



## BULLETIN

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## 2019 World Champions



### Bermuda Bowl

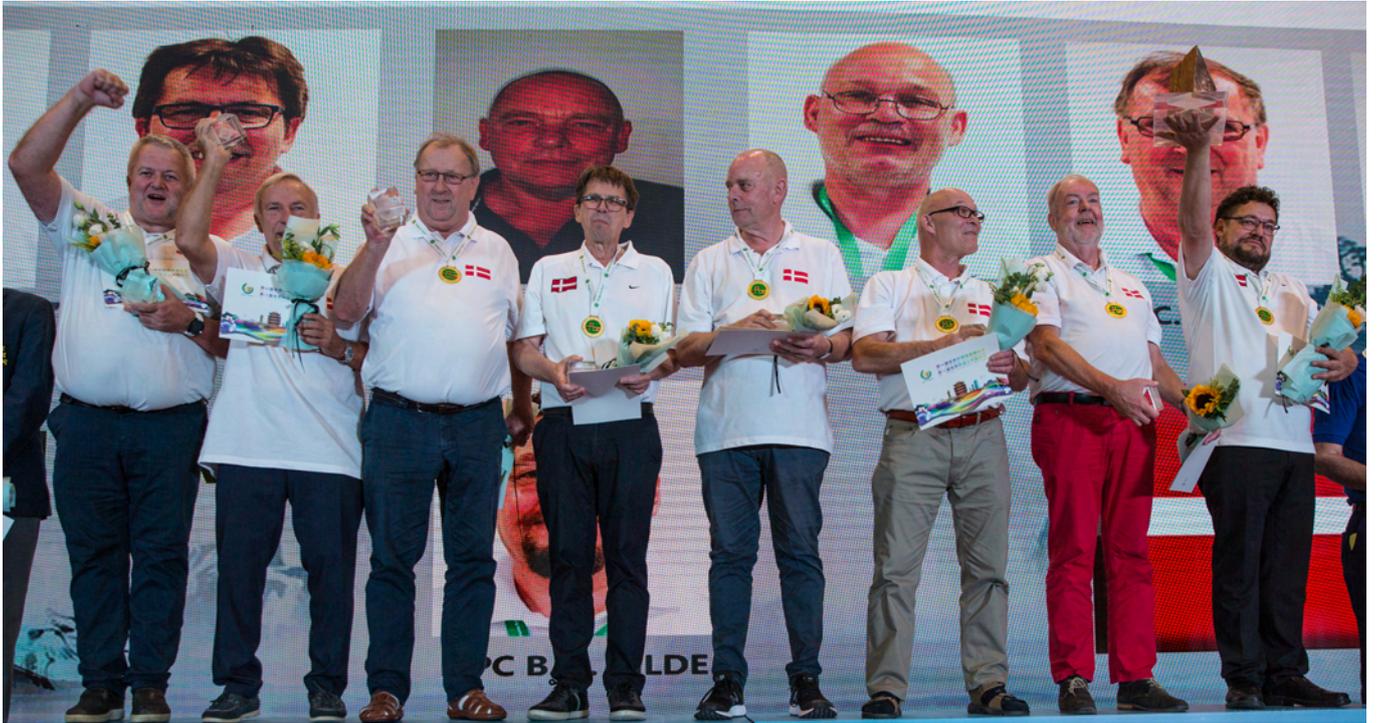
**Poland** - Bartosz Chmurski, Michal Nowosadski,  
Jacek Kalita, Piotr Tuczynski, Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Krzysztof Buras,  
Marek Pietraszek (NPC), Marek Wojcicki (Coach)



### Venice Cup

**Sweden** - Carina Wademark (Coach), Emma Övelius,  
Ida Grönqvist, Kathrine Bertheau, Cecilia Rimstedt,  
Sanna Clementsson, Jessica Larsson, Kenneth Borin (NPC)

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**d'Orsi Trophy**

**Denmark** - Jan Nielsen (Coach), Knud-Åge Boesgård, Hans Christian Nielsen, Søren Christiansen, Henrik Norman Hansen, Jorgen Cilleborg Hansen, Steen Schou, Bo Lønberg Bilde (NPC)



