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July 10, 2016

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS!



Open Teams Winners FRANCE: (l. to r.) Frédéric Volcker, Jérôme Rombaut, Jean Daniel Chalet (VP, French Bridge Federation), Thomas Bessis, Jean-Christophe Quantin, François Combescure, Yves Aubry (President, European Bridge League), Lionel Sebanne (NPC), Cédric Lorenzini



Women's Teams Winners ENGLAND: (l. to r.) Heather Dhondy, Nevena Senior, Sally Brock, Nicola Smith, Fiona Brown, Catherine Draper, David Burn (Coach), Derek Patterson (NPC)

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2016 Budapest, Hungary

53rd European Bridge Team Championships

Roll of Honour

MEDAL WINNERS

Open Teams

Gold:	FRANCE	Thomas Bessis/Frédéric Volcker, François Combescure/Jérôme Rombaut, Cédric Lorenzini/Jean-Christophe Quantin, Lionel Sebbane (NPC)
Silver:	SWEDEN	Fredrik Nyström/Johan Upmark, Mikael Rimstedt/Ola Rimstedt, Johan Sylvan/Frederic Wrang, Jan Lagerman (NPC)
Bronze:	NETHERLANDS	Sjoert Brink/Bas Drijver, Bob Drijver/Bart Nab, Bauke Muller/Simon de Wijs, Anton Maas (NPC), Ton Bakkeren (Coach)

Women's Teams

Gold:	ENGLAND	Sally Brock/Nicola Smith, Fiona Brown/Catherine Draper, Heather Dhondy/Nevena Senior, Derek Patterson (NPC), David Burn (Coach)
Silver:	FRANCE	Bénédicte Cronier/Sylvie Willard, Nathalie Frey/Vanessa Reess, Catherine d'Ovidio/Joanna Zochowska, Laurent Thuillez (NPC)
Bronze:	POLAND	Cathy Baldysz/Anna Sarniak, Grazyna Brewiak/Danuta Kazmucha, Katarzyna Dufurat/Justyna Zmuda, Mirosław Cichocki (NPC)

Senior Teams

Gold:	ISRAEL	Meir Berkman/Noah Tymianker, Avi Kalish/Leonid Podgur, Adrian Schwartz/Shalom Zeligman, Etan Orenstein (NPC)
Silver:	SWEDEN	Mats Axdorph/Bengt-Erik Efraimsson, Sven-Åke Bjerregård/Anders Morath, PG Eliasson/Johnny Östberg, Tommy Gullberg (NPC), Carina Wademark (Coach)
Bronze:	POLAND	Julian Klukowski/Victor Markowicz, Apolinary Kowalski/Jacek Romanski, Krzysztof Lasocki/Jerzy Russyan, Włodzimierz Wala (NPC)

FINAL STANDINGS

(The top six in each category, plus France, as host, qualify for the 2017 World Championships in Lyon. Qualifiers are in bold.)

Open Teams (37 teams)				Women's Teams (23 teams)			
1	FRANCE	489.77		1	ENGLAND	313.35	
2	SWEDEN	474.92		2	FRANCE	308.78	
3	NETHERLANDS	471.07		3	POLAND	303.09	
4	MONACO	464.92		4	RUSSIA	284.48	
5	GERMANY	446.16		5	ISRAEL	278.91	
6	ITALY	432.70		6	NETHERLANDS	275.73	
7	BULGARIA	432.06		7	SWEDEN	272.17	
8	POLAND	428.68		8	ITALY	267.08	
9	NORWAY	425.12		9	DENMARK	258.93	
10	ENGLAND	424.89		10	NORWAY	257.71	

Senior Teams (24 teams)

1	ISRAEL	289.67
2	SWEDEN	287.58
3	POLAND	277.32
4	TURKEY	277.21
5	ITALY	270.57
6	FRANCE	264.58
7	AUSTRIA	264.12
8	IRELAND	258.79
9	NETHERLANDS	249.03
10	ENGLAND	248.59

Women's Pairs (61 pairs)

1	Levi Hila/Asulin Adi (ISR)	61.21
2	Zmuda Justyna/Dufirat Katarzyna (POL)	58.31
3	Helness Gunn/Blaagestad Lise (NOR)	55.68
4	Chediak Virginia/Sivertsvik Ranja (NOR)	54.10
5	Erkkila Pia/Ahonen Hulda (FIN)	53.86
6	Pisak Mehves/Aluf Tuna (TUR)	53.79
7	Brown Fiona/O'Connor Sarah (ENG)	53.43
8	Bilde Lone/Rasmussen Helle (DAN)	52.25
9	Brock Sally/Gross Susanna (ENG)	51.25
10	Homme Marianne/Biribakken Aase (NOR)	50.98



Photo: Francesca Canali

Senior Teams Winners ISRAEL: (l. to r.) Noah Tymianker, Etan Orenstein (NPC), Shalom Zeligman, Avi Kalish, Oryah Meir (General Manager, Israel Bridge Federation), Adrian Schwartz, Gilad Ofir (Chairman, Israel Bridge Federation), Leonid Podgur, Eitan Levy (European Bridge League Championship Committee & Past-President, IBF)
Absent from photo: Meir Berkman

THE 53rd EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Budapest, Hungary, June 16-25, 2016

Mark Horton, Sutton Benger, Wilts., England

Barry Rigal, New York, NY, USA

Ron Tacchi, Vaupillon, France

Jos Jacobs, Maarn, Netherlands

Jan van Cleeff, The Hague, Netherlands

David Bird, Eastleigh, Hants., England

John Carruthers, Kingsville, ON, Canada

The beautiful and historic city of Budapest on the Danube River hosted this year's European Team Championships. The 37 Open, 23 Women's and 24 Senior teams played a complete round robin of 16-board matches within their own series to determine six places in next year's World Championships in Lyon. As host, France qualifies automatically in all three series.

Mark Horton led an international team of scribes in reporting on and documenting this year's Championships.

Open Teams

Round I, Hungary vs. Romania (Rigal)

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hegedus	Florin	Szilagyi	Moraru
—	1♣	1♥	Pass
Pass	2♣	2♦	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Double	4♣	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Stegarioiu</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Ionita</i>	<i>Winkler</i>
—	1♣	1♥	Pass
Pass	2♣	2♦	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

This was a case of missed opportunities all around.

In three notrump, Winkler received the lead of the king of diamonds, which looks best for the defence. He won and played a heart, and East won to clear diamonds, everyone having played accurately until now. However, West pitched a spade here, rather than a club, revealing a likely five-card suit. At this point Winkler gave up, conceding a heart for East to cash out.

Had declarer cashed the king of spades, needing to find a bare queen to his right, a miracle would have ensued! He could then have taken the club ace, led the spade eight to the ace, the spade nine to the jack, and endplayed West with his last spade, having carefully preserved his spade two.

In the four-card ending, both West and North would have been down to all clubs. Declarer could have won the club return cheaply in dummy, exited with a low club, and collected the king and jack for nine tricks. West needed to pitch a club on the third diamond to prevent this from happening.

When Hegedus doubled three notrump, Florin retreated to four clubs and Hegedus doubled that too. After the 'normal' top heart lead, this contract was also cold! The spade queen shift came too late. To make ten tricks declarer must ruff a heart, cash the club ace, ruff a heart, cash out the spades and the diamond ace and then ruff a spade. At this point, with all his low trumps home, he could exit in a plain suit and collect six trump tricks, three spades and the diamond ace.

