



# BULLETIN

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## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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**N° 479    Year 2004    Date December 1**

## Radoslaw Kielbasinski Is IBPA Personality of the Year



Photo: Ron Tacchi

Radek Kielbasinski is presented the IBPA's Personality of the Year Award by IBPA President Patrick Jourdain and WBF President José Damiani

At the Annual General Meeting in Istanbul, on Monday, November 1, 2004, Radoslaw (Radek) Kielbasinski, President of the Polish Bridge Union, was named 2004 Personality of the Year by the International Bridge Press Association.

Kielbasinski has led the Polish organisation to a period of prosperity during which the federation has achieved sound financial footing and now boasts an average age for members of 43 – and going down. WBF President José Damiani was on hand for the presentation of the award, commending the IBPA, "for recognizing the merit of people who are trying to promote bridge, especially among the youth." Kielbasinski declined to take credit for the success of the Polish federation, but he promised more good bridge news from Poland in the future: "I can promise you we have not said the last word yet."

Other awards were also announced at the meeting - C&R Motors Best Played Hand: Cezary Balicki (Eric Kokish, Journalist); ITES Best Defended Hand: Peter Gill (Ron Klinger); Romex Best Bid Hand: Erik Sælensminde/Boye Brogeland (Jon Sveindal); IBPA Best Junior Deal: Gilad Ofir (Michael Barei); Master Point Press Book of the Year: "Play or Defend: 68 Hands to Test Your Bridge Skill" by Julian Pottage. Details on the award winners can be found inside this issue.

Subscriptions for the year 2005 are unchanged, namely £25 (twenty-five pounds sterling) for the Internet version of the Bulletin, and £44 (forty-four pounds sterling) with a printed version of the Bulletin to your home address. Those with a printed Bulletin should find the Renewal Form inserted in this issue (December) of the Bulletin. Please complete and return it to the Membership Secretary (details elsewhere on this page). Members who have e-mail should have received an invitation to pay their 2005 subscription with notification of the December issue password. The website will contain a Renewal Form for 2005 from 1st December.

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# 2004 IBPA Awards

The numbers in parentheses accompanying each deal refer to the IBPA Bulletin issue and page number in which the original article appeared.

## C & R Motors Best Played Hand



Photo: Ron Tacchi

Eric Kokish accepts the award for the writeup of the C&R Motors Best Played Hand of the Year from Alan Truscott. Irena Chodorowska accepts for Cezary Balicki.

## The 9<sup>th</sup> NEC Cup (471.8)

Eric Kokish, Toronto

### Match 7. Poland v. England

#### Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Armstrong	Balicki	Callaghan
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Double	3 ♠	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

In Poland/Russia v. Ye Olde England, Cezary Balicki found himself in three no trumps from the East side on the lead of the spade ten to the king and ace. Would you bet on declarer or the defenders?

On general principles, it's usually right to back Balicki as declarer, and this deal will do nothing to change that strategy. Please observe. At trick two he led a club to the eight and ace, the normal play as he couldn't afford to let North gain

the lead. How do you like it so far? Balicki demonstrated that bad breaks mean nothing to a player with vision. He played ace of hearts, heart to the king, and a club, ducking South's queen. What can South do? Pretty would be an understatement. Not you, Cezary – your declarer play.

The other candidates were:

- Tim Bourke, Australia, reported by Richard Oshlag, USA in IBPA Bulletin 469.7
- Patrick Jourdain, Wales, reported by Michelle Brunner, England in IBPA Bulletin 473.11
- Dan Hohor, Australia, reported by Ron Klinger, Australia in IBPA Bulletin 474.9
- David Price, England, reported by Raymond Brock, England in IBPA Bulletin 475.4
- Yalçin Atabey, Turkey, reported by Christer Andersson, Sweden in IBPA Bulletin 475.6

## ITES Best Defended Hand

### Bloom 'n' Gill (473.12)

Ron Klinger, Northbridge, NSW

(From the Sydney Morning Herald, May 5, 2004)

Martin Bloom and Peter Gill did particularly well in the final of the NSW Open Teams Selection. They were leading for quite some time and finished fourth, one point behind third place and just missing a spot on the NSW Team. In Round 5 of the final, Gill pulled off a neat coup against a top class declarer. He later said, "As an avid reader of the SMH bridge column, I noticed the coup earlier this year. I was delighted to put it into practice." (Sydney Morning Herald, February 5, 2004; IBPA Bulletin 470, March 2004, page 3.)

Here is the deal where Gill employed the manoeuvre to which he referred:

#### Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Bloom	—	Gill
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Bloom led the fourth-highest diamond three: four – two – seven. Declarer continued with the club two: seven – queen – five!! Declarer expected the club ace to be on his left, of course, and it seemed that clubs were three-three. He continued with the club three: ten – four – nine. Gill cashed the ace of clubs, followed by the jack and the diamond return gave the defence five tricks. That was worth 10 IMPs as the datum was EW plus 410.

Every other declarer made three no trumps, three times with an overtrick. After the queen of clubs wins, declarer can succeed, as the heart suit is friendly, by reverting to diamonds to create an extra trick there. Full marks to Gill, whose brilliant defence led declarer astray.

The other candidates were:

- Terje Aa / Glenn Grotheim, Norway, reported by Brent Manley in IBPA Bulletin 467.6
- David Price / David Burn, England, reported by Simon Cochemé, England in IBPA Bulletin 468.5
- Paul Hackett / Janet de Botton, England, reported by Henry Francis in IBPA Bulletin 468.11
- John Mohan / John Sutherlin, USA, reported by Henry Francis in IBPA Bulletin 468.11

## Romex Best Bid Hand



Photo: Ron Tacchi

Erik Sælensminde and Boye Brogeland receive the Romex Award for Best Bid Hand of the Year from Alan Truscott. Per Jannersten accepts for journalist Jon Sveindal.

## The 47<sup>th</sup> European Championships (475.6) Jon Sveindal, Nyborg, Norway

### Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ J 9 7 4 3  
♥ Q J 4 2  
♦ 6  
♣ J 8 7

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

♠ K 10 6  
♥ K 9 7 6 3  
♦ 9 8 4 2  
♣ 6

West	North	East	South
Brogeland		Sælensminde	
—	—	Pass	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 NT	pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	7 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The foregoing deal, bid by the Norwegian pair of Boye Brogeland and Erik Sælensminde, is a candidate for the 2004 Romex Best Bid Hand of the Year.

