

# THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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*This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 500 members of the International Bridge Press Association comprising the world's leading journalists, authors and editors of news, books and articles about contract bridge, with an estimated readership of some 200 million people who enjoy the most widely played of all card games*

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## Editorial

*The opinions expressed here are solely those of the Editor, and do not necessarily represent those of the IBPA Executive or its members.*

Eligibility requirements for the Rosenblum Cup in Montréal continue to occupy the minds, pens, and keyboards of players and administrators alike. For example, two prominent players are collecting the solicited opinions of a large group of participants for presentation to the WBF; and Jeff Rubens, Editor of *The Bridge World*, has received hundreds of communications regarding the Championships (a dozen letters on a single topic would normally be considered a lot). Thus, this issue's Editorial has been postponed to continue the debate. Here, José Damiani responds to Patrick Jourdain's Editorial in Issue No. 451:

"I am sorry to disagree with your editorial about the eligibility in Montréal. First of all, it's totally wrong to state that the players were not aware of the "nationality" requirement. The Congress (at which you were present in Maastricht) was given the amendments to our Constitution and By-Laws in order to comply with the IOC rules. That was published and printed in the Directory. Later on, the General Conditions of Contest included the same wording. No one complained and apparently everybody followed the rules for the 2001 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup.

The problem in Montréal was discovered only when we received the entry registrations and saw that many 'American' players were neither American citizens nor nationals. Therefore, we decided to accept the facts as they were, i.e., to accept the Zonal or NBO nominations by applying the concept of residency. We believe that some players abused this position. However, at least we got some justification of residency. We were not aware of the late addition of the two American players to the Swedish team, which was done and accepted by mistake.

In order to avoid such problems in the future, although we will keep the same wording in our Constitution and By-Laws, we will return to the concept of residency in our General Conditions of Contest. Nevertheless, we will remain very strict on this question for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Olympiads, taking into account that we now have many transnational events – including the next Rosenblum, McConnell and pairs – to satisfy the players who also wish to play with partners of other nationalities."

Since Patrick is no longer here to defend himself, I shall take up the cudgel. Firstly, Patrick was not "...wrong to state that players were not aware of the nationality requirement." To believe so is to believe that they deliberately broke and abused the rules. Surely there is a distinction between "aware of" and "should have been aware of." Secondly, most registrations were posted by Anna Gudge months before the event, so it's ingenuous at best to say this was discovered only in Montréal. Thirdly, who, if not the WBF, was "...aware of the late addition of the two American players to the Swedish team?" Finally, perhaps different wording in the Constitution and General Conditions of Contest will only further confuse the issue.

The controversy rages on.

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# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

### Montréal – August 2002

**Members present** included: Aagaard T (Den), Alder P (USA), Allison K (USA), Back S (Ger), Bystroom R (Swe), Carruthers J (Can), van Cleef J (Net), Dennison M (Eng), Diment C (Australia), Dowling S (Ire), Ducheyne E (Net), Flodqvist S-O (Swe), Forrester T (Eng), Francis H (USA), Gordon T (Eng), Hallen H-O (Swe), Hiron M (Spain), Jannersten P (Swe), Jourdain P (Wal), Leckie S (Sco), Maas A (Net), Meyer J-P (Fra), Reus T (Can), Rigal B (USA), Robson A (Eng), Rosenblum M (Rus), Serras J (Belg), Tacchi R (Fra), Truscott A (USA), Vriend B (Net).

**1: Apologies for absence:** President Henry Francis welcomed members and gave apologies for their absence from Albert Benjamin (Sco), Dilip Gidwani (Ind), and Christer Andersson (Swe). A message was also received from Tommy Sandsmark, President Emeritus (Nor), thanking us for our “miss you” card and regretting he was unable to be with us due to ill health.

**2: Homage for deceased members:** Patrick Jourdain informed the meeting that since the last AGM we had lost two distinguished members. Jean-Marc Roudinesco was a prolific French author. He went to Malta immediately after surgery for cancer and, against the advice of his doctors, he played in the Senior European Teams, winning the Gold Medal. He was too ill to go to the Paris Championships and died on the last day of 2001. Our second loss was Jo van den Borre from Belgium who was one of our longest serving members.

Jourdain asked the company to stand in memoriam.

**3: Acceptance of minutes from Paris:** The Minutes from the AGM, Paris 2001, were presented to the meeting and accepted nem con.

**4: Officers’ reports:** Reports from the Executive officers were attached to the agenda and are summarized as follows:

**President** - Henry Francis: As ill health prevents Jean-Paul Meyer from taking over as President, Francis is standing for another term. He introduced and welcomed our new Bulletin Editor, John Carruthers, who will be responsible for keeping the website up to date with all new information, facts, results and hands sent in by members.

Many answered our questionnaire. In response the Bulletin will try to print some more basic hands to give better column material.

He reminded members that they can access the Handbook from the Internet.

**Executive Vice-President** - Jean-Paul Meyer: He informed the meeting that there were several good applicants for the job of Editor to replace Jourdain, who

is retiring after 20 years. Meyer felt sure Carruthers of Canada was the right choice. As well as being a high level bridge player, experienced as a journalist, and having computer expertise, he has enthusiasm.

**Treasurer** - Christer Andersson: Despite a reduced cash flow in 2001, there was a surplus of US\$782, mainly due to Presidential expenses being less than budgeted.

**Organisational Vice-President** - Per Jannersten: Zonal representatives are: Julius Butkow - S. Africa; Henry Francis - Zone 2; Ernesto d’Orsi - Zones 3 & 5; Paul Marston - Zone 7; Nissan Rand – Middle East.

The Handbook, published in the spring, is available on the web (password ihccaT). It is expected that all future up-dates will be on the website. He asked for active cooperation of members with the new Editor so that he is able to give a better service to the members.

**Membership secretary** - Stuart Staveley: The membership appears to have stabilised about the 400 mark after some significant falls in recent years. The numbers are: Honour 14, Sponsored 8, Full & Associates 396. Total 418.

With credit card payment now established, he asked that members be sure to renew by the end of January (see item 6). Late payments add considerably to admin costs and workload.

Staveley suggested that with areas of the world suffering financial crises, the IBPA should offer sponsored membership on a temporary basis.

**Bulletin Editor (retiring)** - Patrick Jourdain: Stepping down after 20 years as editor, Jourdain thanked all the members for their support. There is only one paid contributor and the Bulletin relies on contributions from members. When David Rex-Taylor resigned last year through ill health, we were fortunate to find Anna Gudge as replacement Production Editor and she is also looking after the membership files. He reported that there was not a Bulletin in April when his computer was destroyed by a power surge, but there would be two Bulletins in September. He welcomed the new editor.