However, when declarer led a high heart from the dummy at trick three, to pitch a diamond, he could take no more than nine tricks. No swing.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

Hungary escaped with their life here when, in one room, Romania played two spades down one on the North/South cards (1♠-INT-2♠ unopposed).

Meanwhile, in the other room, after the auction ...

West	North	East	South
<i>Stegarioiu</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Ionita</i>	<i>Winkler</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Double	Pass	1NT
2♠	Double	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Winkler led a low spade. Declarer won in hand and led a diamond to South's ace. South took the ace of spades, and when the jack did not drop, led another spade. Declarer won with the jack in hand and led a diamond to the king, followed by the diamond jack ... and North, who had started life with queen-fourth of diamonds, ducked it. Curtains for declarer when the heart finesse was wrong. Of course, with the sight of all four hands we would all have unblocked the diamond jack under the ace, wouldn't we?

(Declarer could have recovered by taking the club finesse when in hand with the second spade, eventually endplaying North to lead into the ace-jack of hearts, but that would have been somewhat illogical.)

Round 2, Switzerland vs. Germany (Horton)

Switzerland's Dmitrij Nikolenkov and Stephan Magnusson produced a contender for the best auction of the year on this board:

Board 24. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Nikolenkov</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Magnusson</i>
Pass	1NT ¹	Pass	2♥ ²
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT ³
Pass	4♣ ⁴	Pass	4♦ ⁵
Pass	4NT ⁶	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 11+ to 14, may have six of either minor
2. Transfer
3. 5 spades and 4 clubs, game forcing
4. Fit, plus ace- or king-doubleton in spades
5. RKCB for clubs
6. 2 key cards, no club queen

East led the king of hearts and continued with the queen. Declarer ruffed in dummy, drew trumps and played four rounds of spades, ruffing the last of them

and claiming plus 920. That was worth 11 IMPs when Germany stopped in four spades in the other room.

Round 2, Ireland vs. England (Tacchi)

Look at just the East/West cards before considering the full hand.

Board 29. Dealer North. Both Vul.

<p>♠ J 7 5 3 ♥ Q 7 3 2 ♦ — ♣ Q 7 6 5 3</p> <p>♠ 10 ♥ A K 10 8 6 5 ♦ A Q 2 ♣ K 10 9</p>	<p>♠ K 4 ♥ 9 4 ♦ K 8 5 4 3 ♣ A J 8 4</p> <p>♠ A Q 9 8 6 2 ♥ J ♦ J 10 9 7 6 ♣ 2</p>
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West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Garvey</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Carroll</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♠
3♥	4♠	Double	Pass
5♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Bakhshi elected to try for the vulnerable game and when dummy appeared he must have had high hopes but after a spade lead and a diamond switch from South, ruffed by North, the 4-1 trump split took him one down for minus 100.

West	North	East	South
<i>McGann</i>	<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Robson</i>
—	Pass	1♣	3♠
4♦ ¹	4♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Hearts

West tried for a vulnerable penalty and started with the classic lead of a trump. Robson won in hand and essayed the nine of diamonds. West fell from grace when he played a low card. South was now home as he could duck the nine to East and ruff two diamonds in dummy to establish the suit for plus 790 and 12 IMPs.

Round 4, France vs. Monaco (Jacobs)

Board 30. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
—	—	2♦	Pass
2♥	2♠	3♦	4♠
5♠	Pass	7♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The classic French two diamonds, followed by three diamonds, showed a game-forcing hand with that suit. Bessis correctly took five spades as an invite for the grand and consequently accepted, expecting dummy would produce the ace of hearts as well as a first-round spade control. France plus 1440.

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
—	—	1♦	1♠
2♥	4♠	6♦	Pass
7♦	7♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

When Helness opened one diamond, the tempo of the auction changed. This enabled the French to find the good sacrifice against the grand, down four, Monaco plus 800, but 12 IMPs to France.

Round 6, England vs. Latvia (Rigal)

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

<p>♠ A 7 5 3 ♥ 8 5 4 3 ♦ Q 10 7 4 ♣ 7</p> <p>♠ K 10 4 ♥ Q 10 7 ♦ K 9 8 2 ♣ J 10 6</p>	<p>♠ J 2 ♥ K J 6 ♦ 6 ♣ A K Q 9 5 4 3</p> <p>♠ Q 9 8 6 ♥ A 9 2 ♦ A J 5 3 ♣ 8 2</p>
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Both English pairs did extremely well here. Forrester and Robson reached three notrump doubled by East and ended with an overtrick after South decided it would be a good moment for the queen-of-spades lead. (Had declarer held two low spades instead of jack-low he'd have been right.) As it was, a diamond lead was the killer.

In the other room the auction was:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♣	Double
INT	2♣	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Justin Hackett, having shown a shapely but limited take-out hand with his two-club call, led a low spade, and I think Jason Hackett did very well to put in the eight, forcing the ten. When declarer ran the clubs and led a

heart up the defenders had arranged to keep their red aces and all their spades. Jason could shift to the queen of spades, pinning the jack, and defeat the contract by one trick, for a 14-IMP swing.

Round 7, Wales vs. Scotland (Tacchi)

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pottage	Short	Ratcliff	Goodman
—	1♣ ¹	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	Pass	2♦ ²
Double	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 2+ clubs
2. Artificial game-force

Readers of the excellent Bridge Magazine will know that Julian Pottage has a column called “Test Your Defence”. Will this deal appear in a future edition?

West led his singleton spade, for the six, seven and ace. A low trump was led towards dummy, West ducked and took the second round, East following with the six and nine. West obviously needs to find East’s entry to obtain his spade ruff. The question is, which minor should he choose? Here he chose unwisely and led a club. Could he or should he have done differently? Had East played the heart nine followed by the six that should be a clear signal for diamonds, but reversing the order might not necessarily suggest something useful in clubs. There is also the consideration that if you choose the diamond route, you need less from partner, namely just a king and not an ace. However, why not have two bites of the cherry and lead your diamond ace and see what partner does? If he encourages, then put him in with the king of diamonds, and if he discourages stake all on him holding the ace of clubs.

The nine of spades at trick one might have assisted as well.

West	North	East	South
Peterkin	Jones	Sanders	Jourdain
—	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the closed room, North/South elected to play in the other major. This was the contract at thirty-four of the thirty-six tables. It failed eighteen times. The defence started with two rounds of diamonds and West then played a low heart, taken by declarer with his king, East starting a peter with his nine. Declarer ruffed his remaining diamond in dummy and started to draw trumps. West inexplicably discarded his remaining diamond on one of the trumps and so now declarer could complete drawing the trumps and knock out the ace of hearts, home free. That resulted in a surprising push.