The Norwegians were the only pair to bid the near-waterproof diamond grand slam. Brogeland showed 22-24 and Sælensminde the minors. Brogeland preferred diamonds and Sælensminde showed heart shortness, one key card and third round club control. He had just what Brogeland need to ruff two hearts and avoid the spade finesse. The play was no challenge.

The other candidates were:

- Tor Helness / Geir Helgemo, Norway, reported by Brent Manley, USA in IBPA Bulletin 467.13
- Robert Sheehan / Colin Simpson, England, reported by Simon Cochemé, England in IBPA Bulletin 468.6
- Griff Ware / Daniel Geromboux, Australia, reported by Tim Bourke in IBPA Bulletin 471.3
- Sabine Auken / Daniela von Arnim, Germany, reported by Mark Horton in IBPA Bulletin 475.7

## IBPA Best Junior Deal European Youth Bridge Team Championships, Prague, August 1-11, 2004 (476.11) Michael Barel, Israel

Looking at this, the final deal from Round 16 of the Junior Championship, you might imagine that declarer would have four inescapable losers in his four spade contract. As reported to us by NPC Michael Barel, Gilad Ofir of Israel showed that there is always a way in his team's match against Scotland.

### Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ K 9 5 3  
♥ A K 10 8  
♦ A K 2  
♣ 10 3

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

♠ 10 7 6 2  
♥ 3 2  
♦ J 9  
♣ A 7 6 4 2

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
	Hoffman		Ofir
Pass	1 ♦	Double	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Ron Hoffman's mildly aggressive raise to game resulted in Ofir being in a rather delicate contract as the cards lie. He proved to be up to the task as he played the hand almost double dummy.

The opening lead was a heart, and Ofir took dummy's ace, then played king of hearts and ruffed a heart low, played a diamond to dummy and ruffed the last heart with his ten. Next came a second diamond to dummy and a diamond ruff. Ofir ducked a club, won the club return and ruffed a club. Down to nothing but the king-nine-five of spades, Ofir led a low spade off the dummy and East was caught; ten tricks for a magnificent plus 620.

The other candidates were:

- Evgeni Rudakov, Russia, reported by Brian Senior, England in IBPA Bulletin 476.9
- Konrad Araskiewicz, Poland, reported by Brian Senior, England in IBPA Bulletin 476.10
- Hakon Kippe, Norway, reported by Brian Senior, England in IBPA Bulletin 476.10
- Edward Levy, England, reported by Brian Senior, England in IBPA Bulletin 476.11.

## Master Point Press Book of the Year *Play or Defend? 68 Hands to Test Your Bridge Skill* Julian Pottage, England (Review by Barry Rigal)



Photo: Ron Tacchi

Ray Lee, President of Master Point Press and John Carruthers, IBPA Bulletin Editor present the Book of the Year Award. Peter Burrows accepts on behalf of Julian Pottage.

Julian Pottage is one of the most imaginative and hardest-working writers in bridge. In his award-winning book, Pottage presents the reader with all four hands and the auction. Overleaf, the reader is given one or more play/defend options, with analysis, and asked the question, "Can you make it?" or "Can you beat it?" The solutions are presented later. This is not simply a book of double dummy problems, but a very original concept. The deals chosen are outstanding.

**Dealer South. NS Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♠
4 ♦	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

On the diamond king lead you win in hand. What next? You have threats of sorts against East in hearts and clubs, but the entries are awkward. For example, if you give up a diamond, receive a diamond return to ruff, duck a heart to East, and get a friendly trump back, you can run the trumps and achieve your goal. However, each defender gets the opportunity to break this up by a less helpful play.

Elimination play looks a better prospect, by trying to force a defender to give you a ruff and discard or something equally unattractive, and you must surely choose East as your victim. Let us see how....

You draw three rounds of trumps and then play ace of clubs followed by a club to the jack, hoping to force East to win the trick. When East wins the club queen and returns the club king, you ruff and have reached this ending:

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

You now advance the heart nine, planning to run it to East. If West covers, dummy's ace wins and you give up two heart tricks to East. If not, you lose the first heart trick to East, win the second heart, and lose the third. Either way, you achieve your goal. In the three-card ending East has only hearts and clubs left, and must give you a ruff and discard, allowing you to ruff the next trick in dummy whilst shedding a diamond from hand.

A similar position results if East leads a low heart after taking the second round of clubs. You put in the nine and play dummy's ace when West contributes the queen. If East plays back a high heart, you simply duck the first heart and win the second. Either way, the heart ace will serve as an entry for you to ruff a club in hand. You can then exit with a heart as above. Note that playing two rounds of clubs before pulling trumps also works. It takes an initial heart lead to stop ten tricks - the defence get their heart tricks before declarer can achieve his end-play.

The other short-listed candidates were:

- *Kantar on Kontract*, Eddie Kantar
- *Bridge: Classic and Modern Conventions*, Nicu Kantar & Dan Dimitrescu
- *Natural Therapy for Defense Disorders*, Lajos Linczmayer
- *Bridge Master: The Best of Edgar Kaplan*, Jeff Rubens, editor
- *Omar Sharif Talks Bridge*, Omar Sharif & David Bird



# 12<sup>TH</sup> WORLD TEAM OLYMPIAD



Istanbul, Turkey

23 October - 6 November 2004



On Sunday October 24, after a somewhat rocky road to Istanbul, the Open, Women's and Senior Teams got underway in the unique and historic, two-continent, endlessly fascinating city previously known as Constantinople and Byzantium.

## Open Teams

(Unless otherwise noted, these deals are taken from the Daily Bulletins ably edited by Brent Manley and his stalwart assistants Mark Horton and Brian Senior. Some further editing has occasionally taken place.)

Unlike the other two events beginning concurrently with the Open Teams, there was a clear favourite here: Italy. Of course, the other 71 nations competing were not ready to concede them anything. The teams were seeded into four groups of 18, within which each would play a round robin, the top four in each group to advance to the knockout stage.

## The Round Robin Stage

### Round 1. Iceland v. Italy

#### Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

In the Iceland v. Italy Open Room...

West	North	East	South
Versace	Thorvaldsson	Lauria	Magnusson
—	1 ♠	Double	2 ♣
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

North started with three rounds of spades and declarer elected to throw a club from dummy, South ruffing with the three of hearts. He switched to the queen of clubs and declarer won in dummy and advanced the king of diamonds, covered by the ace and ruffed. A heart to dummy saw North play the queen, and declarer won and cashed the queen of diamonds. Playing for North to be one-two in the red suits, he tried to get rid of his club loser on the nine of diamonds, but North could ruff for one down, plus 50. Perhaps this was first-round nerves, but it was certainly uninspired play, as Versace

can never make the hand if South has his projected jack-eight-six-three of trumps.

