win this trick. Ace and queen of trumps came next, Balicki winning to run the ♦7. Justin won and switched to the ♣2: +170.

Against 4♥, Dubinin went in with the ♠10. Gromov's eight suggested a diamond switch, the third-best six going to the king. Gromov played ace-queen of trumps, but declarer could hardly go wrong. Helness won, played ♦A, diamond ruff, club to the jack, and ran trumps. Dubinin was squeezed in the minors in front of dummy and Helness was +420. E/N gained 6 IMPs and trailed by 5, 8-13.

Bd: 7		North	
Dir: South		♠ J642	
Vul: Both		♥ K9763	
		♦ AQ10	
		♣ Q	
West		East	
♠ 1097		♠ AK85	
♥ QJ108		♥ 2	
♦ K32		♦ 864	
♣ J32		♣ K8754	
		South	
		♠ Q3	
		♥ A54	
		♦ J975	
		♣ A1096	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Gromov	Helness	Dubin
			Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣(1)
Pass	2♥(2)	Dbl	Rdbl
Pass	Pass	3♣	Dbl
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Justin	Balicki	Paul
			1♦
Pass	1♥	Dbl	1NT(1)
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
(1) Three-card heart raise			

It's always been my feeling that it's safer to double 1♥ for takeout with a hand like East's than it is to come in later, but Helness was mildly unlucky that someone had an especially attractive penalty double when he wriggled into a five-three fit. Dubinin found a good lead in the ♦7 and after some questionable plays by both sides the result was four down, -1100. "I'm lucky no one doubled," tried Helness, with no success.

After ace-king of spades and a diamond switch, Justin had to lose two trump tricks for -100. R/P gained 15 IMPs, making it 28-8 in their favor.

Bd: 8		North	
Dir: West		♠ AQ853	
Vul: None		♥ 6	
		♦ 873	
		♣ 10932	
West		East	
♠ 4		♠ J1092	
♥ QJ10872		♥ A95	
♦ A642		♦ Q9	
♣ Q7		♣ AK86	
		South	
		♠ K76	
		♥ K43	
		♦ KJ105	
		♣ J54	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Dubin</i>
2♥	Pass	3♥	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Paul</i>
2♦(1)	Pass	4♣(2)	Pass
4♦(3)	Pass	4♥	All Pass
(1) Weak 2♥ or weak 2♠; (2) Transfer to your suit; (3) I have hearts			

The brave continued to score well. Balicki, in 4♥ from the stronger side, got the most favorable lead of the ♦J. He decided not to run it to his queen, and made five without raising a sweat: ♦A, three clubs to discard the ♠4, diamond. Now he could ruff two diamonds with the ace and nine: +450.

At the other table, the diamond lead was *through* the queen, but the play was exactly the same: +200. R/P gained 6 IMPs, 34-8.



Justin Hackett

Bd: 9		North	
Dir: North		♠ K984	
Vul: E/W		♥ J9	
		♦ 103	
		♣ KQ643	
West		East	
♠ 10		♠ Q76	
♥ K852		♥ Q76	
♦ J9754		♦ AQ82	
♣ J72		♣ A98	
		South	
		♠ AJ532	
		♥ A1043	
		♦ K6	
		♣ 105	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Gromov	Helness	Dubin
	Pass	1♦	1♠
Dbl	2NT(1)	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
(1) Limit raise			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Justin	Balicki	Paul
	Pass	1NT	2♦(1)
Pass	3♠	All Pass	
(1) Spades and another			

In 4♠, Dubinin misguessed the trump queen to go one down, -50. Against 3♠, Balicki led the ♠6, but he was unlikely to make his queen of trumps in any case: +170. 6 IMPs to E/N, 14-34.



"I think I hurt myself."

Bd: 12		North	
Dir: West		♠ KJ643	
Vul: N/S		♥ 6	
		♦ A52	
		♣ 10652	
West		East	
♠ AQ10972		♠ 5	
♥ 1075		♥ J42	
♦ J74		♦ K10963	
♣ K		♣ QJ74	
		South	
		♠ 8	
		♥ AKQ983	
		♦ Q8	
		♣ A983	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Dubin</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♥
1♠	Pass	2♣	2♥
2♠	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Paul</i>
2♦(1)	Pass	2♥(2)	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♥
All Pass			
(1) Weak 2♥ or weak 2♠; (2) Pass-or-correct			

Paul took 10 tricks in 3♥ on the lead of the ♣K, building a spade trick to discard a diamond, +170.

Helgemo went a cool four down in 2♠ for –200, doubtless impressed by the quality of the dummy. “800 for us,” tried Dubinin, unsuccessfully. One IMP to R/P, 35-15.



Tor Helness

Bd: 13		North	
Dir: North		♠ Q5	
Vul: Both		♥ J106	
		♦ J532	
		♣ 8763	
West		East	
♠ K107		♠ AJ64	
♥ 85		♥ KQ97432	
♦ K986		♦ 7	
♣ Q954		♣ A	
		South	
		♠ 9832	
		♥ A	
		♦ AQ104	
		♣ KJ102	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Gromov	Helness	Dubin
	Pass	1♥	Dbl
1NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Justin	Balicki	Paul
	Pass	1♥	Dbl
Pass	2♣	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Dubin in led the ♥A and switched to the ♠9, so Helness cruised home with +650. Poor South is hard pressed to find a safe lead. The auction at the other table suggested that a club lead would be best, so Paul led the ♣J. When Balicki won and led the ♥Q, Paul was legitimately endplayed when he took his ace. He tried the ♦Q but Balicki played the king, and played ♥K, heart to North, who exited smartly with the ♠5. That was not a big success as Balicki won the ten, ruffed the ♣Q in hand, and ran trumps, squeezing South out of his fourth spade, just in case...+650. No swing.



