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### Editorial

Bridge organisation such as the WBF, the EBL and the ACBL are struggling with the issue of nationality as it pertains to eligibility for Zonal and World Championships. Recently, the EBL first denied Pierre Zimmermann et al the right to represent Monaco in the Europeans, then reversed itself to allow their participation. The new Monégasques responded by dominating the Open European Team Championship and qualifying for the Bermuda Bowl next year in Bali. The USA has had quite a few non-citizens represent them over the years, as have a handful of other nations. Some countries insist on citizenship to be allowed play for them in World Championships, others just have residency requirements.

The Monégasque initiative is not a new idea. Thirty years ago, Alberto Calvo hired Jeff Hand of the USA and Drew Cannell of Canada to move to Panama and play bridge for them. That team just did not have the high profile or the impact that the new Monégasques have had. Before that, in the late 1960s, Ira Corn tried unsuccessfully to entice Sami Kehela to leave Toronto to join the Dallas Aces.

Other sports organisations have similar issues. The difference is that most have 'stricter' eligibility standards than the WBF. The IOC, for example, demands that representatives of all nations have citizenship and be required to prove it with a passport of the country they represent. Lest you think this is a purer method, it has resulted in countries that crave Olympic glory dangling passports for elite athletes who have a chance at Olympic medals. *Nexus*, the University of Toronto Faculty of Law magazine ([www.law.utoronto.ca](http://www.law.utoronto.ca)) has an incisive article on this issue in their latest number. In it, they cite that Ethiopians running for Bahrain and Canadians playing hockey for Italy are but two examples of this shift in the meaning of citizenship itself and the citizenship market unwittingly created by the IOC and the Olympics.

Perhaps the strictest requirements are FIFA's; strict in the sense that once one represents a country in Open competition, one may never play for another. However, the determination of which country one initially represents is quite liberal - one grandparent with citizenship is enough to qualify. With football players living all over the world, residency is not even an issue. Unlike in the past, when one had to declare one's national affiliation even if playing the Under-17's, now the rule is that one can play for one country in the age-limited events and another in Open competition.

However, bridge is a rather special case. One could in theory represent one's country for seventy years or more. Whereas a football player's or Olympian's international career might last twenty years if he is truly exceptional, a bridge player can play from puberty to senility. So it is quite reasonable in this day of increased mobility to allow players to represent different countries at different times in their lives. We know of one international who was born in France of Polish and Tunisian parents, and subsequently lived in Canada, the USA, England, Switzerland and Australia, making her eligible to represent a potential eight different nations.

Zlatan Ibrahimovic plays football for Sweden, Ajax Amsterdam, Juventus, Barcelona, AC Milan and Paris St. Germain and no one so much as blinks. So why should Zimmermann-Multon, Helness-Helgemo and Fantoni-Nunes not play for Monaco or Romain Zaleski for Italy or Zia for the USA? They are simply either following their careers or, as Glaser and Abramovich have done, indulging their passion with their wallets.

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**Barry Rigal, NYC**  
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Winners of the major titles were:

**Spingold KO Teams**

Fulvio Fantoni, Tor Helness, Geir Helgemo, Franck Multon, Claudio Nunes, Pierre Zimmermann

**Grand National Teams**

Mike Becker, David Berkowitz, Gary Cohler, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Warren Spector

**Wagar Women's KO Teams**

Mildred Breed, Hjordis Eythorsdottir, Jill Levin, Shawn Quinn, Valerie Westheimer, Jenny Wolpert

**Truscott Senior Swiss Teams**

Robert Fendrick, Larry Harding, Bob Heller, John Herriott

**Freemen Mixed Board-a-Match Teams**

Karen Cumpstone, Joan Eaton, Nader Hanna, Michael Roche

**Roth Open Swiss Teams**

John Diamond, Fred Gitelman, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Brad Moss

**Collegiate Team Championship**

The University of North Carolina - Patrick Domico, Xiyuan Ge, Ovunc Yilmaz, Jensheng Zho

**Von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs**

Alan Osofsky, Alan Sontag

**Wernher Open Pairs**

Robert Lebi, David Lindop

**NABC Fast Pairs**

Tom Kneist, Ed Schulte

**From the Textbook (BR)**

This deal was played in the first qualifying session of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs. See if you can find the textbook defensive play produced by at least two defenders.

**Dealer East. Neither Vul.**

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

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1♦
2♠	Pass	Pass	Double
All Pass			

You (North) start with the king of diamonds. The singleton diamond in the East hand is not a welcome sight. How do you proceed?

At least two defenders – Billy Eisenberg and my partner, Glenn Milgrim – found the play to collect the maximum penalty: the king of spades.

Declarer could win the ace, but if he ruffed a diamond with dummy's queen, the trump trick the defenders seemingly gave up would come back. On a low spade switch, declarer could put up the queen, ruff out the ace of clubs, then ruff a diamond low and take a discard on the queen of clubs to finish two down.

At my table and Eisenberg's – and likely a few others – the end result was plus 500, good for 44 out of 51 matchpoints.

The full deal:

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

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

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

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

**Whither the Queen? Who Cares! (BM)**

On this deal from the Morehead Grand National Teams, Championship Flight, Michael Schreiber played expertly to land a vulnerable game that was defeated

at the other table. In the end, the queen of spades was a key card, but Schreiber didn't care which opponent had it. If the layout was as he figured it, the queen's location was immaterial. This was the deal (spots approximate):

**Dealer West. NS Vul.**

<p>♠ K J 8 2 ♥ J 9 7 2 ♦ A 10 ♣ 8 7 3</p> <p>♠ 10 7 5 ♥ Q 8 ♦ K Q 9 8 6 5 ♣ K 6</p>	<p>♠ Q 9 ♥ 10 4 3 ♦ 7 3 2 ♣ Q J 10 9 2</p> <p>♠ A 6 4 3 ♥ A K 6 5 ♦ J 4 ♣ A 5 4</p>
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West	North	East	South
2♦	Pass	3♦	Double
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Schreiber was playing with Jim Munday. West started with the diamond king, taken in dummy with the ace. Schreiber cashed his top hearts, dropping West's queen, and played a third round to dummy's jack. Now the ten of diamonds went to Schreiber's jack and West's queen.

When West switched to the king of clubs, Schreiber ducked. A second club went to East's nine and Schreiber's ace. Stopping to consider what the play to that point had revealed, Schreiber figured that West had started with six diamonds, two hearts and two clubs – leaving him with three spades. In that case, East had two spades, three hearts, three diamonds and five clubs. On that layout, Schreiber knew he could not go down if he played correctly. Accordingly, he cashed the ace of spades and played a spade to the king, dropping East's queen. He was then able to claim plus 620.

Had East followed low to the second round of spades, Schreiber would then have put West in with the spade queen. Down to all diamonds, West would have had to give Schreiber a ruff-sluff, taking care of Schreiber's losing club. The well-played deal was worth 12 IMPs.

**Not So Obvious (BR)**

On this deal from the first semifinal session of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs, the defence to four spades may have been straightforward, but not many players found it.

On a club lead to the jack and ace, what would you do

as South at trick two?

**Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

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

A trump shift may look superficially attractive, but is partner going to produce the goods in hearts for you? Maybe, but at the table Glenn Milgrim returned a club to dummy. Declarer played the queen of hearts next, covered all around, then he tried to sneak a heart through to the seven. Milgrim won the heart jack and played a third club, ruffed in dummy. The jack of spades went to the king and ace, and back came the nine of spades to the queen. Now a fourth round of clubs promoted the eight of spades into the setting trick. Plus 50 was good for 76 out of 90 matchpoints.

**Unlucky – or Not? (BR)**

Many East declarers in 3NT considered themselves unlucky on this three notrump deal from the first semifinal session of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs.

**Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

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

On the lead of the five of hearts to the ace and a diamond shift, many Easts won with the ace then used their two entries to dummy to take two club finesses. That is indeed a 76% line, but if you assume the

diamond shift at trick two indicates that hearts are 5-1 or 6-2 and North has four diamonds, you have something better. Instead, duck the first diamond and win the second. Cash your diamonds and the king of hearts, then play three rounds of spades, ending in dummy. This will be the position:

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

Run the ten of clubs, and no matter who has the club honours, you make your contract. As the cards lie, South wins and can cash a heart, but then you have the rest.

### Miami or Strauss? (BR)

On this deal from the second final session of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs, a devious defender duped a desperate declarer. The perpetrator was Mark Tolliver, playing with Marc Zwerling.

#### Board 1. Dealer. North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Tolliver		Zwerling
Double	1♠ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
1. Four-card majors	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Tolliver led his fourth-best spade, which went to the jack and king. When West cashed the ace of hearts, Tolliver played the king! Declarer swallowed the bait and drove out the king of clubs. In with that card, Tolliver played back a low heart. Declarer went up with the queen and cashed all of his club and diamond

winners (Tolliver unblocking his queen of diamonds), then tried to endplay North with a low spade, but it was a Miami endplay: the defenders had the rest of the tricks – two spades, a heart and a diamond.

Out West, according to Ken Monzingo, it's called a Strauss endplay. You throw in the opponents and they claim!

### Shady Shift (BM)

Jim Munday made an injudicious overcall on board three in the second semifinal round of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs – facing Michael Rosenberg and Richard Zeckhauser, no less. He and his partner, Michael Schreiber, paid the price. With a similar spade holding on the companion board, Munday kept his peace and put the cards to better use.

#### Board 4. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zeckhauser	Munday	Rosenberg	Schreiber
1♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Schreiber led the five of diamonds: seven, nine, three. The diamond queen held the second trick. Looking ahead, Munday saw that if he cleared the diamond suit, Rosenberg would ultimately be forced to take the club finesse through the South hand and succeed: four clubs, a diamond, three hearts and the spade ace would see three notrump home for a poor North/South result. Outside the club card, partner was unlikely to have a viable entry.

So Munday turned his attention to the spade suit. He contemplated a deceptive lead – it was unlikely to matter to partner, and he hoped to lure declarer into fearing a holding such as king-queen-nine to four spades in the South hand. The spade eight went to the jack, king and was won by the ace in dummy. Now, South becomes the safe hand into which to direct the club finesse.

Rosenberg thought for some time. Unsure of the

spade position, he opted to finesse clubs into the South hand, cashing the ace first. In with the queen of clubs, Schreiber returned a spade, and Munday cleared the suit. Declarer cashed minor-suit winners. Munday parted with a spade and a heart – not baring the king of hearts – to ensure down two. Rosenberg turned to Munday and, with a twinkle, said, “Chicken.”

### In Rare Form (PA)

During this NABC, there have been some interesting deals. This one comes from the winners of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs, Alan Osofsky and Alan Sontag. It is from the final session.

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

<p>♠ J 10 9 ♥ Q 4 ♦ Q 10 9 ♣ J 9 8 7 3</p> <p>♠ K 8 7 ♥ 7 2 ♦ J 8 6 5 4 3 ♣ Q 6</p>	<p>♠ A Q 4 2 ♥ A J 10 6 ♦ 7 2 ♣ K 5 4</p> <p>♠ 6 5 3 ♥ K 9 8 5 3 ♦ A K ♣ A 10 2</p>
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West	North	East	South
—	Osofsky	I ♣	Sontag
All Pass	Pass		I ♥

West led a diamond. Sontag won, cashed his other diamond, and exited with a spade. East won with his queen and shifted to a club, West taking declarer’s ten with his queen. West returned his second club, dummy’s seven winning. Declarer called for the queen of diamonds.

Now East erred. If he had ruffed low, the defenders would still have been in control. But he ruffed with the ten. South discarded a spade. West ruffed the third club and cashed his king of spades to give this position:

<p>♠ J ♥ Q 4 ♦ — ♣ J 9</p> <p>♠ 8 ♥ 7 ♦ J 8 5 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ A 4 ♥ A J 6 ♦ — ♣ —</p> <p>♠ — ♥ K 9 8 5 3 ♦ — ♣ —</p>
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When West led his last spade, how did Sontag, who

needed four tricks, make his contract? This is not too hard looking at all four hands, but finding the answer at the table would have eluded most players. Sontag ruffed East’s ace of spades with his heart five and led the heart eight to dummy’s queen. East won with his ace and played his last spade, but South ruffed with his heart three and overruffed with dummy’s four. Now a club lead executed a trump coup, declarer’s king-nine of hearts being over East’s jack-six.

That brilliant play by Sontag for plus 80 was worth 49.5 matchpoints out of 51. If the contract had gone down one, he and Osofsky would have received 38 matchpoints – a difference of 11.5. And they won by 10.96.

### Real Duplicate (BR)

On this deal from the Morehead Grand National Teams, both defenders at both tables found the same winning plays (both ducks to allow partner to ruff the trick). The featured defenders are Chris Compton and Bart Bramley.

#### Dealer West. Neither Vul.

<p>♠ J 9 3 ♥ 8 6 5 ♦ A K J 10 8 7 ♣ K</p> <p>♠ K 4 ♥ K Q 7 2 ♦ 9 5 ♣ 10 6 5 4 3</p>	<p>♠ A 7 5 ♥ A 10 9 3 ♦ Q 6 4 2 ♣ A 7</p> <p>♠ Q 10 8 6 2 ♥ J 4 ♦ 7 ♣ Q J 9 8 2</p>
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West	North	East	South
Compton		Bramley	
I ♦	Double	I ♥ <sup>1</sup>	2 ♥
Double <sup>2</sup>	Pass	2 ♠	3 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	All Pass	

1. Spades
2. Three-card spade support

Compton started with the king of diamonds, and switched to the three of spades at trick two. Declarer won in hand and played the nine of diamonds. Compton covered with the ten, knowing his partner was going to ruff. Bramley did so, returning the heart jack to dummy’s ace. Now declarer played the ace of clubs, fetching the king from Compton, followed by the seven of clubs. Bramley, with no trumps left, inserted the eight, and when South covered, Compton ruffed and played his last trump, enough to defeat the contract.

## The Decider (BM)

With Lilienstein leading Spector by 4 IMPs in the final of the Grand National Teams, Spector needed a swing to emerge victorious. This was the crucial deal:

### Board 64. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Lev</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Glubok</i>
Pass	1♥	2♣	3♣
4♣	5♣	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Rodwell led the four of hearts, taken in dummy. A low diamond was ruffed by Lev at trick two, followed by a trump to dummy and another diamond ruff. When nothing good happened in diamonds, Lev led the club seven from hand. Rodwell won the ace and exited with the club ten to dummy's king. Lev eventually took the successful spade finesse and was able to claim 12 tricks for plus 980.