In the Closed Room...

West	North	East	South
Jorgensen	Fantoni	Armannsson	Nunes
—	1 NT	Double	2 ♣
Double	2 ♦	Double	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The INT opening was 12-14 and all 5-4-2-2 minimums are included. Two diamonds would not have been pleasant for the Italians, minus 800 or so, but at least three no trumps had some chances, thanks to the fortunate heart position. Indeed, provided declarer is on the ball, nine tricks cannot be prevented.

South found the best lead of the four of spades and declarer was allowed to win with the jack. He cashed the ace of hearts and then played the seven to the king, blocking the suit. A heart back to hand was followed by a top diamond, which would have been fine if North had held the ace. When South produced that card a second spade gave the defenders five tricks and plus 50.

If declarer had cashed five heart tricks, North would have been squeezed in three suits, but could still have given declarer a problem to solve by coming down to three spades, one diamond and three clubs. Declarer then has to exit in spades to reach a winning position.

Later in the same match...

### Round 1. Iceland v. Italy. Open Room

#### Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Versace	Thorvaldsson	Lauria	Magnusson
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Three no trumps is a complex contract, and although it can always be made there are many pitfalls to avoid. East led a low diamond, which gave nothing away, and declarer won with dummy's jack and played the suit back. East won and switched to a heart to the jack and king.

Now declarer ran his diamond winners to reach this position:

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

Declarer has won five tricks and still has three aces, but West's discard of the king of spades was not enough of a clue and when he played a club to the queen, West could win and return the suit, leaving the defence in control. One down, minus 100.

The Closed Room auction was:

West	North	East	South
Jorgensen	Fantoni	Armannsson	Nunes
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Here East led a heart and declarer won with dummy's ace and ran the nine of diamonds. East won and played a second heart and declarer won and played the winning diamonds. This time he was able to effect an end-play on West for plus 600 and 12 IMPs to Italy.

Sometimes a harmless-looking play can be fatal. Take this deal, for example, where covering an honour had dire consequences.

**Round 2. Guadeloupe v. Italy**  
**Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

In both rooms, the opening lead against West's four spade contract was the queen of hearts. Giorgio Duboin, for Italy, played low from the dummy, seeing no benefit to putting up the king. South could do nothing to threaten the contract now and it was way too difficult for North to find the killing

club switch. North actually played a second heart and Duboin ruffed, led a spade to the ace and a second spade, and eventually took two club finesses for his contract; plus 620.

The Guadeloupe declarer could see no harm in covering the heart queen with dummy's king. He should now be a sadder and, hopefully, wiser, man. Claudio Nunes won the king of hearts with his ace and switched to the queen of clubs. Declarer was trapped. When he won the ace of clubs defensive transportation was open to get the killing club ruff when Nunes won his trump trick; down one for minus 100 and 12 IMPs to Italy.

David Burn pointed out in a later Bulletin that Duboin's line can be improved upon by eliminating the red suits before leading a spade up. Then, when North shows out, the queen is played from dummy. If South wins and returns a club, declarer inserts the ten, endplaying North, even when he holds both the king and queen of clubs. If South instead returns a trump, declarer wins in dummy and leads a club to the ten himself, effecting the same endplay. Barbara Travis of Australia (reported Ron Klinger) played the hand precisely this way in her Women's Team match versus Pakistan.

As reported by Barry Rigal, the two Brazilian pairs combined nicely to pick up 5 IMPs on this deal from their Round 2 match with France in the Open series.

**Round 2. France v. Brazil**  
**Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Villas Boas	Multon	Chagas	Quantin
—	1 NT	Pass	2 ♥
Double	Pass	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Miguel Villas Boas led his singleton club to the ace and Gabriel Chagas found a smart play. He knew that declarer had five spades, one of the top heart honours and the club king, therefore Villas Boas had the king of diamonds. In that case there was no hurry to give him his club ruff. Chagas therefore continued with a diamond to the king and ace.

Quantin did his best by leading the ace then queen of spades, but Chagas gave his partner the club ruff and now repeated diamond leads led to two down for minus 100.

Diego Brenner also played two spades as South on a club lead. Here, East won and switched to his heart to the ace. A heart ruff was followed by a club ruff but now, after another heart ruff, the third round of clubs achieved nothing as declarer

could ruff high and play a trump to the ace, dropping the king. Brenner next drew the last trump with the queen, ruffed out the queen of clubs and crossed to the diamond ace to cash a club for a diamond pitch; plus 110 and 5 IMPs to Brazil.

Had East switched to a diamond instead of playing the third club, that would have knocked out the ace of diamonds. Declarer could have dropped the spade king next but would no longer have had the transportation to both establish and cash the clubs, so would have been one down.

Barry Rigal reported that Marcelo Caracci of Chile faced a significant challenge on this deal from the third round of the Open series – and he solved it with a trip to the dentist. His opponents were Steve Weinstein and Robert Levin of the USA.

### Round 3. Chile v. USA

#### Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

♠ J 9 7 6 4  
♥ Q J  
♦ A 9  
♣ A K 7 3

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

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	4 ♦
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Levin, East, led the two of spades, and Caracci made his first good play, discarding a club from dummy instead of ruffing. Weinstein won the ace and also made a good play, continuing with the spade five instead of shifting to a club.

Caracci made his second good play, inserting the six, forcing the king, which was ruffed in dummy. Caracci played a heart to the queen and continued with the jack, taken by Weinstein with the ace. Weinstein then correctly played the queen of spades to tap the hand with the long trumps once again.

When Caracci cashed dummy's heart king, Weinstein was left with the last trump, but Caracci showed his accurate reading of the deal by cashing the ace and king of clubs (the Dentist's Coup), then played the diamond ace and a diamond to the king. When he continued with the diamond queen, Weinstein had no good choice. If he discarded a spade, Caracci would simply play another winning diamond. When Weinstein ruffed the diamond, he was forced to play a spade from the ten-eight to Caracci's jack-nine.

The fifth-round encounter between Sweden and Japan produced a remarkable number of interesting and intricate deals. The early pickups all went the Swedes' way.