**Bulletin Editor** - John Carruthers: He felt it was a great honour and pleasure to take over from Jourdain. He asked the meeting to join with him in thanking Patrick for doing such a wonderful job over two decades.

Carruthers lives in Toronto and works as a project manager in computer systems for the provincial government.

He hopes to widen the scope of the Bulletin – to report on all WBF Zonal Championship as well as more news, hands, and results from round the world.

**Secretary** - Maureen Dennison: She reported that there was very little response to clipping competitions but

asked journalists to send any mention of a sponsor in their columns and she would pass it on.

The EBL, who are very supportive of our organisation, have asked that we give as much pre-publicity as possible to the inaugural Trans-National Open European Championships next year in Menton. Meyer is to produce archive copy articles from the biannual European Pairs and Mixed Championships for the Bulletin to give journalists material as a basis for articles. We hope to hold a prize draw at the end of April. Every clipping mentioning the event will go into the draw.

**5: Approval of the amended Constitution:** The meeting ratified the amendments to job descriptions as published in the new Handbook and the abolition of zonal collectors nem con.

**6: Approval of Accounts & Budget for 2003:** The auditor's acceptance of the accounts for 2001 was tabled together with summary budgets for 2002 & 2003 and accepted nem con.

It was proposed that the subscription for 2003 would be £42. For members who opt to forego a hard copy bulletin, they would have a 1/3 reduction and would pay £28. Those members opting for the lower subscription would have to pay by the end of December to take advantage of this offer. This motion was passed nem con.

**7: Election of Officers:** There being no new nominations from the floor, the meeting approved election of: President - Henry Francis; Chairman - Alan Truscott; Executive Vice-President - Patrick Jourdain; Organisational Vice-President - Per Jannersten; Secretary - Maureen Dennison; Treasurer – Christer

Andersson; Honourary General Counsel – Bill Pencharz; Auditor – Julius Butkow.

**Executive -** Re-standing following completion of three-year term: Julius Butkow, Barry Rigal. Nomination for three-year term: John Carruthers. Nomination for one-year term: Jean-Paul Meyer.

**8: Annual Awards:** Mrs. Rosenkranz presented the award for the best auction to Anton Maas & Bep Vriend (Net), reported by Jos Jacobs (Net). Tony Reus presented the OKBridge Award for a Junior to Igor Curlin on behalf of Mikhail Krasnosselski (Rus), reported by Michael Rosenblum. The Digital Fountain Hand of the Year Award, sponsored by Rose Meltzer, was presented to Jens Auken on behalf of Sebastian Kristensen (Den), reported by Otto Charles Pedersen (Den). The Fr. Joseph Hahn & Arthur Kong Award for Best Defence, sponsored by Rita Shugart, was presented to Tony Forrester (Eng), reported by Andrew Robson (Eng). Patrick Jourdain was named Personality of the Year and Stuart Staveley was voted Honorary Member, both in recognition of their long service to IBPA. See the September Bulletin for full details of the Awards.

**9: Any other Business:** Ron Tacchi asked whether our Membership Secretary would go onto the Internet. Jannersten said it was unlikely but that Anna Gudge was acting as his secretary for electronic communications and that they worked closely together. Therefore the membership should not be disadvantaged.

The meeting was closed.

Calendar	Event	Venue	IBPA Contact
<b>2002</b>			
<b>NOV</b> 25/28	EBL European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs everywhere	anna@ecats.co.uk
	28/ 8 Dec ACBL Fall Nationals	Phoenix	ACBL
<b>2003</b>			
<b>MAR</b> 6/16	ACBL Spring Nationals	Philadelphia	ACBL
<b>JUN</b> 6/7	World Wide Bridge Contest	Clubs	anna@ecats.co.uk
<b>JUN</b> 14/28	European Open Championships	Menton, France	EBL
<b>JUL</b> 17/27	ACBL: Summer Nationals	Long Beach, CA	ACBL
<b>AUG</b> 8/17	England Summer Nationals	Brighton	EBU 44+ 1296 394 414
<b>NOV</b> 20/30	ACBL Fall Nationals,	New Orleans, LA	ACBL

## Errata

We have a few corrections to make from the Montreal Special Issue. First, the medal winners in the Seniors Pairs were:

1	Drumev-Tanev	Bulgaria	54.76%
2	Gowdy-Hobart	Canada	53.64%
3	Mohan-Vogel	USA	53.49%

The new Chief Director of the WBF is Max Bavin, not Bevan as it was written.

The 'Tabbing Gremlin' was hard at work on some of the auctions. On p.2, in the Weichsel-Meltzer auction, the lines beginning "Weichsel" and "2♣" should be one tab to the right. On p.3, the line beginning with "Lew" should be one tab to

the right; the line beginning "I♦" should be two tabs to the right. On p.6, the line beginning "Gates" should be one tab to the right.

The "**BG Smothers BG**" article on pp.6-7 was totally garbled. I've been trying hard to discover what really happened, since Bill Gates news is important to all journalists, not just bridge writers, but so far have been unable to do so. Efforts continue.

All in all, not an auspicious debut. Looking on the bright side, there's lots of room for improvement!

## PROCEEDS REPORT FOR IBPA DURING 2001 AND BUDGET FOR 2002

<b>BUDGET - RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Real 2000</b>	<b>Real 2001</b>	<b>Rev. budget 2002</b>	<b>Budget 2003</b>
Dues - total	24,926	24,410	23,800	23,800
Dues - 2000	[20,273]			
Dues - 2001	[532]	[20,057]		
Dues - 2002	[155]	[3,716]	[17,410]	
Dues - 2003		[288]	[346]	
Dues - sponsoring	[854]	[349]		
Awards money	1,930	4,431	4,000	4,000
Interest	896	792	750	750
Advertisement	4,282	391	500	500
WBF	2,054	974	1,000	1,000
Clippings service	895	125	1,000	500
IBPA Championship	148	415	250	150
Donations	47	76	0	0
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>35,178</b>	<b>31,614</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>30,700</b>