At the other table, a mysterious auction resulted in an unlikely contract.

West	North	East	South
<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Cohler</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>
Pass	1♥	2♣	3♣
4♣	4♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♠ <sup>2</sup>
Double <sup>3</sup>	Redouble	Pass	5♣ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	5♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	5♥ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	5♠ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	5NT <sup>6</sup>
Pass	7♥ <sup>7</sup>	All Pass	

1. Last Train, a slam try device popularized by none other than Jeff Meckstroth.
2. Cuebid
3. An effort to help East with his lead if he held the spade king
4. Signing off
5. Still trying for a grand slam
6. "Over to you, Partner."
7. Regarding that stage of the match, Cohler said, "I knew I had to go big or go small, and it's not my style to go small."

Hurd, with two aces, didn't lead either one because: (1.) he might have picked the wrong one and have

had it ruffed, setting up tricks for declarer and; (2.) it appeared from the bidding that his side had a spade stopper (remember the double of four spades), so there was no rush to play an ace.

After Hurd led the four of hearts and before the dummy came down, Cohler thought Hurd had found the killing lead. Based on the auction (again, the double of four spades), Cohler figured that his partner's spade cuebid was indicating a singleton. "I thought I was going to have to ruff three spades in dummy," Cohler said. That's why he thought the trump lead was effective. It was the inference that his partner held a singleton spade that convinced Cohler that his partner held the ace of clubs. He believed that Berkowitz needed the club ace to show interest in slam in the absence of a spade card. Nonetheless, Berkowitz might have bid six clubs over five spades had he held the club ace.

Cohler took the heart king in dummy and called for a low diamond, ruffing when Wooldridge followed low. Cohler played a trump back to dummy and played a low spade to his jack. When the jack of spades held and both opponents followed to the next high spade, Cohler could claim, planning to discard both clubs from dummy on the long spades and then ruff his singleton club in dummy for trick 13.

That was 11 IMPs to Spector and another GNT title. Meckstroth has now been on the winning team in the event ten times, Rodwell nine. Berkowitz has five wins, Spector, Cohler and Becker four each.

## Smooth (BR)

See if you can play four spades as well as Philippe Soulet did in the round of 64 in the Spingold Knockout Teams. Soulet was South.

### Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West leads the five of diamonds. East covers the ten with the king. Plan the play.

Here's how Soulet went about taking ten tricks. He won the diamond ace, cashed the top two spades, finding out that West had three to the queen, then he cashed the top two hearts, West following with the queen and ten. Soulet then exited with the jack of diamonds. West won with the queen and could cash his spade winner, but he had no good play from there. In practice, he switched to a club, but Soulet won and drove out the jack of hearts to discard his losing club on the eight of hearts.

So long as West held only two hearts, it didn't matter if they were low ones. In that case, Soulet could have thrown in West with the king of clubs to force a ruff-sluff to make the contract.

The full deal:

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

### Levitating (JC)

The last board of the Grand National Teams final (the grand-slam swing) will receive more press, but I enjoyed this little gem from Schmuell (Sam) Lev of the Lilienstein Team in the first quarter just as much.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Spector	Lev	Becker	Glubok
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
2♠	3♣	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Mike Becker led the ace of spades and shifted to a trump, won by the queen in dummy. Needing to make

something of the minor suits, Lev tried a diamond to the queen, losing to Becker's king. Becker continued trumps: seven five, jack, king.

Only now did Lev attack clubs - ace, king and a third one, ruffed low in the dummy. He allowed himself a little smile for Becker when West could not overruff. He ruffed a spade in hand and another club in dummy (with the heart ace), then ruffed another spade to hand. These cards were left:

<p>♠ J ♥ — ♦ 6 5 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ — ♦ 10 8 ♣ 10</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ 10 ♦ J 9 ♣ —</p>
	<p>♠ 10 ♥ — ♦ A 7 ♣ —</p>	

It was tens wild: Lev led the ten of clubs and discarded the ten of spades on it as Becker ruffed in with the ten of hearts to lead into Lev's split tenace ace-ten of diamonds. Plus 420 for Lev/Glubok and 7 IMPs for Lilienstein when Meckwell made plus 120 in one no-trump at the other table.

There were other ways to make four hearts, but this one was the most fun to watch.

### The Spingold (JC)

The semifinals of the Philadelphia Spingold could well have presaged the semifinals of the 2012 Olympiad Teams (sorry, make that the World Bridge Games Open Teams). It was **MONACO**, the #1 seed, represented by Fantoni/Nunes, Helgemo/Helness, Multon/Zimmermann versus the #4 seed, **ITALY**: Bocchi/Madala, Duboin/Sementa, Seamoni/Caynetti; and #2 **USA** (Nickell/Katz, Levin/Weinstein, Meckstroth/Rodwell) vs. #11 **POLAND**, with Pszczola/Kwiecien, Berkowitz/Czszontag, Gordonowicz/Rajahdyakhshaski. (Okay, so I have taken a few liberties with the names.)

This was a dream matchup: each of the four sponsored teams had two top-class pairs and remarkably, four of these eight pairs had each won the toughest bridge event in the world to win, the World Open Pairs (there are only 25 players who have won it in its history). The field was so strong that **DIAMOND** (2010 Rosenblum Champions) was knocked out in the Round of 16 and **BRINK**, with four of the Netherlands' 2011 Bermuda Bowl Champions, was beaten in the quarterfinals.

A few deals on BBO caught my eye. With Levine up 113-101 over Diamond, this deal offered both teams the chance for a pickup...

**Round of 16. Board 61. Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>J. Clerkin</i>	<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>D. Clerkin</i>	<i>Moss</i>
—	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Against the natural, revealing, Gitelman/Moss auction, Jerry Clerkin led the fourth-best four of clubs. It is very difficult to determine the best line of play – perhaps, with all the entries to dummy, one should win the club ace and play the jack of clubs next. That would result in four club tricks eventually and would protect declarer's queens against frontal attack. Nevertheless, the chance of playing diamonds for five tricks is excellent, and Brad Moss ducked the club in dummy, winning his queen, to play the ace and queen of diamonds.

Clerkin won the king (dummy releasing a club) and shifted to the five of spades. Now, with entries to hand thin on the ground, Moss made the excellent play of rising with the ace and playing another spade. Denny Clerkin had to win that to prevent Moss taking ten fast tricks. In with the spade king, he shifted to the jack of hearts (the three looks a better shot). Moss rose with the queen, covered by the king and ace. Moss made another excellent shot by pulling the nine of hearts from dummy next, won by the ten and pinning the eight. This was the position, the defence having won three tricks:

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

Since Moss' hand was high, or would be immediately he played the diamond jack, East had to play a heart into the seven-five tenace on which West could discard his spade and diamond tens. West could then endplay the dummy to make two club tricks for one off.