Geir Helgemo

Bd: 14		North	
Dir: East		♠ 8754	
Vul: None		♥ J1098	
		♦ Q73	
		♣ K10	
West		East	
♠ AK109		♠ 3	
♥ 543		♥ KQ72	
♦ J5		♦ AK9	
♣ J762		♣ AQ943	
		South	
		♠ QJ62	
		♥ A6	
		♦ 108642	
		♣ 85	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Dubin</i>
		1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Paul</i>
		1♣(1)	Pass
1♠(2)	Pass	2♣(3)	Pass
2♦(4)	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	All Pass		
(1) Polish, F1; (2) 4♠, 8+HCP; (3) Na., 17+HCP; (4) Waiting			

3NT needed only a bit of luck, but 5♣ needed more. Both contracts were cold, but Helness made five and E/N gained a couple of IMPs, 17-35.



Cezary Balicki

Bd: 15		North	
Dir: South		♠ A1064	
Vul: N/S		♥ AJ75	
		♦ J109	
		♣ 74	
West		East	
♠ J9		♠ K32	
♥ Q93		♥ K102	
♦ K82		♦ Q543	
♣ AJ1085		♣ KQ2	
		South	
		♠ Q875	
		♥ 864	
		♦ A76	
		♣ 963	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Dubin</i>
			Pass
1♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Paul</i>
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣(1)	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(1) Polish, F1			

Dubin in had a natural spade lead against Helness' 3NT, and the defenders came to three spades and two aces for one down, -100.

It's not clear which suit North should lead against West's 3NT, and Justin opted for safety in the ♦J, which ran to the king. Zmudzinski crossed to the ♣K and led a heart to the queen and ace. Justin played a second heart, but Zmudzinski called for the ten, won the trick, ran the clubs, and led the ♠J. Justin took the ace to continue diamonds, but the defenders could take only two of those and Zmudzinski had nine winners for +400. R/P gained 10 IMPs, extending the lead to 28, 45-17.



Bd: 16		North	
Dir: West		♠ AQ8764	
Vul: E/W		♥ 976	
		♦ A54	
		♣ 3	
West		East	
♠ K953		♠ 102	
♥ 10		♥ AQ54	
♦ 10832		♦ KJ97	
♣ QJ96		♣ AK2	
		South	
		♠ J	
		♥ KJ832	
		♦ Q6	
		♣ 108754	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Dubin</i>
Pass	1♠	Dbl	2♦(1)
Pass	2♥	All Pass	
(1) Hearts			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Paul</i>
Pass	1♠	Dbl	Pass
2♣	2♠	Dbl	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	All Pass

There are several questionable calls in those two auctions, but even those are understandable. Gromov, playing 2♥ from the short side, got the ♣A lead and a low heart shift from Helness. He won with dummy's jack, cross-ruffed the black suits to bring his trick total to six, and exited with dummy's ♥K. Helness had to lead from the ♦K at the end: a handsome +110 for Gromov.

In 3♣, the play did not go especially well for Zmudzinski, who pieced together seven tricks for two down, -200. E/N gained 3 IMPs, 20-45.



Bd: 20		North	
Dir: West		♠ K85	
Vul: Both		♥ AKQ2	
		♦ QJ532	
		♣ 9	
West		East	
♠ A102		♠ J76	
♥ 765		♥ J83	
♦ A74		♦ 1096	
♣ K762		♣ QJ103	
		South	
		♠ Q943	
		♥ 1094	
		♦ K8	
		♣ A854	
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Gromov	Helness	Dubin
Pass	1♦(1)	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥(2)	Pass	2♠
All Pass			
(1) 4+♦, unbal., 11-15 HCP; (2) 3=4=5=1, maximum			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Justin	Balicki	Paul
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT

The Russian auction was infinitely more comfortable than the English one, in which North was overbidding slightly. Still, 2♠, was not laydown and 3NT had chances on Zmudzinski's lead of the ♥7. Paul won in dummy and elected to try to slip a spade through rather than try for four tricks in both red suits. When Zmudzinski took the ♠Q with the ace he switched to the ♣2 and the defenders soon had three clubs and two aces for -100. Paul was not delighted to learn that he could have made 3NT by playing on diamonds.

On the lie of the cards there were no problems for Dubinin in 2♠, which yielded +140. R/P gained 6 IMPs and won the match 51-21, 21-9.

10th NEC Bridge Festival Daily Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
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 rd Playoff (1)	
	12:30-14:50	NEC Cup Final (2) & 3 rd Playoff (2)	
	14:50-16:00	Lunch Break	
	16:00-18:20	NEC Cup Final (3)	
	18:30-20:50	NEC Cup Final (4)	
Sunday (Feb. 13)	10:00-17:00	Yokohama SRR & Swiss Teams (2)	F201-204
	10:00-17:00	Asuka Cup	
	18:00-20:30	Closing Ceremony	

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

Registration for Yokohama SRR & Swiss Teams and Asuka Cup

Anyone planning to play in the Yokohama SRR & Swiss Teams on Friday and Saturday, February 10 & 11, please make sure to register by 5:00 PM on Thursday, February 10.

Anyone planning to play in the Asuka Cup (Open Pairs) on Sunday, February 13, should please register by 6:00 PM on Saturday, February 12.

Limousine Buses to Narita Airport

Please make your reservation for your return limousine bus to Narita airport at the Bell Desk on the ground floor of the Grand Inter-Continental Hotel.