**Wuhan Cup**

**Russia** - Alexander Dubinin, Alexej Gerasimov, Andrey Gromov, Anna Gulevich, Tatiana Ponomareva, Olga Vorobeychikova



### World Transnational Open Teams

**ShanghaiLvcheng:** Shaolin Sun, Yong Chen, Lin Zheng (NPC), Xiaoguang Yu, Yong Lian, Yide Luo, Shengle Zhang

## Wuhan's Roll of Honour

### Bermuda Bowl

1. **Poland:** Krzysztof Buras, Bartosz Chmurski, Jacek Kalita, Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Michal Nowosadzki, Piotr Tuczynski, Marek Pietrasek (NPC), Marek Wojcicki (Coach)
2. **Netherlands:** Simon de Wijs, Bob Drijver, Bauke Muller, Bart Nab, Ricco van Prooijen, Louk Verhees Jr., Anton Maas (NPC), Ton Bakkeren (Coach)
3. **Norway:** Terje Aa, Boye Brogeland, Nils Kare Kvangraven, Espen Lindqvist, Allan Livgård, Ulf Håkon Tundal, Christian Vennerød (NPC), Sten Bjertnes (Coach)

### Venice Cup

1. **Sweden:** Kathrine Bertheau, Sanna Clementsson, Ida Grönqvist, Jessica Larsson, Emma Övelius, Cecilia Rimstedt, Kenneth Borin (npc), Carina Wademark (Coach)
2. **China:** Yan Liu, Yan Lu, Qi Shen, Nan Wang, Wen Fei Wang, Xiaoxue Zuo, Xiaojing Wang (NPC), Xiaojing Wang (Coach)
3. **England:** Heather Dhondy, Catherine Draper, Gillian Fawcett, Nevena Senior, Nicola Smith, Yvonne Wiseman, David Gold (NPC), David Burn (Coach)

### d'Orsi Trophy

1. **Denmark:** Knud-Åge Boesgård, Søren Christiansen, Henrik Norman Hansen, Hans Christian Nielsen, Jorgen Cilleborg Hansen, Steen Schou, Bo Lønberg Bilde (NPC), Jan Nielsen (Coach)
2. **England:** John Holland, David Kendrick, Alan Mould, David Muller, Malcolm Pryor, Trevor Ward, David S Jones (NPC)
3. **India:** Sukamal Das, Subhash Dhakras, Dipak Poddar, Subrata Saha, Jitendra Solani, Ramamurthy Sridharan, Vinay Desai (npc), Anal Shah (Coach)

### Wuhan Cup

1. **Russia:** Alexander Dubinin, Alexej Gerasimov, Andrey Gromov, Anna Gulevich, Tatiana Ponomareva, Olga Vorobeychikova
2. **USA:** Cheri Bjerkan, Allan Graves, Christal Henner, Uday Ivatury, Jill Meyers, Howard Weinstein, Joe Stokes (NPC)
3. **Romania:** Mihaela Balint, Marius Ionita, Bogdan Marina (PC), Geta Mihai, Radu Mihai, Marina Stegaroiu

### World Transnational Open Teams

1. **ShanghaiLvcheng:** Yong Chen, Yong Lian, Yide Luo, Shaolin Sun, Xiaoguang Yu, Shengle Zhang, Lin Zheng (NPC)
2. **San Chen Fund:** Huibo Jiang, Rui Li, Siyuan Shen, Shangjie Wu, Zhaobin Xie, Guofang Xin, Hongbin Su (NPC)
3. **Zhejiangqiantang:** Jianming Dai, Yan Huang, Jing Rong Ran, Lixin Yang, Yu Zhang, Jie Zhao, Feilan Zhang (NPC)



**44th WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
Wuhan, China • 14<sup>th</sup> September - 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**12th WORLD TRANSNATIONAL OPEN TEAMS**  
Wuhan, China • 23<sup>rd</sup> September - 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019