### Round 5. Sweden v. Japan

#### Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ J 10  
♥ A 10 8  
♦ A 2  
♣ K Q J 8 6 5

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

♠ 9 8 7 6 4 2  
♥ 9 6  
♦ J 9 5 3  
♣ 9

West	North	East	South
Takanao	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
Pass	2 ♣	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Tadashi Teramoto (East) could have made his heart game by playing a diamond after winning the club opening lead with the ace, but he played three rounds of spades, discarding dummy's losing club instead.

North (Johan Sylvan) ruffed and erred by playing the ten of hearts. A club would have allowed P.O. Sundelin to ruff with the six, forcing dummy to overruff with the jack, denying declarer a diamond trick. However, Teramoto also erred by playing low, allowing the ten to force dummy's jack. Now when Teramoto played the king of diamonds, Sylvan could win the ace and played a second club, allowing Sundelin's heart nine to be promoted. That was plus 100 for North-South.

At the other table, Fredin-Lindkvist allowed Ino-Imakura to declare three spades, two off, to win 7 IMPs.

A few boards later Japan missed another chance for a pickup...

### Round 5. Sweden v. Japan

#### Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

♠ A 8 6 4 2  
♥ K 4  
♦ J 7  
♣ K 7 5 2

West	North	East	South
Takanao	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	3 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Sylvan led a low diamond to the jack and king, and Hideki Takano played a low spade to the queen and ace. A diamond was returned to the ten and queen, and the diamond ace was cashed. A second round of spades went to the West hand, and declarer played a low club to the queen, ducked by Sundelin. Now the successful heart finesse made a second club finesse unnecessary; plus 630 to Japan.

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
—	—	—	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The opening lead was the ten of spades to South's ace. Fredin falsecarded with the jack and took the second spade in dummy. He then played a heart to the ace and cashed the king of spades, pitching dummy's diamond. He then took the losing club finesse, and Tadashi Imakura had the opportunity to give Fredin a big problem by playing a fourth round of spades. Had Fredin not guessed to ruff with the trump queen, he would have gone down. Imakura, however, returned a low club to dummy, and there was no further problem for Fredin; plus 620 and a push.

Japan paid a heavy price for their combined misadventure on Board 10.

### Round 5. Sweden v. Japan

#### Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
—	—	1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	Pass	2 NT	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Whatever four clubs was meant to show, Lindkvist did not read it. In any event, the Swedes missed the excellent four heart contract, playing a tenuous four no trumps instead. Fortunately for them, Lindkvist managed ten tricks.

The opening lead was the club eight: ten, queen, ace. Declarer continued with the heart ace and a heart to South's king. The two of clubs came next, and Ino made the good play of inserting the six instead of playing the king, which would have given Lindkvist ten easy tricks. Lindkvist won the club jack, played a heart to dummy and passed the nine of diamonds around to South's queen. Imakura did not read his partner's diamond five accurately, and switched to a low

spade from the queen. That gave declarer ten tricks and a nervous plus 630.

Should Imakura have been able to work out what was going on? Probably. He could be reasonably certain declarer had four hearts; for Ino's club plays to make sense, the suit should be six-four, or perhaps even five-five. Thus, a four-card diamond suit in East is nearly impossible. Nevertheless, defeating four no trumps would have qualified them for the short-list of best-defended hands of the year.

In the Closed Room, the wheels came off in the auction for Takano and Teramoto:

West	North	East	South
Takanao	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
Pass	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The transfer, super-accept and retransfer created confusion, Teramoto eventually finishing an undignified three down to lose 13 IMPs.

With Sweden in the lead by 20 IMPs, disaster struck.

### Round 5. Sweden v. Japan

#### Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Takanao	Sylvan	Teramoto	Sundelin
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Sylvan lost three tricks for plus 130. In the Closed Room, Fredin and Lindkvist had the chance for a huge plus score, but it turned into a major minus.

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Ino	Lindkvist	Imakura
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 ♦	2 ♣	Double	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Fredin hit upon the killing lead of a low heart from the West hand. Imakura put in the ten and won the king when Lindkvist played the jack. Imakura started on clubs right away, and the defenders were in a position to take a total of eight tricks for plus 1100.



When Lindkvist won the ace of clubs, however, he returned the heart two, which appeared to confuse Fredin, who pictured South with the diamond king, therefore placing East with the spade king. Had Lindkvist returned the heart nine, suggesting a sequence and a source of tricks, or the seven, his original fourth best, Fredin likely would have avoided the play he actually made – a spade.

The grateful declarer claimed ten tricks and plus 950 at that point for a 13 IMP gain instead of a 14 IMP loss.

The match between Italy and Hong Kong was closely contested. Witness this fine defence by the Hong Kong players in the Open Room, reported by Alan Sze.

### Round 5. Italy v. Hong Kong. Open Room

#### Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wan	Fantoni	Zen	Nunes
—	—	—	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Derek Zen for Hong Kong led the four of spades after South showed an unbalanced hand in diamonds (9 to 13 high card points) and North revealed an opening hand in hearts (South denying support).

Declarer took the queen of spades with the ace and played a club to the jack. Samuel Wan false carded with the eight. Declarer then played the jack of hearts and overtook it with the queen but Zen continued the good work by ducking nonchalantly.

Now declarer had a real problem with transportation and perhaps should have played on hearts anyway – because even if clubs played for four tricks, there were still only eight in all. Instead, he chose to play the club queen, hoping to smother West's ten. This did not happen, so he hopefully played the third club. Wan took the trick and returned a spade, of course. Zen exited with a diamond after cashing the spades and declarer had to concede a second undertrick to the defence.

In the Closed Room, Lai of Hong Kong made three no trumps on the friendlier lead of a diamond to the queen and it was clear sailing from then on. 10 IMPs to Hong Kong.

A bid or play made from hunger (*reports Barry Rigal*), is one where a player seems to be desperate for a result. Walid el-Ahmady of Egypt might legitimately make such a play: he is observing Ramadan while generally playing three matches a

day. In the final match of the second day, he found a play that suggests hunger is no obstacle to him.

### Round 6. Egypt v. Denmark

#### Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

Against Denmark, the auction went as follows el-Ahmady was West).

West	North	East	South
—	—	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠	4 ♣
4 NT	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

It's a hopeless contract, right? On a heart lead, el-Ahmady won in hand and played the ace of spades and the spade jack to the king, then a low diamond from dummy. Can you blame South for taking the bait? South 'knew' his partner had a trump trick, and holding the diamond eight, he 'knew' West had to have the diamond king, so he hopped up with the ace – contract made! Brilliant!