Round 9, Serbia vs. England (Horton)

Serbia outscored England 39-20, primarily because of two slam swings. The first of them came about as the result of an unfortunate opening lead (and sufficient funds have changed hands for the guilty party’s name to be withheld.) The second was a cracker:

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

<p>♠ A J 10 4 ♥ 2 ♦ K 10 4 3 ♣ J 9 6 5</p> <p>♠ 9 7 3 2 ♥ K J 8 6 4 ♦ A 9 ♣ 4 2</p> <p>♠ 6 5 ♥ 10 9 7 3 ♦ Q J 7 6 5 2 ♣ 8</p>	<p>♠ K Q 8 ♥ A Q 5 ♦ 8 ♣ A K Q 10 7 3</p>
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West	North	East	South
Radisic	Forrester	Zipovski	Robson
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣ ¹	1♦ ²
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥ ³	Pass
4♣ ⁴	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 15+ HCP 4441 or 18+ HCP or 8+ tricks
2. Diamonds or hearts
3. RKCB for hearts
4. 2 key cards, no trump queen

North led the four of diamonds. Declarer won with the ace and took the ace and queen of hearts, revealing the 4-1 break. He cashed the ace of clubs and then drew trumps. Backing his judgement, he played a club to the ten and could claim when South discarded. South’s overcall had given the game away.

Round 12, Israel vs. Wales (van Cleeff)

On the following board (see top of next page), there was excellent bidding by everybody. West wisely didn’t reveal his heart holding when he refrained from doubling the transfer and North/South smartly right-

sided the slam. Still there was a lot of work to do for Yaniv Zack.

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Jourdain</i>	<i>Barel</i>	<i>Jones</i>	<i>Zack</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥ ¹
Pass	4♣ ²	Pass	4♦ ³
Pass	5♦ ³	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Transfer
2. Control, max, big spade fit
3. Controls

When West led the ten of spades, declarer rightly believed that the ace of hearts was offside. Zack played three top spades from dummy – West pitching a heart and a diamond – followed by a diamond to the king and the ten of diamonds, covered by West and North. Declarer cashed three rounds of clubs and a fourth round of spades. At this point, Jourdain was already feeling the heat: he pitched the jack of hearts. When North advanced the final spade, West had to give in: he bared his ace of hearts and Zack pitched a diamond from the dummy. With the king and ten of hearts now equals, Zack played a high heart and claimed 12 tricks.

Round 13, Bulgaria vs. Norway (Jacobs)

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

The Bulgarians reached a good contract here (four hearts) on the North/South cards, making 11 tricks for a score of plus 450. Here was their auction:

West	North	East	South
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Skorchev</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Popov</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The proceedings in the other room were much more interesting, however.

West	North	East	South
<i>Marashev</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Tsonchev</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT ¹
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Forcing, asks for further description

Slam is not particularly good, but as long as the defence does not lead the king of diamonds, declarer has some chances. Brogeland won the actual trump lead with dummy's ace and immediately led a club to the jack. West won with the king and now, with clubs breaking, he had to attack diamonds to remove the side entry to the clubs.

Brogeland, however, won the diamond switch with the ace, unblocked the ace of clubs, ruffed a spade in dummy and cashed dummy's queen of clubs for a diamond discard. He now could ruff a diamond to hand, ruff his last spade and ruff another diamond to get back to his hand. When the outstanding trumps fell under his king and queen, declarer was left with just the ace and king of spades. Well played indeed, perfectly exploiting the chances given to him.

At the table, East twice ruffed in when diamonds were led from dummy, but this did not matter as the cards lay, as you can see.

Round 16, Italy vs Austria (van Cleeff)

This is a "Future-of-Bridge" Quiz. With both sides vulnerable, the auction is simple: North passes, East bids four diamonds (natural, preemptive), you overcall four hearts and all pass. West leads the jack of diamonds and dummy comes down:

♠ 10 9 8 7 6 4 3
♥ K 5
♦ Q 10 9
♣ 2

♠ A Q
♥ A 10 9 8 7 4
♦ 8
♣ A K Q 9

You cover (should you duck?) and East wins with the king. Next comes the ace of diamonds. You ruff with the ten and West pitches a club. Plan the play.

If you, like declarer in real life, smell a rat, you may conclude that trumps are divided 5-0.

You carry on with a sneaky seven of hearts (two, five), which holds the trick when East discards a diamond. You cash your three top clubs and ruff the fourth club with the king of trumps, West discarding a spade. Then you play the ten of diamonds, which you ruff with the eight of hearts. At this point, whatever West does, he is (twice) endplayed. So declarer brilliantly ended up with ten tricks.

This was the full deal:

Board 29. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Here's the quiz question: Who was declarer?

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| A. Geir Helgemo | B. Alfredo Versace |
| C. Bauke Muller | D. Someone else |

The answer is D; declarer was Giovanni Donati, the new kid on the block. At 17 years of age, Donati is by far the youngest player at the EC in Budapest. Looking at that deal and the fact that he plays a lot with the great Alfredo Versace, one may conclude that the future of bridge is secure in the hands of Donati, who is making his debut in the Italian Open Team. Four hearts was played 11 times at the EC, but Giovanni Donati was the only declarer to make it.

Round 30, Sweden vs. Monaco (Tacchi)

Board 24. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Upmark</i>
Pass	1♦ ¹	1♥	Double ²
Pass	2♣	2♦	2♥
3♦	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Nebulous strong club 1♦ opener
2. 4+ spades

All eyes were on East (drum roll please). Yes, he unerringly produced the king of diamonds, perhaps the lead of the tournament, and the contract had no chance.

West	North	East	South
<i>Sylvan</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Wrang</i>	<i>Martens</i>
Pass	1♣	1♥	Double ¹
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 4 spades

East led the ace of hearts and switched to a diamond, won in dummy with the ace. Successful club finesses followed. Declarer knocked out the ace of spades and had eleven tricks and 10 IMPs.

Round 31, France vs. Norway (Bird)

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Volcker</i>
—	2♣	3♠	Double
5♠	6♣	Pass	Pass
6♠	Pass ¹	Pass	7♣
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Forcing, first-round spade control

What were Charlsen's thoughts as his partner considered at length which red suit to lead. Was he thinking: "I hope he leads a heart"? Perhaps he was thinking instead: "Why on earth didn't I bid six hearts instead of six spades?" With little to guide him, Hoftaniska chose an unlucky diamond lead and France collected plus 2660.

Meanwhile, in the other room:

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	Lindqvist	Quantin	Brogeland
—	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT ¹
Pass	5♦ ²	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Key-card ask
2. 1 or 4 key cards

France missed their spade sacrifice and Norway made plus 1390 after the king-of-spades lead. Thanks to the fireworks in the Open Room, that was 15 IMPs to France.

Round 35, Monaco vs. Netherlands (Rigal)

This deal did not create a swing but I thought it deserved to. I'll give you the problem first as a single dummy one – and rotate it to make South declarer.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ A 6 2
 ♥ J 10
 ♦ A J 8 5 3
 ♣ 10 3 2

♠ K 10 9 7 3
 ♥ A 7
 ♦ K 2
 ♣ A K 7 4

West	North	East	South
Helness	Brink	Helgemo	Drijver
Pass	Pass	2♥	Double
Pass	3♣ ¹	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Diamonds, invitational+ values

How should you play four spades on a low heart lead to the queen?

One possibility is to duck a club early, then play the ace-king of spades and arrange to ruff a fourth club. Multon in the same contract took an early diamond finesse. Then he drew trump and fell back on the diamonds breaking 3-3. Not a bad line, but hardly a claimer ... that line worked, but here is the full deal.