- Brian Senior, Nottingham, Notts., U.K.**
- Simon Stocken, Walden Stubbs, Yorks., U.K.**
- Nils Kvangraven, Kristiansand, Norway**
- David Bird, Eastleigh, Hants., U.K.**
- Mark Horton, Shrewsbury, Shrops., U.K.**
- David Stern, Sydney, NSW, Australia**
- Ron Klinger, Northbridge, NSW, Australia**
- Jos Jacobs, Maarn, Netherlands**
- Ron Tacchi, Vaupillon, France**
- Marc Smith, Southampton, Hants., U.K.**
- Marek Wojcicki, Przemsyl, Poland**

The World Team Championships now comprise four main competitions: the Bermuda Bowl (Open), the Venice Cup (Women), the d'Orsi Trophy (Seniors) and the Wuhan Cup (Mixed). This year, 24 teams from Zonal qualification (think FIFA World Cup) took part, expanded from 22 teams two years ago. It's a far cry from the two-team Europe versus USA encounters in the early Bermuda Bowls of the 1950s.

All four competitions were organized along identical lines. The teams would play a complete round robin of 23 x 16-board matches over eight days, scored at Victory Points. The top eight teams in each category would qualify for two-day, 96-board, knockout matches.

The teams finishing first in their respective events would choose their quarterfinal opponents from those finishing fifth through eighth. The second-placed team would then choose and, lastly, the third-placed team. The fourth-placed team would get whichever team was left over. The first-placed team would then choose its bracket-mates for the semifinals.

There was one proviso: if both USA entrants made it through to the semifinals in any event, they would have to meet in the semifinal.

There was a fifth World Championship event, the World Transnational Open Teams, open to non-qualifiers in all events and new entrants as well.

## 2019 Bermuda Bowl

This year's Bermuda Bowl was considered to be a wide-open affair, with at least nine teams that could win without anyone being surprised. These were the host China, England, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden and the USA (with two teams full of world champions).

It rated to be a very interesting, hard-fought battle. You have to go as far back as 1997 to find a Bermuda Bowl winner which was not among that favoured group (France). Nevertheless, a handful of dark horses hoped to upset the apple-cart. Chief among those was New Zealand, semifinalists in Lyon two years ago and quarterfinalists three years ago in Wroclaw. However, such a team would have a daunting task ahead of it: to beat three of the fancied teams in consecutive matches.

### The Round Robin

Two of the contenders met in the first match of Day 2. USA2 have good reason to suffer nightmares about the following deal. To them, the action on the board reads like some kind of weird horror story while, to most neutrals, it appears to be more a form of slapstick comedy.

#### Round 4. USA2 v. Netherlands – An American Nightmare, Part I (Senior)

**Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.**

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

Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson must have been pretty happy with their result:

West	North	East	South
Hampson	van Prooijen	Greco	Verhees
—	—	Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>
1♠	Double <sup>2</sup>	3♥ <sup>3</sup>	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Strong: 15+ HCP
2. Negative
3. Fit with spades

I believe that Verhees/van Prooijen reverse the normal meanings of pass and double such that the double of one spade showed a bad hand, pass showing some values.

Hampson cashed the two top spades then switched to the ace and another club. Greco ruffed and played back the queen of spades, and Verhees could ruff and draw trumps but then had to concede a heart for down three and minus 500. It would have been good to be a fly on the wall during the American scoring up: 'Plus 500!'. 'Fourteen away.' 'What!'

This was the auction in the other room:

West	North	East	South
de Wijs	Fleisher	Muller	Martel
—	—	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	Pass	7♦
Double	7♥	Double	7NT
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Either clubs or both minors

Chip Martel judged two notrump to be the least bad option with the South cards and Marty Fleisher responded three spades, either clubs or both minors. Martel rebid three notrump and Fleisher jumped to five clubs, to play. It seems that Martel intended five diamonds to be to play, but it was alerted and Fleisher went back to clubs, presumably taking five diamonds to be a control-bid in support of his suit. And now Martel seems to have taken the six-club bid to be a control-bid in support of diamonds, because he jumped to seven diamonds!

Simon de Wijs was pretty confident that seven diamonds wasn't making, so expressed that opinion via a double, and now Fleisher, assuming that to be based on trump tricks, ran to seven hearts. Bauke Muller knew what to do to that, and Martel ran to seven notrump. De Wijs was even more confident that this grand slam was not making so doubled again, and there was nowhere left to run. That was a cool 1400 out and 14 IMPs to the Netherlands.