DATUM

Qualifying Round 4

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	160	-5	5	-5	5	-5	5	-5	5	-6	-6	-5	5	6	1	6	5	6	5	6	6	-5	0	6	-6
2	-430	-1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	-6	0	1
3	20	-5	3	2	2	-4	-3	-3	5	3	-3	3	4	3	-6	2	3	3	-6	3	-3	3	3	-3	-3
4	590	11	-13	2	-13	13	-2	13	-11	2	-1	2	-13	2	-2	-13	-2	2	13	1	-2	-12	12	13	-2
5	-130	-10	-6	1	2	0	0	6	10	0	2	0	0	-2	-1	-7	7	6	1	-2	0	-1	-6	6	10
6	30	5	12	-12	-2	2	-2	-12	-5	5	-2	2	-2	-16	12	5	-2	2	-2	2	-5	5	-2	7	12
7	-240	0	-8	2	9	0	10	8	0	0	-8	-10	0	1	-2	8	0	-9	9	8	0	-9	0	-9	0
8	-380	-2	2	-1	1	-1	2	-2	2	-1	2	-2	1	-2	1	-1	1	-2	2	-2	1	-2	-10	-1	2
9	-640	0	0	-1	13	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	-1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	-1	0	-1	1
10	-220	9	-9	-10	7	9	-8	9	-9	8	-1	8	-9	-9	-12	9	9	-9	9	1	-8	12	-8	9	-8
11	60	-3	-2	-4	3	2	3	2	3	2	4	-3	-2	-3	-2	9	5	6	-2	-4	-2	-6	3	12	-1
12	90	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	5	2	-2	-7	1	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2
13	650	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
14	370	-9	-1	-9	-1	1	-1	1	9	2	-2	1	-1	3	-1	1	-1	1	-2	2	-2	-11	9	1	-1
15	-190	-6	9	8	-1	6	-1	-9	6	6	6	1	-6	-5	-7	-6	-3	-6	6	-6	-6	8	6	-6	6
16	0	-4	2	3	11	-3	3	-2	4	3	4	-3	3	3	4	3	2	-2	4	-4	-3	-3	3	-4	4
17	-50	3	-4	-2	2	-2	2	4	-3	-2	2	-2	2	3	2	-2	2	3	-5	-2	2	-2	2	5	2
18	80	1	0	1	-1	2	0	0	-1	0	0	0	-2	1	5	1	0	-7	0	0	0	-5	-1	0	0
19	-560	-1	2	2	6	-2	2	-2	1	6	1	-2	2	8	-2	-3	3	2	2	-1	-6	6	2	-1	1
20	10	3	-3	4	-3	3	-3	3	-3	-11	-3	3	-3	3	-3	3	4	3	-3	3	11	3	4	5	4
IMP +		34	35	27	61	40	28	48	46	39	21	22	18	35	31	49	48	34	53	28	22	39	44	66	43
IMP -		46	48	44	23	18	22	35	34	22	28	28	40	38	38	32	10	42	20	21	39	57	35	25	23

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	160	1	5	-5	5	-1	-6	6	-6	6	5	-5	-6	6	0	6	1	-5	-6	-5	-6	0	5	-5	1
2	-430	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	12	0
3	20	3	-2	-2	-2	-5	4	-3	5	3	-6	3	-4	-4	3	-4	5	2	-3	6	-3	-3	-3	-4	3
4	590	-13	-2	13	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-12	-2	2	-2	-12	12	2	-2	3	-2	-13	-2	-12	12	2	-13
5	-130	-2	-1	-2	-1	1	-13	12	7	6	1	5	1	6	0	13	-1	6	-6	-1	-6	6	1	-10	2
6	30	2	12	2	12	5	-5	2	-2	2	-7	2	12	5	-5	5	-5	2	-2	2	-2	2	-5	5	-2
7	-240	0	-4	-9	-2	2	-8	0	9	-9	-8	3	9	0	-4	8	-2	-9	0	-9	9	0	9	1	-1
8	-380	-1	1	-1	1	-2	1	-1	2	10	1	-1	2	10	2	-1	2	-1	1	-2	2	10	2	-1	2
9	-640	0	-1	-13	1	0	-12	12	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	0	12	0	-1	1	-1	0	0	1	0	0
10	-220	-9	12	-7	10	-9	-1	-9	-8	-11	9	-9	-8	9	11	1	9	-9	-8	-9	9	8	-12	8	10
11	60	-4	4	-3	4	-3	-9	2	-1	-3	-6	-3	3	5	9	3	0	3	2	-6	-3	6	4	-2	
12	90	2	6	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-5	-2	2	0	2	1	2	-2	2	-2	-1	7	2	-2	11	-2
13	650	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
14	370	3	-3	1	9	3	-3	3	-2	1	-2	1	-2	-5	-1	3	-3	-11	-1	2	-1	-9	11	2	-1
15	-190	14	0	1	-8	1	-8	0	-1	-6	-3	-6	6	-6	-3	8	-1	8	-3	-6	6	-6	-8	3	6
16	0	3	-3	-11	-3	3	-3	3	-3	2	3	4	5	4	3	-3	3	2	2	-4	2	-3	3	3	2
17	-50	3	3	-2	2	-2	-4	3	2	-2	2	4	2	3	2	4	2	-2	2	5	-3	-2	2	4	-3
18	80	2	-1	1	-1	1	5	0	0	0	-1	-5	-1	2	0	-5	-1	0	-1	0	7	1	5	-5	-1
19	-560	-3	3	-6	-2	-1	1	-1	2	-1	-2	10	-2	-1	3	-1	1	-1	2	-2	-2	-2	-6	2	11
20	10	3	4	3	-4	-11	-13	5	4	3	-3	-4	4	3	4	13	11	3	-3	3	-3	-4	-3	5	-3
IMP +		36	51	23	44	20	12	52	34	31	21	35	45	54	48	89	34	29	11	20	42	35	57	62	37
IMP -		33	17	61	27	34	89	14	27	53	42	34	25	29	13	12	20	39	37	53	34	44	39	26	28