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

Drijver took a completely different tack. He won trick one with the ace of hearts, cashed the king of spades, Helgemo dropping the eight, led a spade to dummy, and might now have ducked a club as well. However, that may have allowed the defence to cash the third trump, preventing a ruff, so, instead, he cashed two rounds of clubs, unblocked king of diamonds and exited with a heart. East was thrown on lead and had a choice of giving a ruff-sluff or returning a diamond into the tenace. Had he started life with a 3=6=2=2 pattern, he might have been able to cash the long spade and exit in hearts but then declarer could have fallen back on the diamond finesse – and if he had lost to the doubleton queen of diamonds, he could have consoled himself that the line chosen in the other room would have failed too!

It seemed like every time the Monégasques had a chance for a gain, the opportunity slipped away from them. Consider this problem Franck Multon faced. (Again rotated 180 degrees)

♠ 7
 ♥ 8 7 5 4
 ♦ 9 5 3
 ♣ K Q 7 4 3

♠ A Q J 10 8 6
 ♥ A J 2
 ♦ A Q 10 2
 ♣ —

West	North	East	South
Muller	Martens	De Wijs	Multon
—	—	—	1♠
Double	Pass	2♦	3♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

You need more than a little help when partner puts down plenty of nothing. But you receive it when Muller leads the eight of diamonds to the three, king and your ace. You try the spade ace, then the jack. West thinks for an eternity, wins the king, then tries to cash ace of clubs!

Now you're in business. You ruff, draw the trump, as both opponents follow, suggesting West began with 3=4=2=4 shape. What now?

Multon played the ace and another heart, hoping to be allowed to duck this to East. Muller carefully went up with the queen in case he needed to Crocodile Coup the jack in his partner's hand and played on hearts to leave declarer with a diamond to lose at the end.

Here is the full deal (see top of page 12):



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

Members may use these deals as they wish, without attributing the author or IBPA.

813. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the king of hearts, which was allowed to hold, as East began an echo with the eight to show an even number of cards in the suit. Declarer ducked another heart just to make sure of the distribution in the suit, East following with the six at trick two. Declarer took the third heart, discarding a club from dummy as East parted with a low spade. Declarer played a club to dummy's queen and East's ace. East switched to a low spade. After some thought, declarer finessed and finished down two, losing four hearts along with a spade and a club.

"That was unlucky; taking the spade finesse was the right play," moaned declarer. "The finesse had a better chance of working than diamonds being 3-3."

"Luck had nothing to do with it," dummy replied. "As you noted, there was no chance of making the contract if West had begun the ace of clubs. So, as you did, you should assume East had the ace of clubs and maximise your chances of making a ninth trick accordingly. The proper order of play is to win the third heart with the ace then cash three diamonds. When both defenders follow, that is your ninth trick. If the diamonds had proved to be 4-2 then you would have known for certain that you would have to risk the spade finesse to make the contract after East takes his ace of clubs."

814. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the jack of spades and declarer paused to make a plan. Clearly, if the diamond finesse failed, so would the contract. Thus, declarer won the first trick in hand with his king and took the winning diamond finesse. Declarer was about to play the ace of diamonds when he saw that, if he did so, he would only make his contract if the king of diamonds were doubleton. The problem was that he would have only eight tricks if West had started with three diamonds. The other issue was that he had no fast entry back to hand. The only hope was to give the defender with the ace of hearts an insoluble problem.

So, at trick three, he called for dummy's king of hearts. This put West in a quandary: if he took the trick with his ace, declarer would be able to re-enter his hand with a heart to repeat the diamond finesse. As a result, he allowed the king of hearts to hold, giving declarer his ninth trick. All that remained was for declarer to play the ace and queen of diamonds.

After winning the king of diamonds, West did the best he could by shifting to a low club. The defenders took the ace and king of clubs and the ace of hearts but declarer had the rest.

On the following deal (see *top of next page*), West began with the three top hearts. Declarer ruffed then cashed dummy's queen and jack of trumps. If the trumps had been 3-2 declarer would have drawn trumps and conceded a club to the ace. As it was, the 4-1 break

was a minor annoyance because declarer had to develop a plan to overcome it.

815. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♠
2♥	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Clearly, West was marked with the ace of clubs, for otherwise East would have raised hearts. Consequently, declarer could not just draw trumps and play on clubs unless he wanted to settle for his nine top tricks: after they were cashed, West would win the ace of clubs and cash a heart trick to defeat the contract.

The only hope was to develop a club trick while dummy's remaining trump provided protection against a further round of hearts. So, declarer played dummy's queen of clubs next. West took the trick with the ace of clubs and led a fourth heart. Declarer ruffed in dummy and discarded the three of diamonds from hand. Next, declarer crossed to hand with the king of clubs, drew trumps and had ten tricks: five trumps, a heart ruff in dummy, three diamonds and a club.

816. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1♦	3♥	Double
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

As North's one-diamond opening promised a now-fashionable unbalanced hand, South was certain that his partner had begun with five diamonds and four spades.

Accordingly, he enquired about key cards with four notrump and then bid the spade slam.

West led the nine of hearts, which was consistent with a doubleton. Declarer took the trick with the ace of hearts, then cashed the king and queen of trumps. The 4-1 break was an irritation and declarer paused to consider his options. Clearly, he could make the contract if East had the king of clubs by taking two finesses in the suit.

However, declarer felt that the chance that East began with the king of clubs was less likely after his three-heart bid. Instead, he decided to test the diamonds, playing the king and ace. This was almost risk-free since West would have had a singleton diamond only about one time in twenty. When it was East who discarded on the second diamond, the reward for playing on diamonds became clear. Declarer cashed the queen and jack of diamonds, throwing the six of hearts from hand. Declarer ruffed the jack of hearts then played his remaining trump to dummy's ace.

Declarer called for the ten of diamonds, which held, both he and West throwing low clubs. This delaying tactic by West was to no avail because declarer endplayed West by leading dummy's last trump. As West only had clubs left, declarer made the last two tricks with the ace and queen of clubs. All he lost was a trump trick.

If diamonds had been 3-2, declarer would have taken the club finesse at trick six.



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

The winning line in the eight-card ending is to exit with a low heart. The defenders can win in either hand, so let's say East wins with the nine and returns a heart. You take this, and play the ten of diamonds, which East must duck or the diamond nine will become an entry. That is why the king of diamonds at trick one was such an error. Partner either had a doubleton or singleton eight or queen-ten-eight, so there was no point in covering.

When East ducks the ten of diamonds, you play the ace of hearts, ace of diamonds and another diamond, and East must give dummy its club winner, on which your heart goes away.

Round 35, Netherlands vs. Monaco (Bird)

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Double	2♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	6♥
Pass	7♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Drijver's three-spade bid was enough for Brink to prime the RKCB cannon. Hearing of three key-cards, his five notrump announced that all five key-cards and the queen of trumps were present and requested partner to name his lowest side-suit king. The six-heart continuation was clearly a grand-slam try (it is

sometimes used to ask whether partner holds the king of hearts). Drijver then leapt to seven spades, demonstrating that he is braver man than I would have been.

A heart lead might have been awkward, but Helness started with a trump. Declarer won, played a club to the ace and ruffed a club. He cashed the ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond. All followed when another club was ruffed. Drijver then ruffed the jack of diamonds with the queen of spades and ruffed a fourth round of clubs high, establishing a club winner in dummy. He then drew the outstanding trumps, scored the king of diamonds and crossed to the ace of hearts to discard a heart on the queen of clubs.