The defence is rather more difficult if declarer does win the club ace, then plays the club jack. West wins the king and shifts to a spade. Declarer wins the ace and sets up clubs. Now if the defence takes the spade king, declarer has three spades, four clubs and the red aces, so they do best to let the spade ten ride to declarer's hand. Declarer plays a heart to the ace and runs clubs. However, on the last of these, West is not quite squeezed, coming down to a spade, the heart king and the guarded diamond king.

If declarer ducks the spade and East wins, he must play a diamond back, not a heart or a spade. Declarer has a temporary counter for that, winning the ace, then playing the diamond queen, discarding the blocking ace of spades. West, however, can now endplay the dummy with a club. If instead, declarer does not unblock the spade ace, the dummy can be endplayed with it.

At the other table...

West	North	East	South
<i>Greco</i>	<i>Ekeblad</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>
—	1♥ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2♣ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	2♦ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	2♥ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	2♠ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1. 10-15, 4+ hearts, may have longer suit
2. Game-forcing relay
3. 4 hearts, 5+ clubs
4. Relay
5. 6 clubs

Against the less-revealing Ekeblad/Weichsel auction (the defenders knew nothing about declarer's hand, only the dummy's), Eric Greco tried the second-best from poor suits seven of spades. Peter Weichsel ducked that to Geoff Hampson's king and Hampson shifted to the three of hearts. Declarer rose with the queen on that and ducked West's king. Greco then put declarer in dummy with the spade ace.

Weichsel tried the ace and jack of clubs next, East and South discarding diamonds, Hampson the discouraging seven. West got out with the spade ten to declarer's hand and he cashed both spades and played a heart to the ace. This was the position (see *top of next column*):

When declarer played the nine of clubs from the dummy, West could win and exit with the three of diamonds to the five, six and nine. When the ace of diamonds did not drop the king, that card was the defence's fifth trick for down one and a push.

♠ —  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ 5  
 ♣ 9 8 7 2

♠ —  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ K 10 3  
 ♣ 10 5

♠ —  
 ♥ J 10 2  
 ♦ 6 4  
 ♣ —

♠ —  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ A Q J 9 2  
 ♣ —

Toward the end of the third quarter...

**Board 44. Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

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

♠ 10 2  
 ♥ 8 3  
 ♦ A Q 8 7 3 2  
 ♣ K 3 2

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♠
INT	Pass	2♦	Double
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

While the Monaco v. Cayne semifinal was a runaway for the Monégasques, the Nickell/Gordon match was desperately close and low-scoring all the way.

On this board, Pszczola/Kwiecien did very well to negotiate the declaration into the North hand, protecting North's minor-suit honours. Rodwell led a club from the king and Pszczola ducked it to his queen and set about the spades, cashing the ace-king and ruffing the third one high. A club to the ace and another spade ruff high established the suit. He then began on trumps, and with dummy's heart holding still intact, made 11 fast tricks, plus 650.

West	North	East	South
<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
Pass	Pass	2♦	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Levin/Weinstein also did very well to manoeuvre the declaration into North hand, but the play was decidedly more complex. Sontag also led a club 'round

to the queen and Levin also played three rounds of spades, discarding a diamond, then ruffing the third high in hand. Here the play diverged, however, as Levin next led the nine of diamonds from hand. Sontag won the diamond with the queen and continued clubs to dummy's ace. When Levin ruffed another spade high, we had reached...

♠ —  
 ♥ K 6  
 ♦ K 10  
 ♣ 6 5

♠ —  
 ♥ 8 3  
 ♦ A 8 7 2  
 ♣ K

♠ —  
 ♥ A 7 4  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ 10 9

♠ J 8  
 ♥ J 9 5 4  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ —

Here, rather than beginning the trumps, Levin ruffed a club low in the dummy and led the jack of spades, now established. Berkowitz threw the jack of diamonds on this and Levin, now in some difficulty, ruffed with the king of hearts. When he now continued with his last club, Sontag could see that it would do no good to allow dummy's other low heart to score, so he ruffed in with the heart eight. Levin overruffed with the nine and led dummy's last spade. Berkowitz remained with the ace-seven-four of hearts and needed to retain the ace-seven over dummy's jack-five, so he ruffed with the four. He was very disappointed when Levin showed up with the heart six rather than Sontag. That was Levin's tenth trick – he'd found his way out of the labyrinth after willingly entering it to start with.

**Board 62. Dealer East. Neither Vul.**

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

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

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

♠ A 7  
 ♥ 8 7 6 5 3  
 ♦ 10 7 4 3  
 ♣ 8 5

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	1♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	1♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	INT <sup>4</sup>
Pass	2♣ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	2♦ <sup>6</sup>
Pass	3♣ <sup>7</sup>	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Continued on page 12...



# IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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## 625. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

West led the queen of clubs and declarer could count four potential losers; one in spades, two in diamonds and one in clubs.

Declarer formed a plan that would succeed whenever West had the ace of spades or East had the ace of diamonds. His first move was the necessary one of winning the club lead in hand, retaining the king of clubs as an entry to reach dummy's second spade trick whenever West began with the ace of spades. Declarer drew one round of trumps with the ace and, because trumps were the only safe entry back to hand, he led a spade towards dummy. West followed low and dummy's queen won the trick.

Declarer now returned to hand with a trump to the king and drew East's last trump. When a second spade was led towards the dummy, West was fixed: if he took the ace of spades, the king of clubs would provide the entry to the king of spades; if instead West played low again, declarer would not lose a spade trick.

If East had turned up with the ace of spades, then, in order to make his contact, declarer would have needed East to have begun with the ace of diamonds too.

## 626. Dealer South. EW Vul. (See next column.)

After East leapt to four spades, South decided to take advantage of the vulnerability and bid five clubs. Dummy was near perfect. Declarer took the opening

lead of the king of hearts with the ace and ruffed a spade high.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♣
2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♠	5♣
All Pass			

1. 5-5 in the majors

The three of trumps was then led to dummy's eight and another spade was ruffed. Dummy was re-entered with a trump and dummy's last spade was ruffed.

As West could have at most two diamonds to go along with his singleton trump, declarer played the ace, king and another diamond. East could let the jack of diamonds hold or take the queen of diamonds and then find himself endplayed. East chose the latter course and was left on lead with only spades and diamonds in his hand. A lead of either pointed suit allowed declarer to throw a heart from hand and ruff in dummy. Declarer lost only a heart and a diamond.

## 627. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	1♣	Double
Pass	1♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

South judged he was too strong to overcall four hearts directly and so began with a takeout double. West led the two of clubs and East won with the king, dropping the jack. Declarer took the trump shift with the ace and drew the remaining trumps, discarding a low club from table.

As there were only 13 points missing in the defensive hands, declarer placed the king of spades and queen of diamonds with East. So, he continued with the ace, king and another diamond. East has to win the third round of diamonds with the queen and was end-played. If he exited with a spade declarer would make an overtrick. Instead, East placed the ace of clubs on the table. Declarer did not make the mistake of ruffing this card, instead discarding a low spade. East was now down to black cards and had to give declarer access to the dummy, no matter what card he led next.

**628. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥
Double	2NT	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

North's jump to two notrump promised a sound raise to three hearts at least and, quite reasonably, South leapt to the small slam in hearts.



Tim Bourke often converts BBO LIN files to text. He will send the zipped RTF files to any IBPA member who so desires. Contact Tim at: [bourketim@hotmail.com](mailto:bourketim@hotmail.com) to be put on the mailing list.