When Egypt met Israel in Round 10, the men from Cairo were in tremendous form, as witness this deal.

### Round 10. Egypt v. Israel

#### Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
el-Ahmady	Kalish	Sadek	Podgur
—	—	—	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Expecting the jack of hearts to be in the dummy, Tarek Sadek found the brilliant opening lead of the nine of hearts. Naturally declarer played low, as West signalled encouragement with the three. The ten of hearts came next,

and when declarer again played low East was able to continue with the king of hearts, ensuring that the defenders would come to five tricks.

In the Netherlands-Hong Kong match Jan Jansma made three no trumps in a very fine way, especially when you consider that at the other table three no trumps was doubled and went two down.

**Round 11. USA v. Norway**  
**Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.**

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

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Rosenburg	Sælensminde	Zia	Brogeland
1 ♥	2 ♠	Double	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Erik Sælensminde started with the king of spades, ducked by Rosenberg. North had a chance to scuttle the contract with a switch to a trump or a low club, but he naturally continued with a spade to declarer's ace. Rosenberg then ruffed a spade high in dummy and played a heart from dummy. Boye Brogeland rose with the heart ace and exited with a trump. Rosenberg correctly inserted the nine from hand, cashed the king of hearts, ruffed a heart, ruffed a club, ruffed a heart and returned to hand with a club ruff to cash his two good diamonds and the jack of hearts for plus 400. It didn't go that well at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Furunes	Welland	Helness	Fallenius
1 ♥	3 ♠	Double	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Roy Welland also started with the spade king. On the bidding, Furunes did not seriously consider ducking, so he won the ace and returned a spade at trick two. Welland won and switched accurately to a low club (a heart would have been effective also). Furunes ruffed the club, ruffed a spade high and played a heart from dummy as Rosenberg had, but the club ruff earlier had destroyed his timing.

When Björn Fallenius rose with the ace of hearts and returned a diamond, Furunes could win in hand, but he needed to ruff two hearts and a spade in dummy, and in the only way to get back to his hand enough times was to ruff clubs. When diamonds proved to be 3-1, the contract was doomed and Furunes ended up minus 50.

**Round 13. USA v. China**  
**Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

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

♠ 10 7 5 3  
♥ J 5 2  
♦ 5 4  
♣ Q 6 4 3

♠ K J 9 4  
♥ 10  
♦ 10 9 8 7 3  
♣ J 8 7

In the Closed Room, Shi and Zhuang settled into a comfortable four spades, just making, for plus 420. Weinstein and Levin were rather more ambitious.

West	North	East	South
Sun	Levin	Xin	Weinstein
—	—	—	Pass
1 ♣	Double	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass

West can always defeat the contract by leading a club honour and continuing the suit – the 4-1 trump split dooms the slam. It is equally effective to lead a high club and continue with a diamond, taking a vital late entry out of dummy.

Sun, however, started with his low trump, giving Weinstein a chance. He won the spade nine in hand and could have succeeded on this line of play: heart to ace, heart ruff, diamond to jack, heart ruff, spade king, diamond to queen, pull trumps and claim, losing only the low club.

Weinstein, however, took a diamond finesse at trick two. Now it was impossible to ruff the hearts good and get back to dummy to cash them after pulling trumps. Weinstein played the ace of hearts and ruffed a heart, then played to dummy's diamond queen. The ace of diamonds was ruffed and a club returned – one down and 10 IMPs to China.

Marijke van der Pas reported the following deal.

**Round 14. Netherlands v. Hong Kong**  
**Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

♠ A J 8 5 2  
♥ A 8 7 5  
♦ 9 7 2  
♣ 5

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

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

♠ K 9  
♥ 9 6  
♦ A J 8 4  
♣ A K 9 6 3

West	North	East	South
Wan	Verhees	Zen	Jansma
—	—	1 ♠	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the four of clubs, fourth best. Jansma took the jack with the king, and cashed king of spades, West discarding a heart. Now Jansma knew almost the whole hand. He ducked a heart to East's jack, won the club return, crossed to the heart ace and played a diamond. When East split his honours, declarer let him hold the trick.

East exited with a diamond, and it was clear sailing from there. He made three spades, one heart, three diamonds and two clubs, being careful to overtake the nine of spades with the jack in the ending to endplay East with only spades remaining.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Brink	Chan	Prooijen	Sze
—	—	1 ♠	2 ♣
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

East led the diamond king and when it held switched to the jack of clubs. Declarer took the ace, crossed to the ace of hearts and played a diamond to the eight. West won and played the club queen. After taking the trick with the king, declarer played a heart and West ducked, allowing East to win. East continued with the queen of diamonds. Declarer won, cashed a diamond, the spade king, and then let spade nine run. East, however, ducked the trick, and declarer then had to give West the rest: two down plus 500 and 15 IMPs to the Netherlands.

The final Round Robin tables looked like this:

Group A		Group B	
1. Netherlands	318	1. China	338
2. Italy	317	2. Germany	309
3. Russia	316	3. Turkey	306
4. Iceland	312	4. USA	304
Group C		Group D	
1. England	352	1. France	322
2. Ireland	332	2. Japan	305
3. Hungary	326	3. Pakistan	295
4. Egypt	321	4. Sweden	294

Powers such as Norway, Poland, Denmark, Brazil and Indonesia would be on the sidelines since as many or more surprise teams made it to the Round of 16.

### The Knockout Stage

For the Knockout phase, Groups A and B would play each other, as would C and D. The winners of each group had the luxury of choosing their opponent for the first match from among the non-group-winning qualifiers. Thus, Netherlands chose Germany, China picked Iceland, England would play Pakistan and France decided on Hungary. The remainder of the pairings were automatic, the second-place finishers being

mandated to play the lowest qualifier in the other group. Thus we had the absurdity of arguably the two top teams, Italy and the USA, fighting it out in the Round of 16. Most had expected (or at least hoped) that match to be the final. This could have been avoided by the simple expedient of seeding the USA and Italy into Groups A and D respectively, then ensuring that they would not cross over until the final.

In the Egypt versus Japan match, el-Ahmady and Sadek extended their string of brilliant newspaper column deals.