DATUM

Qualifying Round 4

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	160	-5	-6	-5	-6	-1	-6	6	5	0	0	6	5	6	1	-1	-6	6	6	0	0	0	5	6	5
2	-430	0	0	-6	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	20	6	-3	-3	-2	2	3	4	-3	0	0	-3	-3	-3	-2	6	-3	-2	-6	0	0	3	-2	3	-2
4	590	2	12	2	13	2	-5	2	-2	0	0	3	-1	5	-2	2	-2	-12	12	0	0	2	-1	2	-3
5	-130	-1	-6	-7	7	-7	7	-1	-5	0	0	6	-6	-7	7	1	2	-1	-6	0	0	-1	1	6	-6
6	30	7	-2	2	-5	2	-2	-12	-2	0	0	-12	-5	2	-2	-12	16	-12	-2	0	0	5	-7	2	-2
7	-240	8	9	0	-8	4	0	-9	-3	0	0	-10	-4	0	-4	2	-1	8	-8	0	0	8	0	0	9
8	-380	-1	-10	-1	1	10	1	-2	1	0	0	10	2	-1	-10	-1	2	-1	1	0	0	-1	1	-1	1
9	-640	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	1
10	-220	-9	11	-9	-9	9	9	8	9	0	0	9	-8	-9	-9	12	9	9	-8	0	0	-7	-8	8	9
11	60	6	3	-5	-9	12	3	-3	3	0	0	-3	-2	-3	-12	2	3	2	-6	0	0	-4	3	-3	0
12	90	2	5	2	-2	-9	-2	0	-2	0	0	-5	-2	2	9	-5	-2	-5	-2	0	0	-5	-2	2	-2
13	650	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	370	2	-1	1	-1	1	9	2	-1	0	0	1	-3	-9	-1	1	-3	2	-1	0	0	3	-1	1	11
15	-190	3	6	3	6	0	6	-6	6	0	0	6	-3	-6	0	7	5	3	-14	0	0	1	-1	3	-8
16	0	-2	3	-2	-3	-2	-3	-4	-3	0	0	0	2	3	2	-4	-3	-3	0	0	0	3	2	-2	-3
17	-50	-2	2	-2	2	5	-4	-2	-4	0	0	-2	2	4	-5	-2	-3	-1	2	0	0	-2	3	-2	2
18	80	1	0	0	-1	1	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-5	-1	2	0	0	0	-5	-1	1	0
19	-560	2	1	-3	3	-2	-13	2	-10	0	0	-1	-11	13	2	2	-8	-1	1	0	0	-1	1	-2	1
20	10	3	-3	-4	-3	3	-3	-4	4	0	0	3	5	3	-3	3	-3	-11	4	0	0	3	-3	3	-3
IMP +		42	53	10	32	51	39	25	34	0	0	45	18	38	21	38	38	32	26	0	0	28	16	37	39
IMP -		21	31	48	49	21	38	45	35	0	0	36	48	39	51	31	35	49	54	0	0	26	26	11	29

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	160	-5	-6	-3	-6	-5	-1	-5	0	0	-6	6	-6	-1	5	6	-6	-6	-6	6	3	0	0
2	-430	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-12	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	20	3	3	-3	3	2	-3	2	-3	-3	4	-5	3	-3	4	3	3	6	2	-3	3	0	0
4	590	1	-3	13	-2	2	13	1	-2	-12	12	2	-2	13	-2	2	-13	-12	12	2	-13	0	0
5	-130	6	-6	-2	2	1	2	-1	1	0	-6	-7	-12	-2	10	-10	-6	6	1	-2	2	0	0
6	30	5	12	2	-2	-12	-2	7	-5	5	-5	2	-2	2	-5	-12	-7	2	12	2	-2	0	0
7	-240	4	10	4	-4	4	0	0	-8	4	0	-9	0	1	-1	0	9	8	-8	4	-4	0	0
8	-380	-2	-10	10	1	-1	1	-1	1	-2	-10	-2	1	-2	1	-2	1	-1	1	-1	-10	0	0
9	-640	-1	0	-1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	-12	0	0	-1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
10	-220	8	-9	-9	9	-12	9	8	7	-11	-9	8	9	-10	-8	8	-9	8	-9	-9	9	0	0
11	60	2	3	1	-3	-4	4	-3	4	-5	-3	1	-2	2	-4	1	-12	6	-2	3	-1	0	0
12	90	2	5	2	-2	-6	-2	2	5	-1	-2	2	-2	2	-11	2	-2	2	5	2	-2	0	0
13	650	0	-1	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	370	3	-1	1	-3	3	-3	1	-3	1	5	2	-3	1	-2	1	-1	1	-2	3	-1	0	0
15	-190	3	-6	6	6	0	-14	1	-1	3	6	1	0	-6	-3	-6	6	14	-3	-6	-6	0	0
16	0	-2	0	3	2	3	-3	-2	-3	-4	-5	3	-3	-2	-3	-4	4	0	3	-2	-3	0	0
17	-50	-2	2	3	2	-3	-3	-3	2	-2	-3	-2	-3	3	-4	-2	-5	-2	1	-2	-3	0	0
18	80	0	0	1	5	1	-2	1	5	0	-2	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	-2	-5	-1	0	0
19	-560	11	1	-1	1	-3	3	-1	1	-3	1	-2	1	-11	-2	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	0	0
20	10	-5	-3	3	4	-4	-3	3	-3	-4	-3	-4	-5	3	-5	-4	-5	-4	11	-4	-3	0	0
IMP +		48	36	49	35	17	33	26	26	13	29	27	14	28	26	23	25	54	49	22	19	0	0
IMP -		18	45	19	22	51	36	16	28	48	54	34	52	37	62	43	66	26	32	35	49	0	0