West led an obvious king of clubs and South paused to form a plan. He started with one spade loser and three diamond losers. Declarer saw a neat way to reduce these by three.

First, declarer ruffed the opening lead and drew the outstanding trumps. Then he played the six of spades from hand, catching West in a Morton's Fork Coup. If West played his ace of spades, declarer would have three winners to take care of his diamond losers; one on the club ace and two more on the two spade winners. When West actually played low, the queen of spades won the trick and the king of spades disappeared on the ace of clubs. It was then a simple matter to concede a diamond and ruff two diamonds in dummy.



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1. Strong, artificial, forcing
2. Negative, 0-7
3. 4+ spades, could have longer minor
4. 0-5, no primary spade fit
5. Tell me more
6. Maximum in context
7. Longer clubs

With just two boards remaining (the TDs had removed one board from play because of the ponderous pace) and Gordon ahead by just 8 IMPs (73-65)...

On the lie of the cards, Berkowitz had no chance at three notrump. On the fourth-best diamond lead, won by the ace, Weinstein did not unblock. When declarer ran clubs, East kept all three of his spades, baring the heart ace, and West signalled encouragement with the two of spades, later discarding the four. West retained both heart honours. Declarer threw four hearts in order to keep his diamonds.

Declarer passed the spade queen to West and he led a diamond to East. Weinstein simply played a spade to declarer's now-bare ace and took the spade jack, the heart ace and the diamond king at the end. That was one down and plus 50 to Nickell.

West	North	East	South
Kwiecien	Rodwell	Pszczola	Meckstroth
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	1♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	1♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	INT <sup>4</sup>
Pass	2NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass	3♥ <sup>6</sup>
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

1. Strong, artificial, forcing
2. Negative, 0-7
3. 4+ spades; if 4 spades, then contains longer minor or 3-suiter, FIR
4. 0-5, no primary spade fit
5. Longer clubs
6. 5 hearts, 3-5

Meckstroth was a millimetre closer to making when Pszczola unblocked the king of diamonds at trick one. The discards on the run of the clubs were similar: West discarded the two and four of spades, encouraging, at the first opportunity and East did the same in hearts. West had also played his clubs in descending order, East his in ascending order. When the ten and jack of hearts both appeared, Meckstroth decided to exit with dummy's nine of hearts to East's ace. This was the position (see top of next page):

Pszczola cashed the queen of diamonds and played the nine next. Meckstroth proved that he knew exactly what was going on by immediately covering with the ten, allowing Kwiecien to cash the jack and the eight, but endplaying him in spades. When West got out with his six of spades, Meckstroth, again instantly, called for dummy's queen, his ninth trick; plus 400 to Nickell

and 11 IMPs, moving them into the lead by three. Nickell won a partscore swing on the final board to win the match by 8 IMPs.

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



Since Geir Helgemo and Tor Helness decided to immigrate to Monaco, Norwegian bridge has sadly declined and has slid into the "B-group", miles away from qualifying for Bali 2013. We can only hope that we have reached the bottom and are ready to reach for the stars again in Lille in August.

There were, however, glimpses of light in the darkness. Jan Tore Berg from Vestfold made his international debut and he and his partner Odin Svendsen proved to be the best Norwegian Butler pair. On this board, Jan Tore landed a contract in which the majority of the declarers failed:

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Svendsen	Townsend	Berg
Pass	Pass	3♥	3♠
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

David Bakhshi, West, cashed his queen of hearts and shifted to a club won by the ace. Another club went to East's king and the heart return was ruffed. South

took the ace of spades and ruffed a club with the eight, overruffed by the nine. A diamond went to declarer's king and Jan Tore cashed trumps to reach this ending:

♠ — ♥ — ♦ A 7 6 ♣ —	♠ — ♥ K 10 8 ♦ — ♣ —	
♠ — ♥ — ♦ Q 10 ♣ Q		
	♠ J ♥ — ♦ J ♣ 10	

When Jan Tore cashed his last trump, West was subject to a squeeze in the minors. Fourteen IMPs to Norway since the contract in the other room was five spades down three.

In the seniors, Johnny Holmbakken also made his international debut, and on the very first board he proved his selection justified:

**Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

Johnny was East, and the bidding was short:

West	North	East	South
—	1♣	1♦!	Double
3♦	All Pass		

The five of clubs lead went to the knave and ace, and a diamond went to the ace. North cashed his king of clubs and played another trump to the knave. A heart went round to South's knave, and he continued with the ace of hearts and a third heart ruffed. Johnny ruffed a club in dummy. North had already shown 13 high card points, so Johnny decided he could not hold the queen of spades (or he'd have opened one notrump). After a diamond to his queen declarer advanced the knave of spades, covered by the queen and won by the king. The end position looked like this (see top of next page):

When the king of trumps was played, North had to surrender. The Italian declarer went one down in three diamonds at the other table.

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

We who were not selected for the international scene had to continue playing on home ground, and Jan Kvarme was one of few declarers to land this challenging four-spade contract:

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

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

North led a low club, taken by the ace, and a heart went to the queen and ace. North continued with the queen of clubs to the king. The heart king and a heart ruff followed, and Jan ruffed a club in his hand. After cashing the ace and king of trumps, revealing the bad break, the position was:

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

Jan played his last heart, and since North could not gain by ruffing, he discarded a diamond. Then when Jan ruffed dummy's last club in hand, North could

overruff and cash his queen of trumps, but had to lead away from his king of diamonds at trick twelve.



### Courage (CA)

The defence needed a little courage to defeat the contract an extra trick on this board from the match between the Czech Republic and Germany:

#### Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rusch	Kopecky	Grünke	Macura
Pass	Pass	1 NT	4♥
Double	Pass	5♣	All Pass

After Paul Grünke opened a weak notrump, Milan Macura and Michael Rusch did what they could to get as much as possible out of the board. Against the club game, Macura led the ace of hearts and continued with the king, finding the suit to be 7-2-2-2. Had he continued with any card other than a heart, declarer would have won in hand, cashed the ace of clubs noting the 4-0 distribution, entered the table twice to finesse, first the ten of clubs, then the eight of clubs to go down only one trick.

Recognising that nearly all of declarer's strength was in the minors, Macura thought it non-fertile to switch to diamonds and instead had the courage to continue with a third heart, hoping that partner's trumps would be good enough to create some trouble. Declarer discarded a spade in dummy (it does not help him to

ruff there) and ruffed in hand. The ace of trumps delivered the message about the trump distribution.

Now declarer needs two entries to dummy to play trumps – one being the ace of diamonds, the other a high spade when South's ace had been removed. However, Macura used that ace to play a fourth heart, and that killed declarer's ability to pick up the trump suit and declarer went two down.

### Recovery Shot (KT)

Shortly after encountering the Chinese girls, in Round 5 the Dutch encountered the Chinese boys.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Song Qi	Westerbeek	Wu Qiang	Rik V.
—	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Three notrump was the final contract at all tables. East, Wu, found the lead of a low spade. Declarer, Chris Westerbeek, won the king, played a club to the ten and led the heart nine from dummy, running it to East's ten when West, Song, played low.

A second spade went to the ace in dummy and a second heart went to West's ace. West cleared the spades. The ninth trick seemed to depend on the right view in diamonds. It was, however, safe to take two more clubs with the ace and queen, preserving the king as an entry to hand.