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Martens</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥ ¹	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Spades

That was 11 IMPs to the Netherlands.

Round 36, England vs. Italy (Horton)

Both teams needed a big win to have a chance at qualifying. The deals were explosive, none more so than this one:

Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

In the Closed Room, Forrester and Robson had reached six clubs, but South led a heart, which left declarer without resource, one down, minus 100. In the Open Room ...

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
—	Pass	1♣	1♠
2♠	3♠	Double ¹	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Power double – 4♣/4♥ would have been competitive

Here, South led the five of spades. Declarer won with dummy's ace, ruffed a spade, played two rounds of clubs, ending in dummy, and ruffed a spade. Having eliminated that suit, he ran the jack of hearts, North winning with the king. This was the position:

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

I was commentating on BBO and many spectators were waxing lyrical about declarer's play. For sure, he had given himself the best chance and when North exited with a diamond he could win with the jack, cross to dummy with a heart (Vienna Coup) and cash the remaining trumps, the last of which was more than North could stand.

Beautifully played, but as I had to point out, North could have spoiled the party by exiting with the queen of spades rather than a diamond. The ruff and discard gives declarer one extra trick, but he cannot find another. This is not easy to see, especially in the heat of battle, after nine days play, but North knew South had started with five spades and two clubs and he had shown an odd number of hearts, ergo, three diamonds. How much this should detract from declarer's wonderful play is difficult to say; what is certain is that it gave Italy 16 IMPs on the way to an emphatic win that kept their hopes alive.

Women's Teams

Round 7, Poland vs. France (Horton)

As I am sure you are all aware, this year marks the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare. References to cards and card play have a significant role in the Bard's writings and I can unreservedly state that he would have revelled in the outstanding play that took place on this deal.

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sarniak</i>	<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Baldysz</i>	<i>Willard</i>
2♥ ¹	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥ ²
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. 5+ Hearts and a (4)5+ either minor, 4-11 HCP
2. Choice of games

With such a flat hand, North's decision to bid three notrump was totally understandable, but theoretically it was the wrong action and gave Poland a chance to secure a last-gasp victory. East led the nine of diamonds and when West made the understandable error of winning with the king and returning a low diamond, declarer was handed the thinnest of lifelines.

Even so, it was apparent that only a seemingly miraculous series of plays could deliver nine tricks and it was hard to imagine that they might be found. Declarer won the diamond return with dummy's jack, cashed the ace of hearts and played a heart to the nine. When that passed off peacefully, she played the jack of clubs from her hand, running it when East followed impassively with the two. A club to the king was followed by the ace of spades and declarer returned to hand with the ace of clubs and exited with the queen of diamonds. West could win and cash two more diamonds but then had to lead into declarer's heart tenace. We were following the play as it happened and each winning view was accompanied by an ever-increasing sense of incredulity and delight.

France lost an IMP, but had won the match 16-15. To quote the Bard (from *Julius Caesar*), it was "A dish fit for the gods".

Senior Teams

Round 21, Hungary v. Turkey (Carruthers)

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Koltai</i>	<i>Ince</i>	<i>Kovacs</i>	<i>Kökten</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	2♦ ¹
Double	Pass	3♣	3♠
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. Majors			

On a high heart lead and spade shift, Kovacs made the technical plays of winning with the ace of spades, dropping his king, and leading the jack of diamonds to pick up the suit. He was able to knock out the ace of clubs, ruffs two clubs in the dummy with the eight and nine of diamonds, then lead the six for a finesse of the seven. That as a well-earned 11 tricks and plus 400. However ...

West	North	East	South
Aksoy	Gal	Siriklioglu	Szappanos
Pass	Pass	1♦	3♣ ¹
Pass	3♥	4♣	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♥
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Majors

Five hearts was quite indiscreet and undid Kovacs' good work at the other table. Gal did the best he could, struggling to make eight tricks for minus 800 and a loss of 9 IMPs.

Congratulations to all of the winners. It had been 33 years since France had been in the winner's circle in the European Open Teams and this is a new generation of French players. The English women, on the other hand, had known no such dry spell, having won just four years ago. The Israeli Senior Team is new to the winner's circle. All three of these teams, and their co-medallists, will be among the favourites to win their respective events at the World Bridge Games in Wroclaw, Poland this September.



THE VIEW FROM MOUNT OLYMPUS

Ana Roth and Fernando Lema, BA

When I am kibitzing on BBO I feel a bit like I am on Mount Olympus, seat of the gods, where the air is always fresh and pure, where I am isolated from the world of humans and their strife ... down below I observe the players looking only at their 13 cards and the dummy, while I have the privilege of seeing all 52. While they try to discover the position of certain key cards, I laugh at their efforts, knowing where they all are. Oh ... down one on a squeeze ... my granny would have made that with a finesse. In reality, the positions are reversed, with the gods down there playing bridge, while I, a mere mortal, am watching from above.

Those were my thoughts this morning when the South American Bridge Teams Championship began in Medellin, Colombia. I was in my box on Mount Olympus, whence I had the opportunity to see a battle among gods. In the third round of the Swiss Qualifying of the Open Teams Championship, the MILNER team (Sabine Auken/Roy Welland, Hemant Lall/Reese Milner, Justin Lall/Jacek Pszczola) played against the CHAGAS team (Alejandro Bianchedi/Agustin Madala, Marcelo Castello Branco/Ernesto Muzzio, Gabriel Chagas/Miguel Villas-Boas).

On the following deal, at one table, the Lalls, unusually playing together, chose to play in a partscore in diamonds, for plus 110. However, at the other table, Agustin Madala and Alejandro Bianchedi had a different view of the deal, raising the bidding to the game level.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bianchedi</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Madala</i>	<i>Welland</i>
—	—	—	1♣ ¹
Pass	1♦ ²	INT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. 2+ clubs; natural or 11-13/18-19 balanced; if balanced, can hold any 5-card suit or any 5-4-2-2
2. 4+ hearts

Roy Welland led the attitude two of clubs. Madala won the first trick with the jack of clubs, then cashed the king and nine of diamonds. He continued with the queen of diamonds, upon which Welland pitched the two of spades and Auken her club. Madala tightened the noose a little more with the six of diamonds and Welland chose another spade, the six, Auken the three of spades. Declarer continued with another annoying diamond, Auken this time chose the six of hearts and Welland the seven of clubs.

CLASH OF THE TITANS

Maurizio di Sacco, Pisa

Two of the tournament pre-favourites met in the third round of Swiss qualifying: the team led by Gabriel Chagas, with three world champions in it, including two rare holders of the Triple Crown (Bermuda Bowl, Olympiad Teams, World Open Pairs), Chagas himself and Marcelo Branco, and the team captained by Reese Milner. Milner and his partner Hemant Lall are also world champions, holders of both the Rand Seniors Cup, and the d'Orsi Senior Bowl.