### KO 16-2. Japan v. Egypt

#### Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Takano	Nadim	Teramoto	Heshmat
—	—	—	1 ♠
Double	1 NT	2 ♥	2 ♠
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
West	North	East	South
el-Ahmady	Ino	Sadek	Imakura
—	—	—	1 ♠
Double	Pass	2 ♥	2 ♠
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 NT	Pass	6 ♣	Pass
6 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Typically, el-Ahmady took a more aggressive approach on the West hand than did his counterpart, in this case Takano, and it seemed that he had got himself overboard. However, as they say, the play's the thing. Ino led a heart against six diamonds, and el-Ahmady won and rattled off six rounds of diamonds.

Imakura threw spades, as he had to, and now declarer led his club to the ace, dropping the bare king. The queen of clubs came next, squeezing South out of a heart, and the stage was set for the coup de grâce. El-Ahmady cashed his heart winner then led a low spade to the ten and queen and Imakura had to lead away from the spade king to give the contract; a magnificent plus 1370 for Egypt.

Of course, had South kept two hearts he would have been able to keep only two spades, and now declarer would simply concede a spade without first cashing the heart. In the other room, Takano made a painless plus 600 and probably never considered that he had just lost 13 IMPs.

### KO 16-3. Italy v. USA

#### Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Fantoni	Levin	Nunes
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Three no trumps is a complicated affair on this next deal and although on the surface it appears that the defence should prevail there are a number of pitfalls to be avoided. They were off to a sound start when East led the four of clubs. The club lead went to West's jack; back came a low club to the ten and king. Declarer then played a low heart from dummy, putting in the eight when West discarded the five of spades.

East won the heart queen and played a club to West's queen, declarer pitching a spade, and the defence had reached a critical moment. If West had played his last club it would have taken a serious discarding error later on for declarer to succeed, but West's actual choice of the four of spades was fatal. It was covered by the jack, king and ace, and declarer played off his winning hearts, destroying the West hand.

Eventually he threw the queen of spades, hoping his partner had the ten, but declarer produced that card and claimed nine tricks, plus 600.

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rosenberg	Bocchi	Zia
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The defence went along similar lines, but this time when East got in with the queen of hearts they cashed two clubs and East exited with a heart. Now, West, discarding after dummy, came down to the spade queen and three diamonds, and the defenders had to get another trick, plus 100 and 12 IMPs.

This deal (see top of next column) provoked a lot of discussion about whether North could make four spades. In the Closed Room it was academic.

East led the ace of hearts and switched to the nine of diamonds. Declarer won in dummy and played back a heart to East's king. He took the diamond continuation with the

king, cashed the ace and king of spades, crossed to the ace of clubs and discarded a heart on the jack of diamonds. He made his contract on the nose, plus 110.

### KO 16-4. Italy v. USA

#### Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Welland	Lauria	Fallenius	Versace
—	Pass	1 ♥	2 ♣
2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rosenberg	Bocchi	Zia
—	Pass	1 ♥	2 ♣
2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

In the Open Room, East, Bocchi, led the ace of hearts and switched to the ten of clubs. Declarer let that run to hand and played back a heart. East won and switched to the nine of diamonds. Declarer won, played a spade to the jack followed by the top trumps. When a diamond brought forth East's queen he could discard a heart on the jack of diamonds and claim. Plus 420 and 7 IMPs to USA.

### KO 16-4. Italy v. USA

#### Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Welland	Lauria	Fallenius	Versace
—	—	1 ♣	1 ♦
Double	3 ♦	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South led a diamond and North took the ace and switched to a trump. Declarer drew three rounds ending in hand and ran the ten of clubs, claiming nine tricks when it lost, plus 140.

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rosenberg	Bocchi	Zia
—	—	1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

The defence started in similar fashion, but declarer took only two rounds of trumps ending in hand and ran the nine of clubs. North won and exited with a trump and declarer won in hand and played another club to South's ace. At this point it was perhaps impossible for South to see that he had to switch to a low spade. When he played back a club declarer took two rounds, discarding a spade, and in the ending below played the ace of hearts.

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

North could not part with a diamond, so had to let go a spade, as did dummy. Now South had to discard a diamond, but declarer could cross to a spade and ruff a diamond, setting up the king. A trump squeeze for plus 620, and 10 IMPs to Italy.

#### KO 16-4. Italy v. USA

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Welland	Lauria	Fallenius	Versace
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Despite the terrible trump break one spade was in no danger. Declarer won the heart lead with dummy's queen and played a club to the queen. When that held he cashed the ace of

clubs and played a club. South got rid of his remaining heart, but declarer could ruff and in due course made four more tricks, all of them in trumps, plus 110.

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rosenberg	Bocchi	Zia
—	—	—	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Double	2 ♠
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

When South bid two spades, East must have been hoping his partner would come up with a value showing double. As it was the alternative was to attempt the nine trick game.

South led the five of spades and declarer won in dummy with the ten as North discarded the three of clubs. Should that have persuaded declarer to play a club to the queen? (The genuine way to make the contract – when it holds declarer cashes three hearts and plays a diamond.) Whatever, he played the ten of clubs and ran it when North played the two. South won with the jack and found the best defence when he switched to a low diamond. Declarer put up the king from dummy and played back a diamond, South winning with the ace. He played back a diamond (very hard to realise that a heart switch is necessary at this point) and North won. He could not afford to cash the queen of diamonds and he switched to a club.

Declarer played the queen, and cashed the ace and king of hearts to reach this ending:

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

The ace of spades (or, amusingly, the queen) would have been enough to destroy the North hand, but declarer could not read the ending, and he overtook the jack of hearts and was one down, 5 IMPs away.

#### KO 16-5. Italy v. USA

Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Fantoni	Levin	Nunes
—	—	—	Pass
1 ♣	1 ♥	1 ♠	2 NT
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Levin started with the two of spades, which went to the ten and ace. The play was not challenging with trumps 2-2, so Fantoni duly chalked up plus 620. There was more excitement at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rosenberg	Bocchi	Zia
—	—	—	Pass
1 ♣	1 ♥	Double	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The Italian methods required Bocchi to double after the one heart overcall – a bid of one spade would have indicated no four-card major, while a transfer bid of two hearts would have indicated game-forcing values or at least six spades.

Double indicated four or more spades. Bocchi's double of four hearts was obviously based on Duboin's opening bid, but that may not have been completely clear to Rosenberg as indicated by the way he played the doubled contract.

Bocchi started with the ace of clubs and continued with a club, ruffed in dummy. Rosenberg played a diamond to the king, followed by another diamond. Rosenberg ducked when East played the diamond jack. Bocchi switched to a low heart, which went to the seven, nine and ace. Once the possibility of a 4-0 trump split had been eliminated, it seems safe enough to enter dummy with a trump, planning on ruffing a diamond. If trumps are 2-2, the contract is a virtual lock and, if they are 3-1, there would still be chances depending on who had the remaining trump.