(Read Part 2 of "An American Nightmare" in the section on the d'Orsi Trophy, page 21.)

## Round 5. England v. Argentina (Stocken)

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

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

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Pellegrini	Malinowski	Pejacsevich
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

The unbeaten English Open Team took on Argentina in the fifth round. In the other room, the Argentines declared four hearts from the West seat after a one notrump opener. The natural ten-of-clubs lead from North gave West an easy run to 12 tricks, with sufficient entries to take two spade finesses and trump a spade in dummy.

Artur Malinowski played six hearts from East. He'd elected to treat his hand as 5-5 with his one-spade response). Everything hinged on the lead – a diamond or a club? A diamond lead would defeat the slam. The club lead had the attraction of possibly forcing declarer to a club guess at trick one. Pejacsevich chose the five of clubs. Malinowski now had an extra trick and an extra entry when he inserted the queen at trick one. The extra trick seemed superfluous, but it was to give declarer additional options in the end-game. Malinowski ran the nine of spades at trick two, losing to South's queen. South exited with the jack of hearts to East's king.

Declarer cashed the ace of spades and trumped a spade (crossing to the ace of diamonds and taking a second spade finesse is a simpler route to 12 tricks as the cards lie). South trumped the third spade, forcing the queen of hearts from dummy. Now came the key play: the ace of clubs, discarding a spade, and a club off dummy, ruffed. That isolated South's club menace, setting the stage for a double squeeze. Malinowski reeled off his trumps, reaching a three-card ending in which South had to guard clubs and North spades, so neither could keep two diamonds. Dummy's ace of diamonds, felled the king and queen to set up the jack for his 12<sup>th</sup> trick and an 11-IMP swing.



Photo: CSB News

Damon, the son of Peter Hollands and Laura Ginnan of Australia was the undoubted star of the tournament, charming everyone with his big smile and personality. Here, he prepares to make a weak jump overcall.

### Round 6. Norway v. Israel (Kvangraven) Play it like a Norwegian

As a teammate and countryman of Espen Lindqvist, I'm both proud and lucky. His card play is just brilliant. The Norwegian Open Team had a difficult task handling the strong Israeli Team in the sixth round.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Bareket	Lindqvist	Lengy
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
2♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	2♥ <sup>3</sup>	Pass
2♠ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	3♠ <sup>5</sup>	Pass
4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Gazzilli
2. 8+ HCP
3. 3+ hearts
4. Relay
5. 6 spades

Lindqvist saved our day when he declared this deal, on which the Israeli East went down in four spades on a diamond lead. A fair result you say? Let's see how Lindqvist handled the play.

South led the jack of diamonds, won by the queen. Lindqvist played a heart to the queen, followed by the ace and ten of spades. South took the king and continued with a diamond, ruffed by North with the queen of trumps. That defender returned the king of clubs, won by Lindqvist with the ace. Lindqvist pulled the trumps, arriving at this position:

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

Lindqvist played the four of spades, South discarded a heart (a diamond is no better), and so did the dummy. What about North?

- i. If he discards the ten of clubs, he will be endplayed with the queen of clubs.
- ii. If he discards a heart, Lindqvist plays the ace of hearts, dropping the king.
- iii. If North discards the queen of clubs, South can stop North from being endplayed by winning with the club jack, only to find himself endplayed, having to give the nine of clubs and the ace of diamonds in the dummy.

I can't remember seeing such an end position before where the nine-eight-third of clubs builds up to be the killing combination, squeezing the opponents for a stepping-stone or an endplay!

Plus 620 brought 12 IMPs to Norway.

When we discussed the boards during dinner, we discovered that another Norwegian, Helge Maesel of the Senior team, had played the board just the same way! So, I think I speak the truth when I state that this was great Norwegian declarer play. It might be a candidate for next year's IBPA awards.