CHAGAS went into the lead on the following fascinating deal.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ 9 6
♥ Q 10 6 5
♦ K J 3 2
♣ J 9 5

♠ A K 10 5 4
♥ 8 7
♦ A Q 10 7 5
♣ A

♠ Q J
♥ K 3 2
♦ 8 6 4
♣ K Q 10 8 2

♠ 8 7 3 2
♥ A J 9 4
♦ 9
♣ 7 6 4 3

West	North	East	South
H. Lall	Muzzio	J. Lall	Branco
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♦ ¹	Pass	3♣ ²	Pass
3♦ ³	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. GF relay
2. 5(6) clubs
3. Natural

Three notrump would have been rather easy. In four spades, however, Hemant Lall received the lead of the six of hearts (third/fifth), which he ducked in dummy for South to win with the jack. Marcelo Branco shifted to the nine of diamonds and declarer won with the ace, unblocked the ace of clubs, then cashed dummy's queen and jack of spades. If Lall had then cashed all of his club winners, he would have ended up with the requisite number of tricks. But, not knowing the jack of clubs would fall and that the fourth round of the suit would not be ruffed, Lall went after diamonds after taking just one high club in dummy for a heart discard. On this line, the defence could prevail, winning diamonds twice to establish a force in hearts. Lall was down two for minus 100.

The bidding at the other table was similar in its end-product, even if the process differed ...

Madala left dummy with a spade and, when Auken played the seven, Madala won with the ace, dropping Welland's queen. Madala then end-played Welland with a club, to receive, after four club winners, a heart into the ace-queen for his ninth trick.

Welland had hoped to portray 4=1=2=6 distribution with a singleton king of hearts but Madala realized that North would not likely have discarded a spade from 3=6=2=2 shape.

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

♠ K 9 8 7
♥ K Q
♦ A K Q J 5 3
♣ K

♠ A Q 10 3 2
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ 2
♣ Q 8 2

♠ 5 4
♥ 8 7 6 4 3
♦ 8 4
♣ J 9 4 3

♠ J 6
♥ A 10
♦ 10 9 7 6
♣ A 10 7 6 5

West	North	East	South
H. Lall	Muzzio	J. Lall	Branco
—	1♦	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Hemant Lall led a low spade so Branco made 12 tricks, plus 490.

West	North	East	South
Bianchedi	Auken	Madala	Welland
—	1♦ ¹	Pass	INT ²
Pass	2♥ ³	Pass	2♠ ⁴
Pass	3♥ ⁵	Pass	3♠ ⁶
Pass	5♣ ⁷	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. (4)5+ diamonds, unbalanced except in 3rd chair
2. FG relay
3. 5+ diamonds and 4+ spades
4. Relay
5. 4=2=6=1 precisely
6. Optional RKCB for diamonds
7. 2 key cards, diamond queen, spade king, heart king, no spade queen

Welland, perhaps a little steamed at the previous result, decided, in the context of a one-diamond opening showing five cards in the suit, to upgrade his hand a little. Madala led a trump. Auken was cool enough to draw trumps and eliminate clubs and hearts from the opponents hands before leading a spade to the king. Her careful play would have been rewarded had the singleton ace been offside: Madala would have had to concede a ruff and discard. As the cards lay, it was always going to be plus 920 and 10 IMPs.

West	North	East	South
<i>Bianchedi</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Madala</i>	<i>Welland</i>
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥ ¹	Pass	1NT ²	Pass
2♦ ³	Pass	2♥ ⁴	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Spades
2. 11-13 balanced
3. GF relay
4. 2 spades

The transfer response placed the final contract in East. Madala was treated to the nine-of-diamonds lead from Welland. He won with the ace, unblocked the ace of clubs and led to the jack of spades. Without taking the other spade in dummy, Madala cashed the king and queen of clubs for heart discards. Then Madala too went after diamonds. Welland discarded an encouraging heart and Auken won the diamond to lead a heart. Declarer ruffed and continued diamonds.

After that sequence of plays, the defenders had only losing options: (i) North could have won and continued hearts, diamonds or trumps but, on the heart force or diamond continuation, Madala would eventually have made his tenth trick by ruffing a diamond with the queen of spades and on a trump shift would have drawn trumps, or; (ii) North could have ducked the diamond for South to ruff (reducing the South hand to two trumps) and return a trump, in which case South would have drawn trumps and conceded a diamond. In all cases, it was 11 IMPs to CHAGAS.

Nevertheless, MILNER emerged victorious by 11 IMPs, 47-36, with not a single push in the 14 boards.

Two more contenders met in the Swiss Qualifying Round 5, JUAN VALDÉS (J.A. Barrera, J. Carrera, C. Hoyos, F. Villalba) and CAMBEROS (D. Brenner, H. Camberos, C. Pellegrini, P. Ravenna).

Board 13. Dealer North Both Vul.

	♠ 9 6		
	♥ Q J 10 9 8 5		
	♦ 9		
	♣ K Q 10 7		
♠ 8 4 3		♠ K Q J 10	
♥ 7 2		♥ K 6	
♦ A K Q 7 2		♦ J 5 3	
♣ J 6 2		♣ A 9 4 3	
	♠ A 7 5 2		
	♥ A 4 3		
	♦ 10 8 6 4		
	♣ 8 5		
West	North	East	South
<i>Ravenna</i>	<i>Carrera</i>	<i>Brenner</i>	<i>Villalba</i>
—	2♥	Double	3♥
Double	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Brenner and Ravenna got to the only game with a chance. Villalba led the ace of hearts and continued the suit. After that start, all he had to do was to duck the next two spades. Brenner could do no better than play a third round, but South won, and forced him with the third heart to establish four tricks for the defenders. Down one, minus 100.

West	North	East	South
<i>Barrera</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Hoyos</i>	<i>Camberos</i>
—	2♥	Double	3♥
Double	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Hoyos and Barrera also reached four spades. Camberos too led the ace of hearts, but shifted to a club instead of continuing hearts. Declarer had to duck that to prevent a ruff and, when he did so, Pellegrini needed to go back to hearts to come to the same position as in the other room. Instead, unable to read the situation, he continued with a further club. Declarer was safely home, since he could not lose control any more; 12 IMPs to JUAN VALDÉS.

CAMBEROS won the match 52-39.

The winners:

Open Teams: Sabine Auken, Hemant Lall, Justin Lall, Reese Milner, Jacek Pszczola, Roy Welland

Women's Teams: Grazyna Brewiak, Katarzyna Dufurat, Jessica Hayman, Anna Sarniak

Cuidad de Medellín Teams: Gustavo Alujas, Frankie Frontaura, Federico Goded, Gonzalo Goded, Steve Hamaoui, Perla Sultan

Under-26 Teams: Argentina – Federico von Brudendorff, Maximo Cruzisio, Juan Cruz Etchepareborda, Rodrigo Garcia da Rosa, Martín Maglio, Maximiliano Salvador

Open Pairs: Eduardo Barcellos, Maurizio Machado

Women's Pairs: Margarita Jaramillo, Maria Eugenia Ulrich

Mixed Pairs: Valerie Gamio, Miguel Reygadas

(Note the absence of Gabriel Chagas from the winner's circle for the first time, it seemed, in about 90 years. – Ed.)



**SOUTH
AFRICAN
NATIONALS**
**Bob Jones,
Hypoluxo, FL**

I recently attended the South African National Championships, held at the Numbi Hotel in Hazyview, a small town adjacent to Kruger National Park in

eastern South Africa, and a popular launching area for game-viewing day trips into the park. There was a midweek break to give the players a chance to take a game drive into the park – a perk that would be hard to match anywhere else.