### **BUDGET - DISBURSEMENTS**

Bulletin print	12,980	11,620	10,000	10,400
Bulletin postage	7,354	6,364	7,800	8,200
Bulletin extras	1,967	230	1,700	1,700
Bulletin editor fee	2,304	2,594	2,870	2,870
Bulletin editor expenses	2,057	391	1,000	500
Bulletin editor secr./Compuserve	1,253	1,211	1,200	1,200
Bulletin editor travel	0	1,303	1,000	1,000
Membership secretary fee	1,044	1,009	0	0
Membership secretary expenses	972	697	1,500	1,500
President expenses	1,194	507	1,000	1,000
President travel	804	109	1,000	1,500
Treasurer expenses	200	297	350	400
Treasurer travel	0	200	0	0
Secretary expenses	121	62	150	200
Secretary travel	1,442	1,500	1,000	1,000
Inland Revenue Scotland	124	127	150	150
European Championship	0	0	0	0
IBPA awards	1,960	650	1,250	1,250
Expenses awards chairman	0	26	50	50
Bulletin hands	0	240	240	240
IBPA web site	35	120	50	50
IBPA Championship	89	53	150	100
Bank costs	59	184	150	200
Bank costs - VISA rental/charge	859	813	850	900
Handbook	373	0	0	0
Stationery and contingencies	0	0	250	250
Clippings prizes	500	500	500	500
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>37,691</b>	<b>30,807</b>	<b>34,210</b>	<b>35,160</b>

### **Announcement:**

Journalists and tournament organizers, please send us the dates and contact names and numbers for your events of national, zonal, and international interest for the Tournament Calendar.

# Montréal Continué

## World Computer Bridge Championship

by Wim Heemskerk, Bodegraven, The Netherlands

The 6th World Computer Bridge Championship was also held in Montreal as part of the WBF Championships. After a round robin and a semifinal, Jack (The Netherlands), the title holder, and WBridge (France) qualified for the 64-board final. Jack had won the round robin, but WBridge was undefeated, having beaten Jack 18-12 in the RR. These two seem to be the strongest bridge programs in the world, and the final was expected to be a tough, exciting match.

WBridge took an early lead but, little by little, Jack came back. With only one board to go, the tension was almost unbearable for the programmers: Jack was five IMPs ahead, so anything was still possible. The final board was as interesting from a technical standpoint as it was for the spectators.

### Board 64. Dealer West. East-West Vulnerable

<p>♠ A Q 9 4 ♥ K Q 3 2 ♦ 10 ♣ K 6 4 2</p> <p>♠ K 6 2 ♥ 8 7 6 4 ♦ A 9 6 ♣ 10 8 7</p>	<p>♠ 10 5 ♥ A 10 9 ♦ J 8 5 4 ♣ A Q J 9</p> <p>♠ J 8 7 3 ♥ J 5 ♦ K Q 7 3 2 ♣ 5 3</p>
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### Open room:

West	North	East	South
WBridge	Jack	WBridge	Jack
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠*
Pass	3 ♦**	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

\* = Walsh

\*\* = Mini splinter (14-16 HCP)

First, an explanation of the bidding. Three diamonds showed spade support and about 14-16 HCP with diamond shortage. Up to Three Diamonds, the bidding was defined in Jack's bidding book, but after that the program was on its own. The way Jack then works is something like this: it shuffles about a thousand hands that comply with the bidding and selects the fifty most fitting. These so-called samples are played double dummy, and based on the result of the samples, the program makes its next decision. Looking at the wasted diamond honours, it's no surprise that South tried to sign off in Three Spades. Now we have reached a point that illus-

trates a weakness in computer bridge. North also samples a number of South hands with 6-9 HCP, but unfortunately, it still sees a lot of hands that make Four Spades a reasonable contract. This explains the (for humans, very bad) decision to bid Four Spades. Jack guessed the trump suit, but was punished (rightly so) for his optimism and went one off.

### Closed room:

West	North	East	South
Jack	WBridge	Jack	Wbridge
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠*
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

\* = Walsh

In the Closed Room WBridge stayed low in Two Spades and I feverishly started calculating. Scenario one: WBridge makes eight tricks and wins 4 IMPs (110+50) on the board. That would mean Jack wins the match by one IMP and would be world champion. Scenario two: WBridge scores nine tricks and wins 5 IMPs (140+50); the match would end in a tie and we'd have to play another four boards. Scenario three: WBridge makes two overtricks, scores 6 IMPs, (170+50) and wins the title by one IMP. Every extra trick would not only influence the IMP result on the board, but would also create a different result for the match!

By the time this final board was played, five Dutchmen were watching. Among them was former Bermuda Bowl winner Bauke Muller. We all thought the number of tricks depended on Declarer's guess in the trump suit. Would he smother east's ten-doubleton? Well, we shall never know, because after the lead of the club seven, East won the trick with the knave and returned the spade ten! O, horror, what have we done to deserve this? For some seconds I was unable to breathe, but then Muller, in his typical slow and analytical voice, brought me back to the real world: "I think... this is very good." And right he was. Declarer won the trick with spade jack and played the jack of hearts. East won and again returned a trump, won in Dummy.

WBridge now led the diamond ten. East declined to cover and South tried the king, but West won and completed Jack's best defence of the tournament by returning the spade king. Declarer made precisely eight tricks and Jack won its second world title, by 1 IMP. The final result: 97-96.

The first few nights after the match I kept hearing this low voice whispering in my dreams: "I think... this is very good." It sounded better than a thousand women's voices!

## Best Deal from Montréal?

by Barry Rigal, New York City

### McConnell QF

Board 39. Dealer South. Both Vulnerable

♠ 2 ♥ K 4 ♦ K 10 8 3 2 ♣ A 9 4 3 2 ♠ K 10 9 5 4 ♥ 10 9 8 5 3 ♦ Q 9 ♣ Q	♠ 6 ♥ Q 7 6 2 ♦ J 6 5 ♣ J 10 7 6 5 ♠ A Q J 8 7 3 ♥ A J ♦ A 7 4 ♣ K 8
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The North Sea match-up of Vriend (Netherlands) versus Dhondy (England) brought former World Champions on both sides to do battle. The combatants were very familiar with each other.

On the diagrammed deal, Hoogweg/van Zwol bid to 3NT via 1♠-1NT-3NT for +630 on a club lead. Smith/Dhondy, playing more Acol-style responses than anyone else in the field, could start with a two-level response. They bid very nicely: 1♠-2♦-2NT-3♣-3♦-4♣-4♥-5♦-6♦, which is an excellent spot. On any lead but a low club the contract is makable, but only by setting up the spades at once before drawing two rounds of trumps.

It looks to me as if on the actual spade lead, that is a not totally unreasonable line to follow. Instead, Dhondy quite logically played the club king and another club, and when van der Pas discarded, declarer won and drew two trumps ending in dummy. Now she advanced the spade queen, covered, ruffed and over-ruffed. Vriend carefully exited with the club knave, ruffed in dummy, and Dhondy ruffed a spade back to hand to lead a low heart up. Vriend saw her chance to kill the dummy and put in the queen! Now declarer was an entry short to set up the spades. That was down one and 12 IMPs to Vriend, a 24 IMP turnover on the board; since Vriend won by 20 this turned the match!