Rosenberg, however, played a low spade from hand after winning the trump switch, and that was the end. Bocchi won the spade king and gave his partner a ruff for down one and a 13 IMP swing to Italy, now ahead by 6 IMPs.

Another 10 IMPs went to Italy when Duboin made a state-of-the-match decision in the play that was a huge success.

### KO 16-5. Italy v. USA

#### Board 24. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

	♠ Q 4 3		
	♥ A 9 8 5		
	♦ Q 6		
	♣ 10 6 5 2		
♠ A J 8		♠ K 10 6	
♥ 6 3		♥ Q 10 7	
♦ A K 5 3 2		♦ 9 8 4	
♣ Q 8 3		♣ A K J 4	
	♠ 9 7 5 2		
	♥ K J 4 2		
	♦ J 10 7		
	♣ 9 7		
West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rosenberg	Bocchi	Zia
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Rosenberg started with a low heart and the defenders quickly cashed four tricks in that suit, Rosenberg exiting with a club at the end. Duboin then embarked on a scheme to try to get a count on the opposing hands. He won the club queen in hand at trick five, cashed the top two diamonds, then played off dummy's three clubs, pitching his last diamond.

Zia, meanwhile, had followed to two clubs and discarded two spades. It looked as though Zia had started with four spades, making it more likely that he held the spade queen, the card declarer needed to locate to make the contract.

On Vugraph, before finessing for the spade queen, Duboin made a show of picking up and examining the Official Score Card to assess his and Bocchi's game to date. Estimating that his team was still trailing and believing a swing was needed, Duboin made an anti-percentage play to try to turn things around, finessing North rather than South for the spade queen. (Read Duboin's personal account of this deal on page 15.)

As you can see, Duboin was right. In the Closed Room, the defence went exactly the same way, and Weinstein played the same way to get the same information. After giving the matter due thought, Weinstein played the king of spades and was down one.

Italy ran out winners by 11 IMPs, 157-146. If Duboin's anti-percentage finesse had lost the Americans would have won by 9 IMPs. The Italians would face Pakistan, surprise winner over an until-then superbly in-form England, in one quarterfinal. In the others, Netherlands would face Ireland, Hungary would battle Russia, and it would be China versus Japan.

These matches were mostly anti-climactic, with Italy, China and the Netherlands winning easily. Only a 72 IMP rally by Hungary against Russia over the final 32 boards added drama to the quarterfinals. Their surge fell short by 2 IMPs.

For the semifinals, Italy would play China and Russia the Netherlands. Again no drama ensued, with Italy and the Netherlands winning their respective matches fairly handily.

### Semifinal 1. Russia v. Netherlands

#### Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

		♠ K Q 8	
		♥ K 9 3	
		♦ 9 7	
		♣ Q J 9 8 7	
	♠ A J 9 5		♠ 10 2
	♥ Q 10		♥ A 6 5 4 2
	♦ A Q J 8 3		♦ K 6 2
	♣ 10 5		♣ K 6 4
		♠ 7 6 4 3	
		♥ J 8 7	
		♦ 10 5 4	
		♣ A 3 2	
West	North	East	South
Duboin	Verhees	Gromov	Jansma
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

With an awkward lead, South went for the two of clubs, third and fifth, which went to the five, seven and king. Declarer's first decision had to centre on the club suit. Unless someone was playing a deep game the suit could not be breaking 4-4, so it would not help to play either major suit, as the defenders would then have an easy five tricks to cash.

Accordingly, he took the only alternative of cashing five rounds of diamonds, hoping to apply pressure. The North hand was under great pressure and discarded the heart nine, the spade eight, and the heart three – the only way to give declarer a problem. South parted with the the eight of hearts and the three of spades. This was the position:

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

Declarer exited with a club and North won and returned a club to South's ace, dummy discarding a spade. When a spade came next it seemed clear that the only hope was to rise with the ace and cash the ace of hearts, but declarer played low and was one down; minus 50.

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Rekunov	Drijver	Khokhlov
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

One no trump was easy; plus 90 and 4 IMPs.

The final followed a similar pattern to most of the other knockout matches, providing little drama, as Italy pulled steadily away to win their fifth Olympiad Open Teams title, eventually winning by 59 IMPs, 310-251, having been ahead more than 90 with a set to go. We were all left to wonder what had happened to the projected Italy-USA battle for the title, with Zia versus the Italians. That would have been theatre! In any case, Giorgio Duboin-Norberto Bocchi, Lorenzo Lauria-Alfredo Versace and Claudio Nunes-Fulvio Fantoni, with Maria-Teresa Lavazza as their Non-Playing Captain, are worthy Olympiad Open Team Champions.

Nonetheless, we can look forward to a 2005 Bermuda Bowl battle between the two titans of bridge, Italy and the United States, with the Nickell team (Nick Nickell-Dick Freeman, Jeff-Meckstroth-Eric Rodwell, Bob Hamman-Paul Soloway) already booked for Estoril. (When they won the Olympiad Trials, the USBF conditions of contest made them USA1 for Estoril when they chose not to go to Istanbul.) It would come as a great shock to all if the same Italian team is not there to slug it out with them. Let's hope it's in the final.

*The other Olympiad events will be reported on next month.*

## Squadra Fortuna

**Giorgio Duboin, Torino**

*(Translated from the Italian by Franco Bandoni)*

"I've been asked to write a few words regarding a hand I played in our knockout match against USA in the Olympiad. This is very unusual for me, because, not being a reporter, this does not normally happen. The few bridge articles I have written have been about analysing some complicated deal played by somebody else."

"This time I will skip probabilities, percentages and technique, and try to describe the emotions and sensations a player feels during an important head-on match. The deal is already well-known so I will go directly to the crux of the matter. You have a two-way finesse for the queen of spades holding a three-three suit, knowing the suit splits four on your right and three on your left."

"Let's go back a little further before we had to face this problem. We had already played eight boards of the final sixteen. The situation was dire: before this final segment we were 25 IMPs down. After six boards, according to my estimate, we had worsened our score by another 15 IMPs. There was a ray of hope, however, as on the previous board our opponent had erred and we had received a gift of 13 IMPs."