Here are a couple of deals from the National Open Teams:

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

	♠ —		
West	North	East	South
—	Pass	1♥	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: Eight of hearts

This is only a partscore deal, but many South players tried to make a game in notrump, counting on a heart lead for an eighth trick and hoping for enough in dummy to scramble a ninth. They got their heart lead, and there was an ace sitting in dummy for a ninth trick, but there was a problem. After winning with the king of hearts at trick two, South could cash two high diamonds and then cross to dummy in diamonds for the ace of spades, but he would have no way to return to his hand for the rest of the diamonds.

The only thing to do was to start running the diamonds and hope something good would happen. The East players quickly realized that declarer had seven diamond tricks and a heart for eight, but they didn't realize that South was void in spades. Some Easts were even irritated that South was taking so much time looking for an overtrick in a team game, where overtricks are usually not important. This thinking induced them to defend against this overtrick. They discarded down to the king-doubleton of spades and some other winners and were mortally embarrassed when declarer endplayed them later and they had to lead a spade into dummy's ace-queen, giving the overtrick after all.

The good players, of course, realized that the only hope for the defence was for declarer to be void in spades. They discarded both spades and defeated the contract. Many declarers, however, had great fun telling their friends about this deal.

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

	West	North	East	South
—	—	—	—	INT
Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: Three of hearts

Virtually all tables reached three notrump by South with a low heart lead from West. South captured East's jack with the queen and most of the South players crossed to dummy with a club and led a low diamond to their queen. West won this with his ace and continued with a low heart to keep transportation open with his partner.

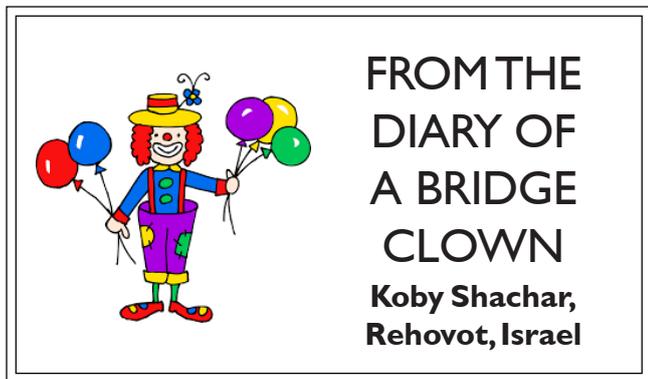
South was back in his hand with the ten of hearts and had to guess whether to lead a diamond to dummy's nine or take the spade finesse. Having started on diamonds already, most declarers chose a diamond to the nine, losing three diamonds and two hearts for down one.

South African expert Bernard Donde took a different, superior, approach. He saw that he could try both finesses if he timed it correctly. Donde won the heart lead and led a diamond to the nine at trick two. Had this forced the ace or king, he would have continued diamonds later to build the ninth trick in that suit. When the diamond finesse lost to the ten, however, Donde knew his only chance was the spade finesse. That finesse was successful and Donde won a game swing for his team.



Who is this man and what is he doing? See the next page for the explanation.

The sticker on his briefcase says, "How's my bridge? Call *4432"



These lines are being written in the lobby of Pavilion No. 10 in the Tel-Aviv Convention Center, during the 50th International Bridge Festival of Tel Aviv – a big celebration with plenty of innovations and a variety of competitions. Currently, the morning competition is on and I'm waiting for my appearance as a bridge clown at the end of the session.

A few months ago, I called Oryah Meir, CEO of the Israel Bridge Federation, with the idea of appearing as a 'bridge clown' during the festival. The intention was to meet with the players in the lobby for fifteen minutes of clowning and a little bit more bridge, breaking the ordinary lecture structure. On each day of the festival, I presented a double dummy problem to the audience, showing all four hands, the final contract and the opening lead. The question was whether the contract could be made or not.

I personally love this kind of problem, providing a mental challenge similar to logic puzzles. In addition, solving a double dummy problem helps the player to recognize patterns of situations, and they sometimes even appear at the table in real life.

During the festival, four such problems were presented: dealing with planning at trick one, identifying the dangerous hand, overcoming blocked suits, managing entries and other subjects. Most of the deals were taken from the book, "Bridge – 80 Classic Problems", by Erwin Brecher and Danny Roth. The book contains examples of double dummy problems. Here's the first problem in the book (with minor adjustments), one you might even make single dummy:

Contract: Five clubs by South

Lead: ♠Q

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

Is the contract makeable? Before you continue reading try to find the solution.

One's first instinct is to win the trick in the closed hand to keep the entry to the dummy and then draw trumps, but how to go from there? Of course, after the opening lead is placed on the table, followed by the dummy being exposed, we have to stop and come up with a plan.

The declarer can count ten top tricks (two in spades, two in diamonds and six in clubs). There are other potential tricks in the red suits: in hearts there is a simple finesse situation. However, in double dummy problems, we see the opponents' cards, so you can see that the 50% finesse does not work. The second option is to develop tricks in diamonds, where there is a 68% chance of the suit being split 3-2, and we see that this is indeed the case.

The problem is that we have to give a trick to the defenders. If it is East who wins the trick, he will easily detect the deadly switch to hearts and the defence will win two more tricks. In bridge terminology we call East "the danger hand" and we must not give him the lead.

How can we prevent East from winning a trick in diamonds? Like many other hands, the fate of the contract depends on the first trick. We must hold up, ducking trick one and allowing West to win with the queen of spades. He will probably continue with spades at second trick and we must win with the ace. We can draw trumps in two rounds and then continue with the ace-king of diamonds and the king of spades, discarding the third diamond from our hand. Then we can ruff a diamond in hand, establishing two tricks in the suit. We return to the dummy with a trump and on the two low diamonds discard the hearts from our hand.

In this way, we actually win twelve tricks. If we were to win the first trick we would be limited to only ten tricks, a difference of two tricks and, of course, the difference between making the contract and going down one. The point is to replace the loser in diamonds with a loser in spades, giving the lead to West and refraining from letting East, the danger hand, win a trick.

The format of bridge clown, to the best of my knowledge, has never been performed before, was quite a success. The participants left the performances with smiles on their faces and often even learned a little something new about bridge.



IBPA President's Report Budapest, June 2016

Before Budapest, your Officers were concerned about the number of members who had not renewed in January. A fifth of our members appear to have problems paying using the internet. In respect of the European unpaid members, I collected from six of these before Budapest and 15 at Budapest. Only one had decided not to continue.

The Press Room in Budapest was one of the largest we have had, ably managed as usual by Jan Swaan. It was very busy, with almost 30 members using it as well as many of their friends.

There was a successful IBPA Outing. Sadly, your President was unable to attend as I was occupied playing in the gruelling Open Championship of 37 countries. Photographs of the Outing are on our Facebook page. The tough schedule, which should be eased by adding an extra day in Ostend in 2018, made it difficult for people to get together in the evenings.

Three Press Conferences were held, one before the event began regarding Junior bridge, and one mid-way reporting on the cheating allegations. Handling these cost the EBL 90,000 Euro in 2015 with a further 100,000 Euro budgeted for 2016. The final Press Conference is reported in the Daily Bulletin.