## Never Give Up

by Sven-Olov Flodqvist, Spanga, Sweden

Christian Mari is well-known for his abilities as a card player as well as for his fighting spirit. Those qualities came in handy on this deal from the second session of the Open Pairs final.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
Mari	Morath	Bompis	Efrainsson
1♥	2♣	2♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

North led the king of clubs, ducked by West. When Morath understandably did not find the diamond shift, Mari ran six hearts to reach this ending:

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

On the last heart North had to let go a diamond, and he pitched the ace, while Dummy got rid of the club ten and South shed his small diamond. Since North had

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[www.IBPA.com/454de.pdf](http://www.IBPA.com/454de.pdf)

**Remember** - You can download a copy of the Handbook from [www.ibpa.com](http://www.ibpa.com) (click the link at the bottom of the page).

When you try to open it will ask for a password: which is ihccaT (EXACTLY as typed)

missed unblocking his diamond jack, Mari could have exited with a small diamond, either endplaying North or forcing South to win the king, making the diamond queen good.

Since South had earlier signaled with the spade jack, Christian preferred to play the spade queen to the king and ace, and then a diamond toward the queen. Contract just made!

## Best Deal from Montréal?

Tjolpe's Mari deal was of interest at many other tables as well. It was very exciting on VuGraph, where the Russians Panina and Rosenblum, West and East respectively, faced the Hackett twins from Manchester, England. West also declared four hearts on the club king lead, ducked. Here a heart switch was won in hand and a diamond led. North played the nine, and after some thought, this was overtaken by the ten and another club led. Panina won her ace and ran hearts, to leave:

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

On the last heart, everyone released a diamond. Now the diamond queen, losing to South, would have squeezed North in the black suits, but West lost her way, playing North for an original shape of 1-2-4-6, and attempted to drop the singleton spade king. But that would have meant an original diamond holding of AKJ9 in North. Surely he'd have led one at some point with that powerful a holding.

Only a spade lead from South before North is crushed in the three suits on the run of the hearts breaks up Declarer's communications for the various squeezes.

## Best Round from Montréal?

The philosophy of some players is that the first session of the Final in any Championship is a time to settle in and find your stride, not doing anything to ruin yourself psychologically for the sessions to come. It is obvious from the following deals that Larry Cohen and David Berkowitz do not subscribe to that particular philosophy.

Both Cohen-Berkowitz and their opponents Brad Moss-Fred Gitelman (all USA) were doing reasonably well through 12 rounds of the first session of the Open Pairs Final in Montreal. Indeed, Gitelman-Moss had flirted with

the top 10 most of the session, while Cohen-Berkowitz hovered nearby.

### Board 25. Dealer North. East-West Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Moss</i>	<i>Cohen</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>
—	1 NT	Pass	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

North-South were using the Mini No Trump at favourable vulnerability, and Two Hearts promised spades. Although the lead of the spade four seems, on the surface at least, to solve Declarer's problem in the trump suit, it does not actually do so until North puts the queen on the ten, as happened in the play.

Now when Gitelman played ace and another heart, there was nothing the defence could do to beat him double dummy, at least). If they find the defence of king and another diamond, he ruffs in his hand, ruffs a heart in the dummy, then ruffs his third diamond. Three-three breaks in the round suits mean no dangerous promotion opportunities. Conversely, if the defence leads another trump, Declarer wins in his hand, unblocking the eight, and ruffs the hearts good. Then a trump to hand provides an entry to the two heart winners. If the second trump lead comes from North after crossing with a club, Declarer must rise with the nine, collecting the seven from South, and unblock the eight as before.

Suppose instead, that North withholds the spade queen at trick one. What can Declarer do? If he tries to set up the hearts, the defence must tap the closed hand with king and another diamond. Declarer now ruffs the hearts good, ruffs his last diamond, and leads a winning heart from the closed hand, intending to throw a club. But the South hand ruffs in and Declarer must lose six tricks (three clubs and one in each of the other suits). If instead the defence cashes its clubs early, the spade queen gets promoted.

The moral is that if you're going to make doubles as close as that one, you'd better defend double dummy. As usual at this vulnerability, the difference between minus 670 and plus 200 was almost a full board.

**Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vulnerable**

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

West	North	East	South
Moss	Cohen	Gitelman	Berkowitz
—	—	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Again, a trump was led, and again, the third-hand honour was played when it may have been withheld to greater advantage. Here, however, it would merely have been a nuisance value.

The contract is not the most solid we've ever seen. Since the entries are not there to ruff two clubs and lead diamonds up twice even if they are three-three, Cohen led a diamond at trick two, carefully noting the count signal from West. He chose to believe the four (reverse count and attitude), and drew trumps ending in hand to lead a second diamond. This time Gitelman put up the ace and continued diamonds, Moss pitching the club two.

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

At this point, the defence has won only the diamond ace. Cohen now played on spades, hoping for a three-three break. When that failed, he had to lose a club and another trick at the end.

Suppose instead he plays a club. If East wins and plays i.) a club: Declarer discards a spade, and another spade on the queen, losing two club tricks but no spade trick; ii.) a diamond: North ruffs the diamond, on which Moss

must bare the club king or discard a spade: Declarer subsequently ducks a spade or ruffs down the club king; iii.) a spade: Declarer ducks, and then if the defence a.) continues spades, Declarer wins the ace, ruffs a club and a diamond, squeezing West as before; b.) switches to a minor, Declarer cross-ruffs the minors as before, again squeezing West.

Finally, If West wins the club and plays i.) a club, North puts in the nine, forcing the ace and setting up the queen; ii.) a spade, Declarer ducks, wins the next spade and leads the club queen, forcing a cover and transferring the menace to West, who is squeezed on the subsequent diamond play from Dummy. Phew!

Moss-Gitelman emerged from this round with about 90% of the matchpoints, moving them up to fourth place overall in the standings, meanwhile dropping Cohen-Berkowitz below average. Instead, had Cohen-Berkowitz beaten Two Spades doubled and made Four Hearts, they'd have had about 90%, and the positions would have been nearly reversed. What drama!