DATUM

Qualifying Round 5

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	470	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	1	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	1	-1	1	1	1	-1	1	-1	1
2	780	-4	-1	-4	4	12	-1	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	4	-4	-12	1	-12	-4	4	12	4
3	-680	1	-1	2	-1	1	-1	1	-1	0	-1	2	-1	0	-1	1	0	2	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-2
4	-50	-2	-6	6	2	-2	2	-2	3	-2	-4	4	2	-2	2	4	2	-1	2	-2	2	-2	-6	-2	1
5	-210	7	-3	3	-1	0	-1	2	5	-3	7	-3	5	-3	-7	-7	3	1	5	1	0	-3	-1	-5	-1
6	-400	-6	-7	-6	6	3	5	-6	6	-6	6	-6	5	6	6	-6	6	-6	6	-5	-3	-5	-5	-6	6
7	90	2	5	2	5	-5	-1	2	-3	3	-9	2	-5	11	-2	9	-3	-5	-14	1	5	-5	-2	14	5
8	-360	-3	-4	-2	-4	4	2	-1	-4	-3	-4	-2	3	-2	2	4	3	-3	-4	-2	-4	4	2	4	3
9	170	7	1	0	-6	-1	0	-1	-6	6	0	0	-6	-1	-1	0	-6	0	6	0	1	-6	0	-6	0
10	-480	-4	4	-4	-11	12	4	-3	4	-4	-11	-4	3	-4	7	11	4	-3	4	-4	-12	-4	4	-4	3
11	510	-2	0	0	2	11	-11	-2	3	0	2	-2	11	-2	11	-2	0	-2	2	11	-11	-2	-11	-2	2
12	360	-5	5	7	10	4	5	-6	-6	6	5	6	10	4	5	-5	-6	-5	4	-5	-4	7	-7	-4	5
13	-470	7	4	-4	-8	-4	5	-4	-11	7	5	-4	5	7	4	-5	-7	-5	5	-5	4	-4	4	-5	5
14	-370	-1	3	-1	2	-2	2	-1	3	-3	3	-2	-9	9	1	-3	3	-1	3	-2	2	-1	3	-3	1
15	-40	3	-3	-8	2	-2	-5	1	-3	4	2	3	-3	3	2	-2	-4	-8	-3	5	2	-2	2	3	8
16	90	3	4	-12	-3	3	-2	-5	-3	5	5	0	-3	9	5	-5	-5	3	-1	2	-3	-5	4	1	-3
17	370	1	-1	2	-1	1	-1	2	-2	2	-1	2	-2	2	9	1	-2	2	-1	1	-1	2	-1	1	-2
18	-400	-2	11	-11	11	10	-10	10	11	-11	-10	10	11	-2	-10	10	11	-11	11	10	-10	10	11	-11	11
19	-640	0	0	-1	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
20	60	-4	4	2	-2	3	4	11	-2	-4	4	2	-3	-4	4	-4	4	-4	-2	-4	-3	-4	-2	2	4
IMP +		31	41	24	45	64	29	29	40	33	44	31	59	51	64	40	42	8	49	34	18	24	35	38	59
IMP -		34	26	53	38	18	34	36	41	42	40	27	32	25	21	44	33	59	38	29	64	48	36	49	8

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
1	470	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	2	-1	1	-2	1	1	-1
2	780	-4	-12	1	-12	-4	4	-4	4	12	4	1	-1	-4	4	-4	4	12	4	-4	-12	1	-1	-4	4
3	-680	1	-1	1	0	1	-13	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-2	1	-2	1	0	1	-1	1	-1
4	-50	-2	-4	-2	-6	-2	2	-3	2	4	2	-2	2	-3	2	-2	-4	11	2	4	-8	0	0	-2	3
5	-210	-3	-1	-3	9	7	0	3	11	1	3	0	-1	-5	-2	-5	3	6	-2	0	5	0	0	-11	-3
6	-400	6	-6	7	5	7	-7	6	3	6	-6	-6	6	-6	6	-5	6	-6	3	-6	-6	7	-7	-3	-6
7	90	2	5	-5	-2	-5	7	2	-2	-5	-2	9	-2	3	-2	5	-2	2	-2	2	5	0	-2	2	-2
8	-360	-3	3	-3	3	4	3	-2	-4	-3	3	-3	2	4	1	-3	2	-3	3	-3	3	-2	2	4	2
9	170	0	1	-1	-1	-1	0	-6	1	-1	0	-6	1	6	1	6	0	-1	1	7	6	-1	1	-1	6
10	-480	-4	4	11	4	-4	-15	-4	4	-4	4	-4	3	-4	3	-3	4	11	4	8	-15	-4	4	-4	4
11	510	-2	-11	0	2	-11	3	-2	3	11	2	-2	-11	-3	2	-11	2	-2	11	10	2	-2	2	-3	2
12	360	-6	-7	-10	-10	7	-7	-5	5	7	6	-2	-9	6	6	-10	-6	7	5	6	-4	-6	2	-5	5
13	-470	11	5	8	4	12	-11	-4	4	-5	-11	-4	4	11	4	-5	4	-4	5	8	4	7	4	-4	4
14	-370	-1	1	-1	3	-3	3	-1	-9	-1	1	-2	2	-3	1	9	2	-1	-9	9	3	-3	3	9	1
15	-40	3	-3	3	-3	-2	3	-2	-3	3	-3	4	-3	3	-1	3	-3	-2	-6	-8	2	-2	2	3	2
16	90	-5	-5	2	4	3	-1	2	5	5	5	12	-7	3	5	3	0	0	4	0	3	-1	-5	-2	
17	370	2	-2	2	-2	-9	-1	2	9	2	-2	1	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-1	2	-1	2	-2	-9	-2
18	-400	-11	11	10	-11	-11	11	10	11	-11	11	10	11	-11	-10	-11	-10	10	-10	10	2	10	-10	-11	-10
19	-640	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	-2	-1
20	60	2	6	2	-2	11	6	-4	-2	-6	-2	-4	-3	2	-11	3	-2	2	4	2	-11	2	-11	2	4
IMP +		27	36	47	35	52	43	28	64	53	43	38	33	41	36	32	27	64	48	69	33	33	22	22	37
IMP -		43	53	26	50	54	56	37	22	36	27	36	40	40	29	59	31	19	32	23	57	22	35	64	28