"Now there are eight boards to go and I have a chance to change the flow of the match. I would be assuming a heavy responsibility to do so. Years ago, I would not have allowed myself to make such a decision that would affect the rest of the team. Here, I am pretty sure the opposing declarer will make the percentage play. The difference in the odds is not astronomical. What should I do?"

"I am still undecided between waiting for a better chance or trying to go for a coup. Apart from everything else, if I play anti-percentage, my play will modify the normal outcome on the rest of the boards as well. I have always been a total team player, leaving others to do the swinging, but my inner feeling is that now it's my responsibility to change the state of the match. There is an old Latin adage which says, 'Fortune favours the brave.' I finally decide to back my judgment."

"Let's go: I play the ace of spades from my hand, then my small spade. I call for dummy's ten and close my eyes. When I open them...the ten has won! Ten presumed IMPs are in the bank. I was lucky, yes, and if I'd gone down, I would have had to face the criticism because of my choice. However, I can say that, other than the result, nothing would have changed for me if the finesse had lost. I am a professional and certainly neither the result of one board nor the criticism of others either scares or exalts me."

"I think I did the right thing. I was lucky, true, but I am happy for the team and for myself, and for having contributed to the renewed belief in the strength and dangerousness of the Squadra Azzuri."

## 12<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Team Olympiad Medal Winners

### Open

1. **ITALY:** Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Fulvio Fantoni, Lorenzo Lauria, Claudio Nunes, Alfredo Versace
2. **NETHERLANDS:** Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Jan Jansma, Ricco Prooijen, Maarten Schollaardt, Louk Verhees
3. **RUSSIA:** Alexander Doubinine, Andrei Gromov, Jouri Khokhlov, Max Khven, Georgi Matushko, Vladimir Rekunov

### Women's

1. **RUSSIA:** Olga Galaktionova, Victoria Gromova, Natalia Karpenko, Maria Lebedeva, Tatiana Ponomareva, Irina Vasilkova
2. **USA:** Marinesa Letizia, Jill Meyers, Randi Montin, Janice Seamon-Molson, Tobi Sokolow, Carlyn Steiner
3. **ENGLAND:** Sally Brock, Michelle Brunner, Heather Dhondy, Rhona Goldenfield, Nicola Smith, Kitty Teltscher

### Senior

1. **USA:** Leo Bell, Neil Chambers, Marshall Miles, John Onstott, Jim Robison, John Schermer
2. **NETHERLANDS:** Willem Boegem, Nico Doremans, Onna Janssens, Wied Polle, Jaap Trouwborst
3. **GERMANY:** Hans Humburg, Reiner Marsal, Göran Mattason, Werner Schneider, Dirk Schroeder, Horst-Dieter Uhlmann

### University (FISU)

1. **POLAND:** Krzysztof Buras, Jacek Kalita, Krzysztof Kotorowicz, Piotr Madry, Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Wojciech Strzemecki
2. **BELGIUM:** Philippe Busquin, Jules Hendrickx, Jacques Henri, Luc de Mesmaecker
3. **USA:** Charlie Garrod, Marc Glickman, Ari Greenberg, John Kranyak, Joon Pahk, Noble Shore

### Mixed Transnational

1. **AUKEN:** Sabine Auken, Paul Chemla, Cathérine d'Ovidio, Zia Mahmood
2. **BATOV:** Vasil Batov, Julian Stefanov, Steliana Ivanova, Reliza Mircheva
3. **ZHANG:** Zhong Fu, Yan Lu, Ming Sun, Liping Wang, Wenfei Wang, Qinghong Zhou

At the joint IBPA-WBF Press Conference in Istanbul, WBF President José Damiani announced that forthcoming Bermuda Bowls, Venice Cups and Senior Bowls will have 22 teams each, comprised of: Zone 1=6; Zone 2=3; Zone 3=2; Zone 4=2; Zone 5=1; Zone 6=3; Zone 7=2; Zone 8=2; Host=1. Qualification will be tied to participation in Olympiad and Youth Championships. Details will be released by the WBF shortly.

Welcome to our new members joining in Istanbul: Alf Jensen (Norway), Fikret Dogan (Germany), Sheri Winestock (USA), Rosaline Barendegt (Netherlands), 18 - junior member, Linda Greenland (Wales), ul-Haque Azwer (Pakistan), Sylvain Brethes (Réunion), David Greenwood (Northern Ireland) - rejoining, Margaret Parnis-England (Malta), Nick Fahrer (Australia), Steve Weinstein (USA).

## The IBPA Personality of the Year Radoslaw Kielbasinski of Poland

(Address by Patrick Jourdain to the Annual General Meeting of the IBPA in Istanbul)

The person we honour today has transformed the bridge federation of which he became President four years ago. It was in financial difficulties and split by internal disputes. Today it is in one of the healthiest financial positions in Europe, with a budget of 100,000 US dollars for its Junior programme alone, and all its teams are well-financed and prepared, with a third of its income coming from big sponsors, and another third from the government.

Its structure is different from almost any other federation: no affiliated bridge clubs, but a pyramidal structure of leagues with a thousand teams playing regularly. Indeed, you cannot even be a member of the Union unless you play in the league. So, of two million players, only 7,000 join the Union, but this is seen as a privilege rather than a necessary burden.

The Youth Programme is of particular interest. It had little success in earlier years, but then developed a structure of four age groups: under 15, 16-18, 19-20 and 21-25, that encourages all to continue. Youth numbers expanded fast, so that the Federation now has an average age of 43 that is going down, yes, down!

And the reward came this year, when Poland, for by now you should have guessed the federation, took the gold medal at the World School Teams and the World Junior Individual. Within a month it had collected gold in European Juniors and Schools and bronze in the first Girls event.

The player who won the World Junior Individual comes from a small village in Poland, and his success has transformed the attitude towards bridge in that area of the country.

In Poland, bridge is a sport, no-one doubts it. Our winner is a family man with two teenaged boys. He enjoys tennis, though not expertly; I have even beaten him a couple of times myself. He is the Managing Director of the Polish section of a major Danish Bank. He is a member of the EBL and WBF Executives. I ask him to come forward to accept our Personality of the Year Award.

Welcome Radek Kielbasinski of Poland.

Congratulations to  
IBPA 2004 Honour Member  
Barry Rigal

Thank you to Press Room Manager Jan Swaan, who was presented by IBPA with a souvenir plate from the Golden Horn and honorary membership in IBPA in appreciation of his work in Istanbul. In making the presentation, Per Jannersten called Jan, "the best Press Room Manager ever, at least in Istanbul!"

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