**Prophetic Words**

*by Tony Gordon, London, England*

In a close finish to the Final of the Women's Pairs, Debbie Rosenberg of the USA struck a significant blow for her partnership with a piece of grand larceny on the following deal, from the fifth and final session:

**Board 19. Dealer South. East-West Vulnerable**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>v.d. Pas</i>	<i>McCallum</i>	<i>Vriend</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
—	—	—	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	2NT*	Double
3 ♣	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

\* Minors

The diamond seven lead located the queen for Declarer, although she would not have been too hard-pressed to place that card with East on the bidding. However, with the heart king offside, as expected, there still seemed to be four unavoidable losers. However, Rosenberg was well aware that East was unlikely to hold the king, so she had no intention of taking the trump finesse. In-



stead, she won the first trick with Dummy's king, crossed to hand with the spade ace, a sequence of plays designed to confuse the issue, and placed the heart six on the table. The spotlight was now firmly on Marijke van der Pas in the West seat. Was the innocent-looking Rosenberg trying to fool her, or did her partner, Bep Vriend, actually hold the bare ace? After a tension-filled period of agonising, van der Pas played the eight with a resigned air, while uttering the words "Okay, you win." This proved to be a prophetic utterance, as not only had declarer won this particular battle of wits and brought home her 'impossible' contract, but Debbie Rosenberg and Karen McCallum went on to win the Women's Pairs title!

## 2002 World Championship Book Excerpt I

by Eric Kokish, Toronto

The annual World Championship Book will soon be out. The editorial/writing team, led by Renaissance Man Brian Senior, is hard at work attempting to have it published by year's end, an incredible feat if they can do it. They have graciously consented to allow us access to some of the material. Our intention is to present some deals of interest in each Bulletin Issue over the next few months. We'll begin with the Rosenblum Semifinals. In this issue we'll look at Board I of the Poland vs. Indonesia and Sweden vs. Italy matches. It's only a minor quibble that two Italians were in the Polish team and two Americans were playing for Sweden! Indonesia and Italy were citizenly pure. Eric (The Coach) Kokish analyzes this deal, in which three different game contracts were reached at the four tables in play.

### Board I. Dealer North. Neither Vulnerable

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

### Poland vs Indonesia

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kwiecien	Manoppo	Pszczola	Lasut
—	Pass	1 ♣(i)	Pass
1 ♦(ii)	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 NT	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

(i) Polish-style, FIR

(ii) Usually 0-6

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karwur	Balicki	Sacul	Zmudzinski
—	Pass	1 ♣(i)	Pass
1 ♦(ii)	1 ♠	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

(i) Precision, FIR

(ii) 0-7

### Italy vs Sweden

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Lauria	Lindkvist	Versace
—	Pass	1 ♣(i)	Pass
1 ♦(ii)	1 ♠	2 ♣(iii)	2 ♠
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

(i) 11-13 BAL or any 17+ (or short ♦, three-suiter, 11-16)

(ii) 0-7

(iii) Natural, 17+

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rosenbloom	Bocchi	Henner
—	Pass	1 ♣(i)	Pass
1 ♦(ii)	1 ♠	Double(iii)	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

(i) Natural, balanced, inappropriate for INT, or any game force

(ii) 4+ hearts, 0+ HCP

(iii) Takeout

With three possible game contracts for E/W, some choices proved more successful than others.

At variance with the standard Polish Club approach, Kwiecien/Pszczola use Two Clubs as an artificial game force. Thus, their natural one-bids can be quite strong, as here, where Pszczola's Two Diamonds was a natural reverse, showing longer clubs than diamonds. Kwiecien was maximum for the weak version of his One Diamond response and so wanted to be in game when Pszczola showed his spade stoppers rather than limit his hand more narrowly with Three Clubs. As Three Hearts would have been passable and Four Hearts figured to be a good contract opposite a small singleton while hearts would produce only one trick in notrump, Kwiecien's decision to jump to Four Hearts seems eminently reasonable. Manoppo led the spade five and Kwiecien put in the jack successfully to continue with three rounds of clubs, ruffing the last with the nine as Manoppo disposed of the diamond 8. A spade to the queen held and Kwiecien discarded a diamond on the

spade ace before calling for the diamond king. Manoppo won and exited with the spade king, Lasut electing to discard a diamond rather than uppercut with a heart honour. Kwiecien ruffed low and played heart ace, heart jack. He could not avoid losing a third trump trick to Manoppo's eight-high combination and so went one down: minus 50.

By contrast, Karwur could have had an extra queen for his unambiguously negative One Diamond response and as Sacul's Two Clubs was non-forcing, Two Hearts showed some values. Thus, Karwur was content to rebid Three Hearts over Three Diamonds and then go along with Sacul's choice of games. Balicki's thin overcall made it certain that Zmudzinski would lead a spade, and his spade six (middle from three, lowest from four) could have been from honour-third so Balicki put up the king. Sacul won the ace and cleared clubs, Balicki discarding the heart three. Zmudzinski continued with the spade ten to the queen and Sacul ran the clubs, Zmudzinski discarding all his hearts, reading Balicki's heart discard as reverse count. Sacul knocked out the diamond ace and Balicki returned the suit to avoid any possible end-play. Sacul had to settle for his nine winners: +400, 10 IMPs to Indonesia.

Duboin was able to mention his hearts at the one level but did not show any strength or extra length in doing so. After Henner's competitive raise, Duboin preferred to leave the next move to his partner and Three Diamonds confirmed a strong hand with longer clubs than diamonds. Now Three Hearts virtually endplayed Bocchi into bidding Three No Trump and Duboin did not think his hand unusual enough to overrule that decision. After the lead of the spade four to the king and ace, Bocchi cleared clubs, Rosenbloom discarding the heart three. Bocchi won the second spade and cashed two more clubs, Henner discarding a heart and a diamond, Rosenbloom two more hearts, upwards. When Bocchi knocked out the diamond ace, Rosenbloom also returned the diamond eight. On declarer's last black winner, despite Bocchi's diamond bid, Henner discarded her remaining diamond to keep the king-queen of hearts. Bocchi took tricks with the seven-six of diamonds: +460.

Lindkvist's Two Clubs confirmed a strong hand, and here we can see the effect of a direct Three Hearts (remember that here Fredin had limited his hand with One Diamond, but had not mentioned his suit), which forced a tricky decision on Lindkvist.

Once he went past Three No Trump to show his diamonds he was not going to pass Four Hearts without dealing more directly with his club suit, and so the partnership finished in Five Clubs, in somewhat unconvincing fashion. Versace led the spade four to the king and ace and Lindkvist played two more spade winners to discard a diamond, then led the diamond king. Lauria won the ace and returned a club but Lindkvist won the

ace and played diamond queen, diamond, scoring the club nine when North could not over-ruff. Declarer could discard his remaining diamond on the heart ace and so lost only a trump trick for a fairly fortunate +400, 2 IMPs to Italy. Thought Versace, whimsically: "Why didn't I lead the ten or queen of clubs?"

Our next deal is, coincidentally, the first board of the second quarter. Poland was 1 IMP ahead of Indonesia, while Sweden was 44 in arrears to the Italian juggernaut.

#### Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vulnerable.

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

#### Poland vs Indonesia

##### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mariani</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>	<i>Burgay</i>	<i>Lasut</i>
—	2♣	Pass	2♦(i)
3♥	3♠	Pass	4NT(ii)
Pass	5♦(iii)	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (i) Inquiry
- (ii) RKCB 1430 for clubs
- (iii) 0 or 3

##### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tobing</i>	<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Asbi</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>
—	1♣(i)	Pass	3♠(ii)
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT(iii)	Pass	5♥(iv)
Double	6♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

- (i) Polish, FI
- (ii) Transfer to 3NT, usually 13-15, no 4-card major
- (iii) RKCB for clubs
- (iv) 2 key cards, no trump queen

#### Italy vs Sweden

##### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fredin</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Versace</i>
—	1♣(i)	Pass	2♣(ii)
3♥	4♥(iii)	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT(iv)	Pass	5♥(v)
Pass	5NT(vi)	Pass	7♣(vii)
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (i) 2+♣, non-forcing
- (ii) Inverted raise, FG
- (iii) Slam try, short hearts
- (iv) RKCB for clubs
- (v) 2 key cards, no trump queen
- (vi) All keys plus solid trumps, but minimum for bidding to date
- (vii) Misreading 5NT as a grand slam try

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Nystrom</i>
—	1♦(i)	Pass	1♥(ii)
Pass	1♠(iii)	Pass	1NT(iv)
2♥	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (i) 0+♦, limited balanced hand or 4M/4+m unbalanced
- (ii) Many hands: possibly artificial, could be very light with 3+♥
- (iii) 4♠/5+m
- (iv) Relay

Given the opportunity to steal some of his opponents' likely valuable bidding space, Mariani was pleased to jump to Three Hearts. Now Lasut wanted to set clubs in forcing mode and perhaps conduct a co-operative auction, but he didn't want to test Manoppo with a rarely (well, perhaps never) discussed Four Clubs and could see no advantage in a Four Heart cue bid, which Manoppo would probably interpret as setting spades. Hoping that Four No Trump would therefore be interpreted as RKCB for clubs, Lasut boldly took charge and shot out Six Clubs when Manoppo apparently showed three key aces.

Manoppo won the opening heart lead and ruffed a heart, eliminated trumps and hearts, crossed to the spade ace and led a second spade to the eight when Burgay did not put in the nine. He mis-guessed the diamond queen later, however, so settled for 12 tricks: +920.

Zmudzinski's Three Spades showed the equivalent of a natural forcing Two No trump response and denied a four-card major, so Balicki could expect three- or four-card support for clubs. Tobing was unwilling to come in at the four level in this scenario so Balicki had room to try for slam with a natural Four Clubs, a very good decision. After an exchange of control-showing bids, he checked on key cards. Although all key cards and trump honours were accounted for Balicki was not really interested in seven. He won the heart lead and also eliminated hearts and clubs, discovering early that West held nine cards in those suits. Here he started spades by leading low to the eight on the first round. That worked well when Tobing won the blank queen and had to break diamonds or yield a ruff and discard to spare declarer the diamond guess: +920. Push.

If West had been able to exit safely in the same suit, declarer would have been able to test spades and claim on a squeeze as he had already reversed the dummy and rectified the count.

When declarer plays South's last trump and discards a diamond, East, to keep the spade guard, would have to come down to only two diamonds. Declarer would drop the queen of diamonds if it didn't appear from East on the second round. No swing: Poland, 30-29.

Even if East had been able to put in the spade nine from QJ9xx, Balicki would have been cold by winning the king and passing the eight. Compare Balicki's line with those chosen by the other declarers in Six Clubs.

After Nystrom's multi-meaning One Heart response to Bertheau's somewhat amorphous One Diamond opening the scenario was particularly attractive for Duboin to throw in a space-consuming heart overcall. However, over a natural One Heart, Two Hearts would have been conventional and he didn't notice the alert to One Heart until after he had passed. As this situation had not been discussed he decided not to risk a serious accident by overcalling. When he waited until the next round his opponents had separated their hand types to a significant degree and they were able to set clubs as trumps and confirm the key card and trump honour position (with Five No Trump). Nystrom knew about 14 HCP in his partner's hand at that stage and believed that Bertheau would have opened a strong club if he held the spade queen in addition. Nystrom judged accurately to sign off in Six Clubs. Bocchi led a heart and Bertheau, like his counterparts, eliminated hearts and trumps. He finished in dummy and called for a low spade, ducking Duboin's queen and claiming the rest when Duboin could not produce a second spade. If Duboin had been able to exit in spades Bertheau had reached the same: +920 dummy reversal/squeeze matrix as Balicki.

Versace started with a game-forcing club raise and over Fredin's Three Hearts, Lauria was able to make a short suit slam try. When Versace showed a spade control, Lauria checked on key cards and continued by skipping a step, a fairly recent useful system modification that confirmed the presence of all the aces and significant trumps while denying extra high-card strength (the cheap-step rebid would be a legitimate extra-value grand slam try). Alas, this agreement had not been entered in the system notes and not come up in the four months since its adoption, and Versace simply forgot it; hence his jump to Seven Clubs. After a heart lead Lauria needed, for starters, a miracle in spades to have any chance. When he led a spade to the queen and ace he could dare to hope, but Lindkvist put in the nine on the second spade play towards dummy, and that was that. Lauria won and conceded the eight of spades to the jack and so had a diamond discard on the spade ten for one down: -50. That was 14 IMPs to Sweden, a good start on the road to recovery. The margin was down to 30 IMPs: Italy, 50-20.

# Deauville 2002

by Mark Horton, London, England

Mark Horton reports on one of the top French Festivals in his own inimitable style.

Apart from the better and generally empty roads, superior and cheaper public transport, breathtaking scenery, outstanding food and wine, and tremendous prizes, quite why the bridge players of England would prefer a small seaside resort in France to the delights of Brighton two weeks later remains a mystery. My trip combined three days in Paris as a guest of Philippe and Bénédicte Cronier, a long awaited visit to Chateau Tacchi, and partnering the talented and beautiful Dessy Popova in both the four session Championship Pairs and the two session Mixed Pairs.

There was only one session of 30 boards per day, starting at 15.00 and finishing before 19.30, leaving plenty of time for the finer things in life. After three sessions of the Pairs Championship, the field was divided into sections for the last one, with the top 30 contesting the A group and being guaranteed a prize of at least 300 Euro.

The leading pairs at the end of four days' play were:  
 Perez & Mejane 266.18  
 Przybora & Szymanowski 263.83  
 Stoppa & Stretz 263.70

We finished just short of the top group, but fifth place in Group B was enough to ensure that the author's wine cellar would grow in size.