DATUM

Qualifying Round 5

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	470	-1	1	-1	2	0	0	1	0	-1	1	-1	-1	0	0	-1	1	0	0	11	1	-1	1	0	1
2	780	1	-1	1	-1	1	4	-4	4	1	4	1	-1	0	0	12	4	0	0	-11	4	-4	4	1	4
3	-680	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-2	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1
4	-50	-2	2	0	0	6	2	-2	-6	-2	2	-2	2	0	0	8	-4	0	0	-2	2	6	2	6	2
5	-210	1	0	0	0	-5	3	1	-3	-5	9	8	3	0	0	-5	0	0	0	11	-2	1	3	3	-7
6	-400	-6	6	7	-7	7	-6	-6	6	6	-7	6	-6	0	0	6	6	0	0	-3	-7	5	5	7	6
7	90	2	-9	2	0	2	5	-5	-2	-5	5	16	5	0	0	-5	-2	0	0	2	5	2	5	-5	-2
8	-360	-2	3	-2	2	11	2	4	2	5	2	4	-9	0	0	-3	3	0	0	-3	2	-2	-4	4	3
9	170	-1	6	-1	1	12	1	6	0	-1	6	6	1	0	0	-6	-7	0	0	-6	1	0	6	-1	-7
10	-480	-3	4	-4	4	-4	4	11	4	-4	4	-4	3	0	0	15	-8	0	0	-4	-11	-4	4	-4	4
11	510	11	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	0	-1	2	10	2	0	0	-2	-10	0	0	-1	-11	11	2	0	2
12	360	9	2	-2	6	7	-4	-10	-7	-6	-7	-5	6	0	0	4	-6	0	0	-6	-7	7	-7	-5	5
13	-470	-4	4	-4	-7	-4	4	8	4	-4	4	7	4	0	0	-4	-8	0	0	-4	-7	-4	4	-4	-7
14	-370	-2	2	-3	3	-1	2	-2	1	9	2	-2	3	0	0	-3	-9	0	0	-11	2	-3	1	-3	1
15	-40	3	-4	-2	2	3	2	-2	8	-4	2	4	2	0	0	-2	8	0	0	-2	2	-2	2	3	-3
16	90	7	-12	1	-3	-5	-1	3	12	-5	4	3	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	-4	5	-4	5	-4	-3
17	370	2	-1	2	-2	-9	-1	1	-2	1	-1	3	9	0	0	1	-2	0	0	1	9	1	-2	1	-1
18	-400	-11	-10	10	-10	10	11	-11	11	10	-10	10	11	0	0	-2	-10	0	0	10	2	-11	-10	-11	2
19	-640	-1	0	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	60	3	4	11	-2	3	-2	2	-2	-4	4	2	-2	0	0	11	-2	0	0	-6	4	2	4	-4	4
IMP +		40	36	35	22	63	43	38	53	34	51	80	51	0	0	57	23	0	0	36	39	36	48	26	34
IMP -		33	38	22	33	30	15	45	24	42	26	15	23	0	0	33	69	0	0	63	46	35	24	41	31

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	470	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	-2	0	1	1	-1	-11	0	0	-1	1	-1	-11	11	1
2	780	-4	4	12	-1	0	0	1	-1	-4	-12	-4	4	-13	4	-4	-1	-4	-1	-4	11	-4	13
3	-680	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	2	-1	13	-1	1	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	0	-1
4	-50	-2	2	6	2	0	0	-2	2	-2	-11	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-6	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2
5	-210	7	3	-9	3	0	0	-3	-8	2	-6	0	-7	0	-11	-3	5	-9	5	2	-11	11	0
6	-400	-6	-6	-5	-7	0	0	6	-6	-3	6	7	-7	6	6	6	-7	7	-6	7	3	-6	-6
7	90	2	-11	2	5	0	0	-5	-16	2	-2	-7	5	2	-2	-5	-2	-5	5	-5	-2	2	-2
8	-360	-2	2	-3	3	0	0	9	-4	-3	3	-3	-4	-3	-9	-2	-11	-2	-5	-2	3	9	3
9	170	1	1	1	1	0	0	-1	-6	-1	1	0	1	6	-6	-1	-12	-6	1	-1	6	6	-6
10	-480	-7	4	-4	-11	0	0	-3	4	-4	-11	15	4	-4	-8	-4	4	-4	4	11	4	8	4
11	510	-11	2	-2	0	0	0	-2	-10	-11	2	-3	11	-2	2	-2	2	-2	1	11	1	-2	2
12	360	-5	-4	10	10	0	0	-6	5	-5	-7	7	-7	6	10	4	-7	7	6	7	6	-10	-6
13	-470	-4	-7	-4	-8	0	0	-4	-7	-5	4	11	-12	7	-7	-4	4	-4	4	7	4	7	-7
14	-370	-1	-9	-3	1	0	0	-3	2	9	1	-3	3	-3	3	-2	1	-2	-9	-2	11	-3	3
15	-40	-2	-3	3	-3	0	0	-2	-4	6	2	-3	2	3	-4	-2	-3	-2	4	-2	2	4	-3
16	90	-5	-9	-4	-2	0	0	3	-3	-4	0	1	-3	3	0	1	5	-4	5	-5	4	0	-3
17	370	-9	-2	2	-2	0	0	-9	-3	1	-2	1	9	2	-2	1	9	1	-1	-9	-1	2	-2
18	-400	10	2	11	-10	0	0	-11	-10	10	-10	-11	11	-2	11	-11	-10	10	-10	-2	-10	-11	2
19	-640	-2	0	-1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	-1	1	0	7	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	-7	0
20	60	-4	4	2	-2	0	0	2	-2	-4	-2	-6	-11	3	6	2	-3	-4	4	-4	6	-6	-3
IMP +		21	25	50	26	0	0	23	15	32	19	56	54	39	51	15	30	26	42	46	63	60	30
IMP -		64	51	35	47	0	0	51	80	48	64	43	52	30	60	43	63	51	34	39	36	51	39