To his surprise, declarer saw West throw the master jack of spades. Now, when he played a low diamond from dummy to the nine and king, East won with the ace and returned the diamond eight: jack, queen, five. With the master diamond ten in the dummy, West led the heart five - declarer finessed the jack for his ninth trick. A nice recovery after misguessing every card until then! Losing one IMP when three notrump made with an overtrick at the other table.

### Dinosaurs (HDW)

We received an e-mail from Velibor Mandzo, coach of the Serbian Youth Players, who wished to congratulate Marko Maksimovic and Nikola Jurisic on becoming super-dinosaurs in Junior bridge. He wished to remind

everyone of Marko's unique achievement four years ago in Beijing (originally reported by Brian Senior):

**Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

♠ J 9 8  
♥ 10 9 8 6 3 2  
♦ 5  
♣ J 10 7

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

♠ A 4 2  
♥ —  
♦ A J 7 4 3 2  
♣ A K 3 2

West	North	East	South
<i>Brguljan</i>	<i>Maksimovic</i>	<i>Ruso</i>	<i>Jurisc</i>
—	—	2♥	3♦
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
Pass	3♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
All Pass			

Lara Ruso's two-heart opening showed five hearts plus a four-card or longer minor, weak. When Nikola Jurisc overcalled three diamonds, he no doubt thought that he had a pretty decent hand, but Karlo Brguljan doubled with a confident air and when the bidding came back to Jurisc, he decided to try to find a better spot. The auction developed a curious symmetry from here, with Jurisc alternating between pass and redouble, Brguljan between pass and double. By the time that the third SOS redouble came through the screen, Nikola Maksimovic had had enough and passed.

You might not think that a weakish three-three fit redoubled at the three level, vulnerable, would not be a great success, but look at the spade position - East cannot over-ruff in diamonds! A trump lead would have left declarer a trick short (and perhaps is indicated on this auction?) but, after the actual lead of the queen of hearts, there were three top tricks in the minors and six trump tricks on a grand crossruff for plus 960.

**The Dunning-Kruger Effect**

The *Dunning-Kruger Effect* is a cognitive bias in which unskilled individuals suffer from illusory superiority, mistakenly rating their ability much higher than average. This bias is attributed to a metacognitive inability of the unskilled to recognize their mistakes. Conversely, actual competence may weaken self-confidence, as competent individuals may falsely assume that others have an equivalent understanding.



**EUROPEAN JUNIOR PAIRS**

**Herman DeWael, Wilrijk, Belgium  
Jens Otto Pedersen (Charles),  
Odense, Denmark**

**Mixed Pairs Session I (HDW)**

The EBL's first Mixed Pairs for young players, which we believe to be the first such Zonal or WBFB event in history, comprised 51 pairs. A list of possible medal candidates included the brother and sister pairing of Mikael, 19, and Ida, 17, Gronkvist of Sweden, so we took a seat at their table for the first four boards. Their first serious event as a bridge partnership was three years ago. Their first round was against Michal Klukowski from Poland who, at 16, is much younger than his partner Natalya Sakowska.

This was the first board of the championship, and it proved an interesting one:

**Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Mikael</i>	<i>Sakowska</i>	<i>Ida</i>
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

A standard transfer auction led to the most popular contract, played by West, Klukowski. This is a tricky deal for both sides with black suit guesses for declarer apparently being the key to the deal. A trump lead can hold declarer to nine tricks, but as Mikael was playing against human beings he made a good start by leading a small diamond from the North hand.

Klukowski tried the queen and let the king hold. Ida continued with diamonds, won by West, who ducked a heart to North's ten. A third diamond was ruffed by

West. Klukowski took the ace of hearts and ruffed a heart low, then led the club jack, covered by queen, king and ace. Mikael returned the nine of clubs to West's ten.

It now looked as if declarer must guess the position of the spade queen. However, if North has the queen, it doesn't matter how many trumps he has, whereas if South has it, you may well run into an overruff. Klukowski found the winning continuation of running the nine of spades through North, ruffing a club in dummy, and then ruffing the last diamond with the king of trumps. That works however many spades North has because the ending would be a trump coup even if North had four trumps.

Klukowski claimed the moment the nine held, so your reporter predicts a successful future in bridge for him. Plus 420 to East/West was worth 45 of the 48 match points.

### Mixed Pairs Session 5 of 6 (HDW)

#### Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Jepsen	Ilzins	Jantzen	Bekere
—	—	Pass	1♥
2♦	2♥	Double	4♥
All Pass			

Liga Bekere was declarer in a game that virtually seems impossible to make, except on a club lead. The defence kicked off with a spade. But as usual you have to be very careful, if you give the opponents a small part of the little finger, they might rip off the whole hand.

Bekere was merciless when Jantzen won the opening lead with the king of spades and shifted to his singleton diamond, West won the trick with the ace and continued with the queen of diamonds, Bekere read the situation correctly and simply ducked the trick, allowing the queen to win, East discarding and encouraging in clubs. Jepsen therefore shifted to a club that went to the three, queen and declarer's ace.

When the trumps were 2-2, it was easy for declarer to cash all her trumps, squeezing West in diamonds and spades, when she still had the ace of spades left in

dummy as transportation. Both defenders could have returned a second spade to break it up, East could even have ruffed in on the second round of diamonds and returned a spade to kill it.

### Younger Brother (JOP)

The Danish bronze medallist in the Mixed Pairs, Signe Buus Thomsen has a younger brother, Emil Buus Thomsen. Emil and his partner Frederik Skovly are a part of the Danish National U-20 Team. The two young Danes are playing in the Youngsters. They had a good start but fell away later. I kibitzed this nice defence from the sixth session.

#### Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Frederik	Emil	Skovly	Buus Thomsen
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	2♦
2♥	3♦	All Pass	

The lead of the jack of clubs was taken by king and East shifted to a trump, taken by the ace, followed by the diamond five. Declarer cleared the trumps and then followed with a spade, ducked twice by Emil. South does better to play dummy's six of clubs at this point, but he continued with a third spade, taken by the ace, leaving this position:

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

East played the nine of hearts, taken by the ace, and Skovly played the two of clubs, East putting in the eight, overtaken by the ten, but South was endplayed in clubs! Two down after a nice defence was worth all the match points for the young Danes.



The IV South American Transnational Bridge Festival was held in the city of Montevideo (Uruguay) from May 26 to June 3, 2012. As happens every even year, the championship is transnational and is held in two categories: Open and Ladies. This year the event was enhanced by the presence of Norberto Bocchi of Italy, WBF World Grand Master, as well as Brazilians Gabriel Chagas, Marcelo Castello Branco and Roberto Figueira de Mello, all World Champions.

Twenty-seven teams played in the Open category and, from the very beginning, the "Silva Neto" team: Agustin Madala playing with Diego Brenner, João Silva Neto with Amilcar Magalhaes and Eduardo Barcellos with Mauricio Machado, and the team "Robles" consisting of Joaquin Pacareu/Benjamin Robles, Jose Manuel Robles/Marcelo Caracci and Roberto Garcia battled for first place in the Swiss Qualifying, and finally the Robles team finished first.