The choice of opening lead is a subject of considerable importance at matchpoints, where every trick is vital. This deal involved one of France's top journalists, the charming Guy Dupont.

## Dealer North. Both Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
Horton	Dupont	Popova	Leclercq
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣*	Pass
3 ♦**	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

\* = Puppet Stayman

\*\* = 1 or 2 4-card majors

When North led a low club, Declarer was off to a good start, as the ten held in Dummy. Assuming the diamonds are good for six tricks, you are already up to eleven, and would like to make at least one more. West tried the jack of hearts and when South played low, greedily put up the king, hoping that would hold and that the spades might provide an extra trick, giving him all thirteen. No joy, as North won with the ace, but it was not obvious that a heart return was now essential, and when Guy returned the king of clubs Declarer was able to win and cash the diamonds, effecting a double squeeze (*in practice, a single squeeze on North in the black suits that played as a double – Ed.*) to secure twelve tricks.

This deal gave the technicians a chance to show off:

## Dealer South. Both Vulnerable.

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

Imagine that you have reached 7NT from the West seat. North leads the non-damaging six of clubs and when you play low from Dummy, South plays the two. Prospects are reasonable, as the clubs may break, or the diamond finesse may be right, or there may well be a squeeze.

The obvious start is to cash five rounds of hearts, discarding two diamonds from hand. South follows three times and then discards two diamonds, while North discards two spades and a diamond.

The spades may be good now, but it costs nothing to try the clubs first. South produces the ten of clubs on the second round, and although you may be tempted to finesse the nine, you really don't need to. You play a third club and South discards a diamond. Now you test the spades. South proves to have a stopper, but you can already claim, as with North guarding the clubs and South guarding the spades, the double squeeze means neither defender can keep more than one diamond and the king will fall under the ace.

This was the full deal:

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

The next deal contains a subtle defensive point:

**Dealer North. East/West Vulnerable.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	1 ♥	Double
1 ♠	2 ♦	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Clearly, West's bidding is unsound, but can you see how to take the maximum advantage? North found the best lead of a trump and the defenders played three rounds. Declarer won and went after the spades. It's easy enough to achieve one down, but the strongest defence is for South to duck both the king and queen of spades, ensuring two down, and perhaps achieving three off if Declarer goes wrong.

Having warmed up in the Championship Pairs, we were more than ready for the Mixed. A scoring error discovered too late to be corrected deprived us of the Cup, but the huge bundle of Euro for second place was adequate compensation.

After the Mixed, the genders were divided to contest the Men's and Women's pairs and those two-session events were followed by the Teams. The array of talent included Germany's Sabine Auken and Pony Nehmert, practising for the World Championships in Montréal. Pony showed me this brilliant piece of play by her partner:

## Visiting the Dentist

**Dealer East. North-South Vulnerable.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Nehmert</i>	<i>van Cleef</i>	<i>Auken</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 ♠	Double	3 ♠	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the king of spades to the ace and Declarer played the jack of clubs to the king and a second club. West won with the ace and played a third club, ruffed by East, Declarer unblocking the nine. She ruffed the spade return high, played a heart to the jack, which West had to duck, and ruffed a spade high. Now came the key play of the king of diamonds and a diamond to the ace before playing another heart. Playing a diamond to the ace would have allowed West to exit with a diamond, locking Declarer in Dummy and ensuring a trick for the eight of hearts, but with his exit cards extracted there was nothing West could do.

The top three squads in the teams were:

Blumental, Stoppa, Faigenbaum & Mari 229

Polet, Carcassonne, Labaere & Kaplan 221

Birman, Levin, Herbst & Cohen 214

Take my advice and cancel all your engagements for July 2003. Fair stands the wind for France!

.../ continued from page 16

## Miscellany

Anders Wirgren reports on a deal from the August 2002 issue, page 2-3.

The deal from the Italy-Iceland match is wrongly analyzed. Four hearts is easy to make even after a heart to the queen and king. All Jonsson has to do after ruffing the third club is play out his good diamonds. Bocchi can ruff and knock out the spade ace but then Jonsson can draw trumps and cash his last diamond. This line is sure to win unless Bocchi is 2-5-2-4 (then, he can ruff the third diamond and return a club; but if he ruffs the fourth round, a club doesn't hurt). Difficult to see? No!

As well, the play in the Closed Room is surely wrongly described. I refuse to believe that the great Lorenzo Lauria won the spade lead and used one of his few dummy entries to do something he could just as well do from his own hand. No sir, he didn't play like that. Without seeing the records, I 'know' he won the spade ace and advanced the heart queen, covered. Then a low diamond toward Dummy gave him a second entry for a second trump finesse. Of course he played like that! Of course!

Notice to all journalists and tournament conveners: Please forward hotel details to us with advertisements and tournament notices. Also, please submit championship results and a deal or two of interest.

### Name This Squeeze, Mr. Ottlik

by Stu Goodgold, Santa Clara CA, USA

The following deal occurred during the final session of the Open Pairs event at the Santa Clara Regional on Aug 31, 2002.

#### Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vulnerable.

(Hands rotated for convenience.)

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

Partner and I bid uncontested as follows:

West	North	East	South
—	1 ♣	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

One Club was artificial, 15-17, any shape; Two Clubs showed 9-11 HCP, FG, and 4+ spades. Two Diamonds asked for a second suit and Two Hearts showed clubs. Two Spades asked for the combined length: 2NT showed 10+ cards: then Three Clubs continued the length ask: Three Diamonds showed exactly four spades and six clubs. Three Hearts asked for shortness, Three Spades showed a singleton heart, and 3NT was terminal.

The opening lead was the heart two, ducked to the queen; another heart went to the king, Declarer discarding a club. The queen of clubs was ducked, as was a diamond, won by the queen. On the club king, West threw a spade, North a heart, and East won to play a third heart, won with the ace. South discarded a club. A spade went to the queen and king, and the spade nine was returned to Dummy's ace, East discarding a club. Everyone followed to the ace of diamonds.

With nine tricks gone and North to play, this was the position, with Declarer needing three of the four remaining tricks:

♠ 10	
♥ 7	
♦ 9 6	
♣ —	
♠ 8 5	♠ —
♥ —	♥ 10
♦ 8 7	♦ K
♣ —	♣ 10 8
	♠ J 7
	♥ —
	♦ —
	♣ J 9

When Declarer leads the spade 10, the defence has no answer. Depending upon East's discard, Declarer either retains the lead in Dummy to use either opponent as a stepping stone to the spade or club, or overtakes to cash both clubs.