DATUM

Qualifying Round 6

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	350	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-10	-2	2	10	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2
2	50	11	-4	-13	-11	11	-2	11	4	11	-11	11	-11	-4	-2	11	4	-4	-2	-6	6	-4	-2	2	-11
3	110	9	4	1	0	9	-9	0	12	-6	-3	3	6	0	-3	9	-3	3	-9	5	0	-6	0	9	-9
4	-20	-2	3	6	10	-3	-4	6	10	-2	-4	4	2	-3	-11	-2	-3	4	-6	3	3	6	3	4	3
5	-450	1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	1	-1	1	-1	2	0	1	-1	2	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	0
6	-60	0	1	0	-4	4	2	-2	2	-4	1	-1	4	-2	2	-2	0	-2	2	-1	2	4	-4	-2	-4
7	140	1	6	0	-10	4	-1	-6	-10	1	-1	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	10	0	10	8	-6	0	1	-4
8	-470	1	-1	1	0	-10	-1	1	10	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-10	-11	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	10
9	-1750	-9	-8	8	9	7	9	-9	9	-9	9	-9	9	-9	9	8	-7	-9	9	0	0	8	-7	-9	-7
10	80	2	-3	11	-3	-5	5	1	-2	-7	-2	2	7	-5	-2	2	5	-5	-3	0	0	2	0	-5	5
11	-90	5	-6	-7	5	-7	-1	4	-5	5	-4	4	-5	1	-4	-7	-5	-2	5	0	1	-5	1	1	7
12	-460	-1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	1	-1	-1
13	200	-2	-9	-2	3	-2	-9	-3	3	-2	3	-3	2	-2	-9	-3	7	9	2	-3	7	-11	3	9	2
14	-320	-9	-3	2	3	5	4	-9	-6	5	10	-10	-5	2	-3	-10	-2	-10	-3	2	-4	2	3	-4	-5
15	150	0	0	10	7	-2	8	-1	6	-6	8	-8	6	-2	6	-3	-10	-8	-8	4	3	-3	-10	-8	2
16	60	2	2	2	-1	-2	3	2	-2	-2	-12	12	2	2	2	-2	-4	-4	-12	2	4	-3	2	-3	2
17	400	1	-2	1	-2	2	-1	1	-2	2	-2	2	-2	0	-2	2	-2	2	-2	1	-1	2	10	1	-2
18	100	-2	-2	-2	-4	2	-2	0	2	-11	-2	2	11	-5	2	3	2	3	0	3	-5	0	2	2	-2
19	460	0	1	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
20	-120	-10	-8	0	10	6	-9	-11	-8	6	-6	6	-6	8	10	6	-8	6	-8	-10	10	6	-6	9	-6
IMP +		35	18	44	48	53	32	28	58	32	31	51	59	18	31	45	19	42	20	34	45	34	26	42	31
IMP -		35	49	26	38	31	42	41	38	59	51	31	32	32	40	39	58	44	56	21	14	39	33	32	53

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	350	-9	-2	-9	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-9	-2	2	-2	-10	-2	2	9
2	50	-4	4	-4	-2	-4	-6	11	13	4	-11	-4	-11	-13	-11	2	4	-4	4	2	4	2	4	-4	4
3	110	-4	4	-12	12	9	-7	3	-3	-4	-9	-12	0	3	-3	9	-3	-6	0	3	0	-9	4	0	6
4	-20	-3	-15	6	3	-3	-3	-5	3	-3	2	-10	-6	-3	5	6	-4	-4	3	11	3	-2	-3	-3	4
5	-450	-1	0	0	0	2	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	0	1	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	-2	-1	-1	0	0
6	-60	-2	-4	4	-4	4	1	-3	2	-1	0	-2	2	-2	3	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	4	2	-2	2
7	140	0	6	0	-1	-1	-4	10	6	-6	-1	10	6	-6	-10	0	-10	-6	0	1	0	0	6	0	6
8	-470	0	-1	0	-1	1	10	1	-2	1	-1	-10	-1	2	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-11	1	-1
9	-1750	7	-14	-9	-7	7	-18	8	9	8	9	-9	9	-9	-8	-9	9	7	9	-9	9	-10	-7	-9	-7
10	80	2	-11	3	-2	11	-2	3	5	3	-2	2	-1	-5	-3	3	5	3	-1	2	5	-4	5	1	-3
11	-90	-2	2	1	-6	6	7	-7	-1	6	-5	5	-4	1	7	-5	2	1	1	4	-1	1	1	-1	-1
12	-460	-1	11	-1	0	-1	-7	-1	1	-1	1	0	0	-1	1	-1	0	-1	1	0	0	-1	1	-1	1
13	200	-2	7	-3	3	0	2	9	3	9	2	-3	3	-3	-9	-2	-9	9	1	9	2	-3	-9	-1	-9
14	-320	-4	-5	6	-4	6	-3	7	9	3	9	6	9	-9	-7	3	10	-3	3	3	-2	9	-3	-3	3
15	150	-1	6	0	0	-6	-10	10	-1	0	0	-6	1	1	-10	8	8	-2	-1	-6	2	-2	6	1	2
16	60	2	2	-2	2	-2	-2	-2	2	-2	-2	2	-2	-2	2	12	4	4	2	-2	-2	2	2	-2	-4
17	400	2	-2	1	5	1	-2	-10	-1	2	-1	2	-1	1	10	2	-2	2	-2	2	0	1	6	2	-2
18	100	0	6	-2	2	-2	0	3	2	2	2	-2	0	-2	-3	0	-3	-2	2	-2	5	-2	0	-2	2
19	460	-1	0	0	0	-7	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	-1	0
20	-120	-10	-6	8	11	-10	11	6	-8	8	10	8	11	8	-6	8	-6	6	-6	-10	-8	-10	-8	6	-6
IMP +		13	48	29	38	49	31	74	55	49	35	38	41	19	29	56	44	33	29	40	32	21	38	13	39
IMP -		44	60	42	29	36	67	29	19	18	35	58	28	55	74	20	42	39	13	31	18	54	44	29	33