During the third and last day of the qualifying stage, several powerful teams were fighting for the third and fourth positions. Finally the "d'Orsi" team: Marcelo Castello Branco and Roberto Barbosa (this partnership won the Butler), Miguel Villas Boas and João Paulo Campos, Ernesto d'Orsi and Mauricio Figueiredo and the Rueda Team: Gabino Alujas/Pablo Ravenna, Leonardo Rizzo/Juan Manuel Rueda, managed to qualify, shutting out teams like "Chagas" and "Camberos."

In the semifinals, the lineups were: Robles vs. d'Orsi and Silva Neto vs. Rueda. After the first 20-board set, the d'Orsi team was winning by 41 to 27 IMPs. In the second set Agustin Madala-Diego Brenner were North/South against Marcelo Branco-Beto Barbosa West/East, no doubt a promising confrontation!

### Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Branco	Madala	Barbosa	Brenner
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

When Board 31 hit the table, Madala and Brenner, two skilled killers performing their task, were up 77-10 in the set. Then Agustin waved his magic wand.

Madala's lead was the ace of hearts. He switched to a club at trick two, dummy playing the ten, and Brenner won the second trick with his king. Brenner returned a heart and Marcelo Branco ruffed it with the five of spades, but the magician had commenced his act and followed suit with the king of hearts!

Now, please sit in Branco's chair...the percentage play in trumps is to take two finesses. However, in this case, if the spade honours were split and if Branco took a losing trump finesse, South (the dangerous hand) would be able to return a heart to give his partner an overruff. So Marcelo played the ace of spades, just marginally inferior on a percentage basis but superior in this case, and Brenner discarded the three of clubs!

This was the full deal:

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

Declarer couldn't avoid losing two trump tricks, for one down.



The Danish women's team won the Nordic Championship in Örebro last summer, but the team did not do well in the European Championships in Dublin. In the Scandinavian battle against Sweden, leading at that time, the Danish girls did well to win 21-9. On this deal, six notrump is makeable double dummy, but most players failed by one trick. Helle Rasmussen of Denmark managed to fail by two tricks, and how could that happen?

**Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

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

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Lone	Emma	Helle	Sandra
Bilde	Sjöberg	Rasmussen	Rimstedt
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass
2♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♣ <sup>3</sup>	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

1. 15-17
2. Checkback Stayman (GF)
3. 5+ clubs

South led the eight of diamonds (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>). In Rasmussen's view, the lead was probably from a doubleton, and she put in the ten, covered by the jack and taken by the king. She crossed to dummy in spades and ran the seven of diamonds(!) and was, of course, happy to see the six with South. With four diamond tricks, she just needed five club tricks for her contract without guessing the heart suit.

Rasmussen continued with a diamond to the queen and went back to dummy with the jack of clubs. The ace of diamonds followed, but then the run of the clubs delivered the very bad news. In the four-card ending dummy was down to the king-queen-ten of spades and the heart king and Rasmussen knew the spades were not running, but she would still make on a squeeze-endplay against North, if she holds the ace of hearts!

As it was, when Rasmussen exited with a heart, South was able to doom the contract by two tricks, taking the ace-queen of hearts and a good club. As Peter Fredin afterwards noted: "If you played the diamonds like that, you did not deserve to fail!"

**BOLD BIDDING?  
OR GOOD JUDGEMENT?  
Michael Akeroyd, Guiseley, England**

The following deal helped the Polish women in the European championships on their way to fifth place and qualification for the Venice Cup in Bali 2013.

**Round 2. Poland v. Israel**

**Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

♠ 8 7 6 2  
♥ 8 6  
♦ A K 5  
♣ K 9 5 2

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

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

West	North	East	South
D. Tal	Zmuda	N. Tal	Taczewska
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

In the Tournament Bulletin No 3, 15 June 2012, page 8, Jos Jacobs referred to 'bold bidding' and commented: 'This

(3NT) looks very much like an overbid but even the lead of the club jack does not defeat it provided declarer goes up with the ace to play on hearts - an unlikely lead and line.'

In the Closed Room the Israeli pair played in a modest two hearts, losing 10 IMPs when both contracts made nine tricks. However, I consider that Joanna Taczewska's three-notrump bid was neither particularly 'bold' nor an 'overbid'. In his account of the Losing Trick Count, Ron Klinger states (New Instant Guide to Bridge, pp. 9-10) that the LTC works when the partnership has a good trump fit of at least eight or when one of the partners has a long powerful suit that will be the trump suit.

Here the calculation is:

1. Count the losers in the hand with the long strong suit
2. Deduct the number of expected winners in the hand with no ruffing potential
3. Deduct the total from 13.

South has six losers and, with 6-9 high card points, North could be rated to provide two tricks: 6-2 = 4 and 13-4 = 9, so nine tricks is the limit in hearts.

Jacobs might argue that it is fallacious logic to use a method designed for trump play to justify a punt at 3NT. This would be true if South had been dealer and opened the bidding. The fact that West, North and East have all passed beforehand shows that it is highly likely that they all have flat hands in the 9-11 high-card-point range. This suggests that the three notrump punt from a 14-point hand with a long suit and two outside aces is a 'judgement' bid rather than a 'bold' bid or a 'roughhouse' bid, but only when South opens fourth in hand after three passes.



## Correspondence

The Editor reserves the right to abridge  
and/or edit correspondence

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

Dear John,

It is evident that world badminton authorities don't play bridge! The main news at the Olympic Games yesterday was the disqualification of several badminton players, including two Olympic medallists and one of the favourite pairs, for failing to try their best in a match. Spectators booed the obvious attempts to lose.

The cause was that the badminton authorities had introduced a qualifying round robin and announced a fixed determination of the first-round knockouts depending on the outcome from the qualifier. Both pairs in a last qualifying match realized that losing was to their advantage as they would meet a weaker opponent in the knockouts. This is a flaw in a qualifier that the authorities in bridge spotted at least thirty years ago. Some advantage should always be given to finishing higher in the qualifying round to avoid the "chucking" temptation.

For example, in the Chairman's Cup (now being played in Sweden), the top half of the qualifying teams, in order, get to choose their opponent from the bottom half. Why should one wish to lose a match under such circumstances? That method is also used in the World Bridge Championships. There is a further proviso, in case a guaranteed qualifier tries to chuck a match to a weaker opponent in the hope they take the place of a stronger team close to elimination before the knockouts. Should you meet the same opponent later there is a carry-over from the earlier encounter.

This does not solve all the problems of potential chucking but it eliminates most of them. As I write, the badminton players are considering an appeal. They will argue their objective is to win a medal and if that is assisted by losing a qualifying match then they are right to try to lose. I have some sympathy with that argument but not enough to try it myself! The main fault lies with the competition rules. If the badminton authorities had known bridge practice they would have avoided their obvious error.