### Round 9. China v. Italy (Bird)

We were all looking forward to the clash between Italy and China, both of which teams were prominently installed in the leaderboard top eight.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Chen	Lauria	Zhuang	Versace
1♠	Pass	2♦	4♥
5♥	Pass	7♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Simply magnificent! A control-bid at the five-level, like this one, promises first-round control, and Zhuang had seen enough to bid a grand slam. Versace led the ace of hearts and the Chinese declarer claimed plus 2140.

West	North	East	South
Sementa	Ju	Bocchi	Shi
3NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♦ <sup>2</sup>	4♥
5♥	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Good 4M pre-empt
2. Mild slam try

Antonio Sementa showed the void heart, but Bocchi could not be sure that the trump suit was solid. That was plus 1460 and a further loss of 12 IMPs. China led 28-0 after just four boards.

Did the Great Dealer decide that it was time for all concerned to take a part-score breather? No, another slam deal descended from above:

**Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Chen	Lauria	Zhuang	Versace
—	Pass	1♠	3♥
4♥	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

The normal meaning of four hearts is to indicate a good raise to four spades, while not guaranteeing anything specific in hearts. Zhuang bid five spades, perhaps asking about West's trump quality. Gang Chen was facing a hand that had not opened with a strong club, so, feeling that his cards did not merit a grand-slam try, he raised to just six spades.

Alfredo Versace led his singleton diamond and all thirteen tricks were made, for plus 1010. Sementa and Bocchi would have a chance to redeem themselves. Would they reach the grand slam, do you think?

West	North	East	South
Sementa	Ju	Bocchi	Shi
—	Pass	1♠	3♥
4♣	Double	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
7♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Wow, brilliant! Sementa was able to start with a four-club control-bid. When this was doubled by North, Bocchi spurned the chance to redouble (to show first-round club control), preferring to show his diamond control. His subsequent response to four notrump showed two key-cards and a useful void. This was enough for Sementa to leave just one card in the bidding-box. It was plus 1510 and an 11-IMP launch for the Italy plus-column.

**Round 12. Norway v. England (Bird)**

**Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Bakhshi	Lindqvist	Malinowski	Brogeland
—	1♠	Pass	2NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT <sup>2</sup>	Pass	5♠ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	5NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass	6♣ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	7♠	Pass	Pass

1. FG spade raise, 4+ trumps
2. RKCB
3. 2 key cards and the trump queen
4. Grand slam try, promising all key cards and the trump queen; asking for side-suit kings
5. Club king

This was my first sighting of the England team, who had been surfing the waves very ably and were well-placed in the qualifying top eight. The Norwegians were in a similar position.

This board featured what I will call an 'obvious grand slam'. Both North/South pairs here did justice to this description. We will see in a moment how well other pairs did elsewhere.

Espen Lindqvist made a natural response to the Jacoby two notrump. His subsequent Roman Key-Card bids left it open for South to bid a grand slam with extra playing strength. Brogeland declined to take this option, just admitting to the club king. That was enough for Lindqvist to bid seven spades, knowing that, at worst, the club king would give him a heart discard.

Malinowski led a club, won in the dummy. Declarer then played a round of trumps, claiming 13 tricks when all followed.

West	North	East	South
<i>Tundal</i>	<i>Allerton</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Jagger</i>
—	1♠	Pass	2NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT <sup>3</sup>	Pass	5♠ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	5NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass	7♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Jacoby FG raise
2. Short clubs
3. RKCB
4. 2 key cards and the trump queen
5. Grand slam try, promising all key cards and the trump queen; asking for side-suit kings

Here, Chris Jagger did jump to seven over the five notrump enquiry. Well bid to both pairs, although it was nothing more than we expected at this exalted level of play.

In the Bermuda Bowl, 21 pairs out of 24 bid seven spades. Three pairs stopped in six spades, each losing 13 IMPs. In the Venice Cup, 18 pairs out of 24 bid seven spades. Six pairs stopped in six spades, four of them losing 13 IMPs. It was a push in six spades in the match between Australia and China Hong Kong. The d'Orsi seniors matched the commendable Bermuda Bowl bidding, with 21 pairs bidding the grand slam. In the Mixed Teams, 19 out of 24 pairs reached the grand.