DATUM

Qualifying Round 6

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	350	2	-2	2	9	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	0	0	2	-2	0	0	2	-2	2	-2	2	9
2	50	-4	-11	-4	4	-6	4	-6	6	-4	-2	-4	6	0	0	11	13	0	0	-4	4	-4	4	2	4
3	110	3	-9	-4	4	3	-3	0	-5	-6	5	3	-3	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	-3	0	-3	-12	12
4	-20	3	2	15	3	4	2	-3	-3	4	3	-2	-4	0	0	-10	-6	0	0	8	-4	4	3	-3	-6
5	-450	1	-1	0	1	2	-1	1	-1	0	-1	1	-2	0	0	1	1	0	0	-1	0	11	-1	0	0
6	-60	0	2	4	2	-1	2	-2	1	0	3	-2	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	-2	-4	-1	-4	4	-4
7	140	0	0	-6	0	0	6	-8	-10	2	0	-6	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	1	0
8	-470	11	10	1	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-10	-1	1	-1	1	0
9	-1750	7	-8	14	-7	7	-8	0	0	-9	-7	8	-7	0	0	-9	-8	0	0	9	9	8	-7	7	9
10	80	-5	-2	11	-2	-5	7	0	0	3	5	-7	5	0	0	3	-11	0	0	1	-2	2	-1	2	-3
11	-90	5	7	-2	2	6	-5	-1	0	-10	7	5	-6	0	0	-5	7	0	0	4	-5	1	-6	6	-1
12	-460	0	0	-11	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0	1
13	200	-7	3	-7	2	-2	2	-7	3	-3	-9	-2	2	0	0	-3	2	0	0	7	3	-3	7	-3	3
14	-320	2	10	5	4	3	4	4	-2	-10	4	-4	-3	0	0	-3	-2	0	0	-4	-2	4	-2	4	-6
15	150	10	3	-6	1	-3	8	-3	-4	0	0	-8	3	0	0	-7	-10	0	0	10	-10	-6	-10	0	0
16	60	4	2	-2	-2	2	3	-4	-2	-2	2	-3	-2	0	0	1	-2	0	0	-2	-2	-2	2	-2	2
17	400	2	-2	2	-2	1	6	1	-1	1	6	-6	-1	0	0	2	-1	0	0	-5	-2	2	-2	-5	-1
18	100	-2	-3	-6	0	-2	0	5	-3	-2	2	0	2	0	0	4	2	0	0	-2	-5	2	2	-2	2
19	460	-1	-1	0	1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0
20	-120	8	-6	6	10	8	-9	-10	10	8	10	9	-8	0	0	-10	0	0	0	-12	-8	8	10	-11	-8
IMP +		58	39	60	44	39	44	14	21	21	48	29	19	0	0	38	26	0	0	41	23	45	28	29	42
IMP -		19	45	48	13	19	29	45	34	46	22	44	39	0	0	48	44	0	0	44	50	17	40	38	29

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	350	-9	9	2	-2	0	0	2	-2	2	-2	2	10	2	-2	2	-2	2	-2	-9	9	2	-2
2	50	-4	4	-4	4	0	0	-4	4	-4	4	-4	-2	6	4	2	4	-4	4	-4	4	2	4
3	110	-5	0	3	0	0	0	0	-3	3	0	-4	9	7	-9	-5	6	3	0	0	5	0	6
4	-20	4	-3	-3	-4	0	0	-5	5	4	-8	3	2	3	3	-3	-4	-5	5	3	-4	-3	-6
5	-450	1	0	1	-11	0	0	0	-1	0	1	1	1	1	-2	1	0	1	0	0	-1	1	-1
6	-60	0	-4	4	1	0	0	-2	1	4	2	-2	-4	-1	-4	-3	0	-1	2	4	0	4	-4
7	140	-6	6	0	0	0	0	10	1	-6	0	-6	0	4	1	0	-2	-1	-10	-6	6	0	6
8	-470	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	1	10	11	-1	-10	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1
9	-1750	-9	-7	7	-8	0	0	7	-7	-9	-9	7	10	18	-7	7	9	7	-7	7	9	7	-8
10	80	-5	-1	1	-2	0	0	2	-2	2	-1	-5	4	2	-11	-5	-3	2	-2	1	5	0	-2
11	-90	-9	0	6	-1	0	0	-2	-1	5	-4	-1	-1	-7	-6	-7	10	1	2	0	9	-1	5
12	-460	-1	-7	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	1	-1	1	7	1	-1	0	-1	0	7	1	-1	1
13	200	-1	2	-7	3	0	0	-7	-9	-3	-7	9	3	-2	0	9	3	9	7	-2	1	-3	11
14	-320	2	-3	2	-4	0	0	2	-7	2	4	3	-9	3	-6	-4	10	7	-2	3	-2	-3	-2
15	150	4	0	10	6	0	0	0	0	10	-10	-6	2	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	-4	10	3
16	60	10	-2	-2	2	0	0	-2	-2	2	2	-2	-2	2	2	-2	2	2	2	2	-10	-2	3
17	400	1	-1	2	-2	0	0	1	-1	2	5	-6	-1	2	-1	-6	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-10	-2
18	100	-2	2	-2	-2	0	0	-2	-3	5	2	0	2	0	2	-2	2	3	2	-2	2	-2	0
19	460	0	1	1	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	-1	-1	0	7	0	0	0	1	-1	0	-1	0
20	-120	-10	-6	-10	-8	0	0	8	11	8	12	8	10	-11	10	-10	-8	-11	-8	6	10	6	-6
IMP +		23	24	40	17	0	0	33	23	50	44	44	54	67	36	22	46	39	25	35	61	33	39
IMP -		61	35	28	45	0	0	25	39	23	41	38	21	31	49	48	21	23	33	24	23	26	34