We welcomed the following eight new and rejoining members in Budapest: Dominik Filipowicz of Poland, coach and website contributor; Onno Janssens and Koos Vrieze of the Netherlands (Federation President); Philippe Banchereau of France (President Luxembourg Federation). Rejoining members were: Bep Vriend and Wubbo de Boer of the Netherlands, Lars Blakset of Denmark and Philippe Cronier of France.

Patrick Jourdain, IBPA President

NEWS & VIEWS



From the EBL Press Conference Groupama Arena, Budapest, June 18, 2016

The EBL Executive stated that costs of prosecuting accused cheats would be recovered from the convicted players (with payment necessary to restore their good standing after the expiration of any ban). Furthermore, the EBL has substantial reserves, thus there are no immediate financial concerns.



Correspondence

The Editor reserves the right to abridge and/or edit correspondence. Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

Hi John,

Watching the final round of the U.S. Open golf this afternoon, I was struck by a number of bridge-related thoughts.

Controversy swirled around the event when the leader (and eventual winner), Dustin Johnson, was involved in an incident on Hole No. 5 which could have led to his being assessed a one-stroke penalty. The rules official walking with his group (the senior USGA official at the tournament) investigated the incident and ruled that there had been no infraction, thus no penalty.

Despite this, the USGA rules committee (or whoever it was that had to make the decision) announced (when Johnson arrived at Hole No. 12) that they would make a final ruling, but only after the round was complete. All of the golfers were informed of this, and so for the next two hours or so everyone knew that Johnson's score could potentially increase by one stroke. The expert golf commentators were apoplectic. Leaving aside the merits of the decision (i.e., whether or not they thought a penalty was appropriate), they rhetorically asked, "In what other sport could there be a ruling *after the event is over* that changes the result?" Well, we can think of one.

The situation reminded me of an incident many years ago in the Canadian National Teams Championship finals, where the Director-in-Chief refused to make a ruling at my table, on the grounds that whatever he ruled would be appealed anyway, so it might as well go straight to an Appeals Committee.

Both scenarios strike me as examples of spinelessness in officialdom. I suspect the USGA committee didn't want to have to make a ruling that could affect the result, and hoped (as in fact occurred) that events would render their decision irrelevant (after which Johnson was penalized).

The other aspect of the affair discussed by the commentators was the "unfairness" of the players not knowing the score, and therefore not being able to adjust their strategy to the requirements of the moment. Again, they asked, 'In what other sport ...?' and again we have an answer.

All of which leads me to wonder why, given today's technology, we don't allow the players to know the score, at least in team matches? Surely the only reason we don't is that historically it was impractical, but that's no longer the case.

Something for the powers-that-be to think about.

Ray Lee, Toronto

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2016			
Jul 6-10	India Summer Nationals	Bangaluru, India	www.bfi.net.in
Jul 8-17	Danish Bridge Festival	Svendborg, Denmark	www2.bridge.dk
Jul 13-20	13 th European Youth Pairs & Camp	Liepaja, Latvia	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 21-24	Madhava Prasad Memorial Tournament	Corbett Park, Nainital, India	www.bfi.net.in
Jul 21-31	ACBL Summer NABC	Washington, DC	www.acbl.org
Jul 26-31	Hong Kong Inter-City	Hong Kong, China	www.hkcba.org
Jul 29-31	Goa Bridge Festival	Goa, India	www.bfi.net.in
Jul 29-Aug 7	Norwegian Bridge Festival	Fredrikstad, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
Jul 29-Aug 7	22 nd Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 30-Aug 4	Chairman's Cup Teams	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Aug 3-13	World Youth Team Championships	Salsomaggiore, Italy	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 6-7	Gold Mine Pairs	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Aug 7-9	Pesta Sukan	Singapore	www.scba.org.sg
Aug 7-13	48 th International Bridge Week	Mautern, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Aug 17-21	10 th "Riga Invites to Jurmala"	Jurmala, Latvia	www.rigainvites.lv
Aug 19-28	EBU Summer Meeting	Eastbourne, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 20-27	Greek Islands Bridge Festival	Rhodes, Greece	www.bridgefestival.gr
Aug 20-29	World Open Youth Championships	Opatija, Croatia	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 22-28	FISU World University Teams	Lodz, Poland	www.unibridge.eu
Aug 26-28	Kibic Budapest Open	Budapest, Hungary	www.kibicbridge.com
Aug 27-Sep 4	Festival de Bridge de La Grand Motte	La Grande Motte, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Sep 2-14	55 th International Bridge Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.pulabridgefestival.com
Sep 3-17	World Bridge Games	Wroclaw, Poland	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 9-18	Confiance Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 23, 25	Worldwide Bridge Contest Final	Beijing, China	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 24-Oct 1	NZ National Congress	Wellington, NZ	www.nzcba.nz
Sep 30-Oct 4	International Azores Festival	Azores Is., Portugal	www.fpbridge.com
Oct 5-11	EBU Overseas Congress	Cardone, Lake Garda, Italy	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 28-Nov 1	Festival de Bridge d'Avignon	Avignon, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Oct 29-Nov 6	Brazilian Open	Salvador, Bahia, Brazil	www.bridge.esp.br
Oct 31-Nov 2	1 st Yeh Online Invitational World Cup	Online	TBA
Nov 7-13	Madeira International Festival	Madeira, Portugal	www.fpbridge.com
Nov 10-12	3 rd Marbella International Tournament	Marbella, Málaga, Spain	www.marbellabridge.com
Nov 10-20	22 nd Red Sea Bridge Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridgeredsea.com
Nov 14-20	WBF Women's Online Festival	BBO	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 24-Dec 4	ACBL Fall NABC	Orlando, FL	www.acbl.org
2017			
Jan 10-22	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 19-22	IV Copenhagen Invitational	Copenhagen, Denmark	www2.bridge.dk
Jan 21-27	Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.bermudaregional.com
Jan 23-Feb 1	76 th International Tournament	St. Moritz, Switzerland	www.bridge.stmoritz.ch
Feb 2-8	EBU Bridge Overseas Congress	Lisbon, Portugal	www.ebu.co.uk
Feb 7-12	21 st NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 13-19	Cavendish Invitational	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.cavendish.bridgemonaco.com
Feb 17-25	56 th Gold Coast Congress	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	www.qldbridge.com/gcc
Feb 22-26	Cannes Festival	Cannes, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Mar 9-19	ACBL Spring NABC	Kansas City, MO	www.acbl.org
Apr 28-May 9	USBF Open Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
May 3-8	67 th South American Championships	Santiago, Chile	www.confusudbridge.org
May 3-9	USBF Women's Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
May 9-13	7 th South American Transnationals	Santiago, Chile	www.confusudbridge.org
May 17-25	USBF Senior Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
May	29 th CACBF Championships	Guatemala	www.cacbf.com
May 27-Jun 7	50 th Asia Pacific Championships	Seoul, South Korea	www.abf.com.au
Jun 10-24	8 th Open European Championships	Montecatini, Italy	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 3-7	Yeh Bros. Cup	Tokyo, Japan	cpc2013228@gmail.com
Jul 20-30	ACBL Summer NABC	Toronto, ON	www.acbl.org
Aug 12-26	World Team Championships	Lyon, France	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 19-26	World Youth Team Championships	Lyon, France	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 23-Dec 3	ACBL Fall NABC	San Diego, Ca	www.acbl.org