### A Danish Defence

by Jens Otto "Charles" Pedersen, Odense, Denmark

The two young Danes, Martin Schaltz and Andreas Marquardsen, were part of the winning junior team in Salt Lake City. Here is a nice defence from The European Youth Championships in Torquay, where the Danish team finished second.

#### Dealer West. North/South Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
Schaltz		Marquardsen	
—	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1 NT = 6-11			
2 ♣ = 16+			
2 ♠ = Doubleton spade and 5-8			
Opening Lead: ♣4			

At both tables in the Denmark vs. Sweden match, after the club ace from dummy and a count signal from East, Declarer continued with the spade ace and crossed to hand on a heart. Three rounds of spades followed, putting East on lead.

In the Open Room on VuGraph, East went back to clubs, giving declarer a winning opportunity, but South misguessed and went down.

The Danes gave declarer no chance! Schaltz, West, realized that his partner probably held the diamond king since Declarer went for spades. On the third and fourth spade, Martin pitched club eight (hearts) and the club three (odd number). Andreas, East, understood the message and continued hearts taken by the ace.

After the long spade, Declarer played a diamond, but Andreas hopped up with the king (nicely done)! Another heart followed, and the heart jack was the fifth defensive trick, with the diamond ace and club king!

Notice that an original heart lead does not beat the contract. (South plays diamonds).

## A Swedish Defence

by Arne Frennelius, Västerås, Sweden

The following deal is from the Qualification Tournament for the Open Swedish Team for the 46th European Team Championships in Salsomaggiore, 2002. It was played in April 2002.

**Dealer North. North/South Vulnerable.**

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

West	North	East	South
Borin		Efrainsson	
—	1 ♣	2 ♣	Double
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
1 ♣ was artificial			
2 ♣ meant either minors or majors.			

West, Kenneth Borin, led the diamond jack, Rusinow. Dummy won and declarer played the spade king, West discarding the heart six (upside down count and attitude). The spade jack from dummy was covered by the queen and won by the ace, West discarding the four of clubs.

South then played a heart to the queen and East, Bengt-Erik Efrainsson, ducked! Declarer continued with another heart, East playing the nine, and the king won. Declarer now had only 11 tricks and had to go down one. Had East won the heart queen with the ace, West would have been squeezed in the minors to make the contract.

\* Ron Klinger reports that Ishmael Del'Monte & Paul Marston won the Pacific-Asian Pairs before travelling to Manchester for the Commonwealth Nations event. This deal features good counting in defence by Del'Monte:

**Dealer South. Both Vulnerable.**

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

They bid: 1♦-1♥-1NT-Pass

The rebid showed 12-14

West led the spade six to the ten, jack and ace. Declarer returned the five of spades to the king, collecting the nine and eight, and led the club ten, covered by the jack and king, and won by the ace.

Del'Monte took this and considered South's shape.

Declarer could be placed with three spades, and the club play looked like a four card suit. As South had opened 1♦ he would be 3-2-4-4 or, more likely, 3-1-5-4.

So Del'Monte laid down the ace of hearts and the defence cashed four tricks in the suit to beat 1NT and get 9.5 out of 12 mps.



## Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

Email: [ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca](mailto:ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca)

*The correspondence we receive comes in two broad categories: information, and deals thought interesting by the sender. Included in the latter category are further analyses of deals presented in these pages. We'll try dividing the correspondence into those two categories as an experiment.*

*The Editor would like to thank all those who have wished him well since his assuming the mantle. They have all been answered personally, and the correspondence won't be printed here. Thanks also go to all those who have pointed out errors in the Montreal Special.*

*From Giovanni Bobbio:*

Dino Mazza, one of the foremost journalists of Bridge d'Italia magazine, has just passed away. I don't know if you knew this or not, so just in case you did not, I'm letting you know.

*José Damiani responds to Patrick's last Editorial, Issue No. 451:*

I would appreciate the publication of my correction to Patrick Jourdain's editorial about eligibility – this is an important matter, since apparently nobody reads the WBF documents or publications. (See Editorial – Ed.)

*Armand Trippaers, Chairman of the Dutch Bridge Federation, has forwarded to us a copy of a letter he has sent to all NBO Presidents of the European Bridge League asking them to support the Dutch Federation in demanding that the WBF:*

1. Recognise that ambitions to join the Olympic movement have failed;
2. Recognise that the WBF's most important aim is to facilitate and favour bridge players and not to target them as cash cows;
3. Scale down all the WBF's ambitions to focus on:
  - a.) developing, maintaining and interpreting the rules of bridge;
  - b.) organising biannual world championships in all categories, based on a cost-effective organisation. This means:
    - i.) world championships in Europe or North America (as long as the vast majority of members are located in Europe and North America)
    - ii.) no five-star hotels/accommodation
    - iii.) no highly paid or reimbursed officials and staff, but dedicated sportsmen as officials, with publicly known terms of employment.

4.) Find external resources for all of the WBF's ambitions over and above its focus, with the consequence that if no resources are identified, no activities over and above the focus can be financed, such as:

- a.) costly 'goodwill' or demonstration activities if they use up internal resources (e.g., the IOC Cup);
- b.) costly side activities relating to learning methods, youth programmes, missions to turn around Africa and Asia on the subject of bridge; unless well-supported by clear and realistic objectives, proven demands, and external resourcing.

Trippaers goes on to ask the EBL member federations to support the Dutch in demanding no increase in NBO dues to the WBF. At issue is the sharp increase in fees member federations are being requested to pay.

*From Clement Wong, Hong Kong:*

My congratulations to Tony Forrester for his inspired drop of the queen in the second round when declarer cashed the ace and king. He was holding Qxx in a side suit and defending a slam contract. The move landed him the best IBPA defence 2002.

In my Bols Tip of 1993, I proposed to defenders to "hide or seek" their important queens. In some situations you have to sacrifice your queens like the one Tony did. There were two similar and successful examples of "queen-dropping" in IBPA Bulletin 449, July 02. One was of a junior from my own city. He was short-listed for the best 2002 IBPA junior play.

I am glad that after nine years a play that echoed the Bols tip won a defence award. Enjoy your queens!

*Barry Rigal writes regarding a deal he reported from the ACBL Junior Camp, featuring Ophir Reshef, reported in Issue No. 451:*

I'd like Andy Robson to get the attribution for this deal to be in line for a junior award. The deal was originally reported in his Times of London Bridge column.

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,1703-401195,00.html>

**STOP PRESS:** José Damiani has responded in detail to the letter from the Dutch Federation. However, we have not received it in time to print in this month's edition. It will be printed in full in the November Issue.

/continued on page 14 ...