Best Regards, Patrick Jourdain, Cardiff

*There were two Chinese teams, one Korean team and one Indonesian team disqualified. The Indonesians and Koreans appealed. When the Indonesian appeal was rejected, the Koreans withdrew their appeal. The Chinese did not appeal. - Ed.*

## NEWS & VIEWS



### Youngest Worldwide Bridge Contest Winner

Asfandiyar Hussain Shauq, still a teenager and partnering Tahir Abbas, has become, at 19, the youngest-ever winner of the Worldwide Bridge Contest, held every year over two days in June. Shauq/Abbas defeated more than 6,000 pairs from 40 countries playing at more than 300 venues to win the one-day event on Saturday, June 2, 2012. They had a 71.25% score playing at the Royal Palm Golf and Country Club in Lahore, Pakistan and won by 28 matchpoints on a top of more than 6,300. They became the first Asian winners of the Worldwide Bridge Contest. Asfandiyar is already a bridge hero in Pakistan and is being compared to the young Zia. He has already had an article written about him in "Over the Bridge", the only regularly-published bridge magazine in the subcontinent.

### Online European University Championship

In a joint venture by the EBL and the European University Sports Association, the 1<sup>st</sup> Online European University Team Championship will begin on BBO on October 1, 2012. Entrants can be of any nationality and may be from any university - eligibility extends to one year prior to commencing one's studies and one year after finishing one's studies. The format will be group play, with knockouts starting at the quarterfinal stage.

Teams can now be entered via e-mail to [kubakasprzak@o2.pl](mailto:kubakasprzak@o2.pl) (the letter "o" not the numeral "0") with a copy to [geert.magerman@telenet.be](mailto:geert.magerman@telenet.be), with the following information:

For each team: name of the university you will represent and the team captain's name

For each player in the team: name, date of birth, nationality and the university at which he/she studies.

### The Right Thing

We congratulate and express our admiration for Debbie Rosenberg and Jeff Ruben/Andrew Stayton for behaving as bridge players should behave at the Summer NABC in Philadelphia. Both Rosenberg and Ruben/Stayton reported scoring errors which adversely affected their placing in North American Bridge Championships. The unusual part was that their error reporting dropped each from winning their respective event to second place, Rosenberg in the Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match Teams and Ruben/Stayton in the Bruce 0-5000 Life Master Pairs.

# World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
<b>2012</b>			
Aug 1-5	Hong Kong Intercity	Hong Kong, China	www.hkcba.org
Aug 3-5	Pesta Sukan	Singapore	www.scba.org.sg
Aug 3-11	Norwegian Bridge Festival	Fredrikstad, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
Aug 5-11	Wachauer Bridge Week	Loiben, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
<b>Aug 9-23</b>	<b>World Bridge Games</b>	<b>Lille, France</b>	<b>www.worldbridge.org</b>
Aug 10-19	22 <sup>nd</sup> Solidarity Bridge Festival	Slupsk, Poland	www.bridgefestival.hg.pl
Aug 10-19	Summer Congress	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 17-19	Festival de la Côte Basque	Biarritz, France	www.biarriz-bridge.com
Aug 24-Sep 2	40 <sup>th</sup> Grand Prix of Warsaw	Warsaw, Poland	www.warsbrydz.pl
Aug 25-Sep 2	36 <sup>th</sup> International Festival	La Grande Motte, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Aug 25-Sep 2	7 <sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Congress	Fukuoka, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp/apbf2012
Aug 30-Sep 2	HCL Championship	New Delhi, India	www.bfi.net.in
Sep 7-9	Gabrial-UI Cup	Jakarta, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Sep 7-9	Isle of Man Congress	Douglas, Isle of Man	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 8-15	51 <sup>st</sup> International Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.crobbridge.com/pula/eng
Sep 10-13	4 <sup>th</sup> Buffett Cup	Omaha, NE	www.buffettcup.com
Sep 21-30	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 24-26	5 <sup>th</sup> European Small Federations Games	Tallinn, Estonia	www.eurobridge.org
Sep 27-30	45 <sup>th</sup> Tallinn Bridge Festival	Tallinn, Estonia	www.bridge.ee
Sep 29-30	Lederer Memorial	London, UK	www.ycbc.co.uk
Sep 29-Oct 6	National Congress	Hamilton, New Zealand	www.nzcba.co.nz
Oct 10-15	EBU Overseas Congress	Marmaris, Turkey	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 12-14	International Teams Tournament	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.federation-bridge.mc
Oct 13-20	Cuban Bridge Festival	Havana/Varadero, Cuba	www.cacbf.com
Oct 15-19	Cavendish Invitational Teams & Pairs	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.cavendishinvitational.com
Nov 1-4	26 <sup>th</sup> Festival des Jeux de l'Esprit	Avignon, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Nov 5-11	Mexican Regional	Puerta Vallarta, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Nov 5-12	International Bridge Open	Madeira, Portugal	www.bridge-madeira.com
Nov 15-18	34 <sup>th</sup> International Bridge Festival	Brasov, Romania	bridgeclubbrasov@gmail.com
Nov 15-18	11 <sup>th</sup> European Champions Cup	Eilat, Israel	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 15-25	18 <sup>th</sup> Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridgeredsea.com
Nov 16-18	Festival CentroAmericano	Boquete, Panama	www.cacbf.com
Nov 20-24	23 <sup>rd</sup> Sun, Sea & Slams	Bridgetown, Barbados	www.cacbf.com
Nov 22-Dec 2	Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org
Nov 23-24	11 <sup>th</sup> International Open Tournament	Topolsica, Slovenia	www.sbk.si
Nov 23-25	Menegpora Cup	Batam, Kepri, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Nov 23-Dec 2	Festival Mar del Plata	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.confusudbridge.org
Dec 5-9	Asean Open Club Championships	Sanur, Bali, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Dec 16-22	Winter Nationals	Kolkata, India	www.bfi.net.in
Dec 21-23	Winter Cup	Bucharest, Romania	vlad_bl@yahoo.com
Dec 21-23	Channel Trophy	England	www.ebu.co.uk
<b>2013</b>			
Jan 14-27	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 24-27	Iceland Express Bridge Festival	Reykjavik, Iceland	www.bridge.is
Jan 26-Feb 1	54 <sup>th</sup> Bermuda Regional	Southampton, BDA	www.bermudaregional.com
Feb 27-Mar 3	International Festival	Cannes, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Mar 5-10	Mexican Regional	S. M. de Allende, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Mar 14-24	Spring NABC	St. Louis, MO	www.acbl.org
Mar 24-29	White House Junior International Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	keestammans@gmail.com
Mar 26-31	118 <sup>th</sup> Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Apr 16-21	18 <sup>th</sup> NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Apr 22-26	Yeh Brothers Cup	Yokohama, Japan	pat_hwang2002@yahoo.com.tw
May 3-16	International Festival	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
May 8-9	XXVIII Bonn Nations Cup	Bad Godesberg, Germany	www.bridge-club-bonn.de
May 9	XXXIII Bonn Cup	Bad Godesberg, Germany	www.bridge-club-bonn.de
Jun 7-8	WorldWide Bridge Contest	Clubs Everywhere	www.ecatsbridge.com
Jun 9-16	15 <sup>th</sup> German Bridge Festival	Wyk / Fohr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Aug 1-11	Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	www.acbl.org
<b>Sep 16-29</b>	<b>41<sup>st</sup> World Team Championships</b>	<b>Bali, Indonesia</b>	<b>www.worldbridge.org</b>
<b>Sep 23-28</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Transnational Teams</b>	<b>Bali, Indonesia</b>	<b>www.worldbridge.org</b>
Nov 28-Dec 8	Fall NABC	Phoenix, AZ	www.acbl.org