In conclusion, it was indeed an 'obvious grand slam', but not a 'completely obvious grand slam'.

Were we about to go through a 16-board match, having to accept swings of 6 and 3 IMPs as the best on offer? No. The penultimate board provided a bone with some meat on it.

### Board 31. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Artificial game force

It seemed that the heart game might survive, with a 3-2 trump break and a guessable spade position. However, declarer soon ran into trouble. He won the club lead with the ace, ruffed a club to his hand, and led a diamond to the king and ace. North returned the ten of hearts, won with dummy's ace.

A low spade to the queen, or a second diamond, would have worked fine now. The situation became more delicate when declarer preferred to ruff another club in the long trump hand. The fortunate lie of the spade suit meant that he could have continued with the ace and another spade now, before or after drawing another round of trumps. When he missed this lifeline, leading a second round of diamonds instead, he was in trouble.

Lindqvist won with the jack of diamonds and could have beaten the contract with a return of either minor. No, he offered declarer another lifeline with a trump return. Declarer won and surveyed this end position:

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

When the three of spades was led, Brogeland inserted the jack. Malinowski then found the necessary great play of a low card from the dummy! (If instead he had

played the ace and another spade, a club return from North would have scuttled the contract.) Brogeland exited with a trump to declarer's king and the words 'lucky escape' were on everyone's lips.

Maybe there was going to be a final twist to the tale, though. Malinowski was still thinking. Eventually he led queen of spades from his hand, running the card, and went three down. He had played South for the king-jack-seven of spades instead of the jack-ten-seven. Such a pity after his fine duck in the spade suit. (Would Brogeland really have played the jack of spades from king-jack-seven?)

At the other table a surprising twelve tricks were made in four spades. It was 12 IMPs to Norway, who won a low-scoring match by 23 IMPs to 14.

### Round 15. USAI v. Australia (Bird)

USAI had recently ascended to the summit of the leader board. Australia was on a ledge just below the top eight qualifying positions. This was the first board:

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

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

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

♠ Q 7  
 ♥ 6 5  
 ♦ K 10 9 7 6 5  
 ♣ J 9 6

West	North	East	South
<i>Gill</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Hans</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	1♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass

1. Precision; 16+ HCP
2. 0-7 HCP
3. 5-7 HCP, 5+ diamonds

Hans made an excellent lead, the jack of spades, covered by the queen, king, and ace. Rodwell played his singleton diamond, East rising with the ace. Would you bet on declarer's chances after this start?

If East cashes his spade winner, the game would likely be down (however, on a diamond or heart continuation, the game can still be made). Most times, declarer would have to lose a trump and a club. When Hans preferred to switch to the two of clubs, declarer won with dummy's nine and discarded his spade loser

on the king of diamonds. This was a pity for East, since he had found a great opening lead.

West	North	East	South
<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Edgton</i>
—	—	—	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Bobby Levin missed the successful spade lead, choosing an unfortunate trump. Andy Hung won West's queen with the ace and led his diamond, the ace going up. Levin's jack of spades switch was then covered by the three higher honours, as at the other table. Declarer had no quick entry to dummy, to ditch his spade loser, so chose to exit with a spade. West won and played a third spade, declarer ruffing in his hand. A low club to the jack won the next trick. Declarer did not risk playing the king of diamonds, finessing the ten of hearts successfully instead. He then conceded a club trick and picked up plus 620 to flatten the board. It was an opportunity missed by Australia at the other table.

### Round 17. Master Class (Horton)

Viewing figures suggest that if big numbers are the sole criteria to justify selection for an appearance on BBO, then Meckwell are the biggest draw. When they are in full cry, you can learn a lot from watching them. Here are a couple of deals from their Round 17 match with England, which provided full value for money.

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

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

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

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

In the other room, North declared in three notrump and East's lead of the ten of diamonds saw the contract defeated in double-quick time.

West	North	East	South
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Allerton</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Jagger</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the four of clubs and, when declarer put up dummy's queen, East followed with the seven and

South the three. The jack of spades saw East contribute the ten (upside-down Smith) and West took the ace and switched to the jack of diamonds to flatten the board – not exactly shabby and too difficult for some of the pairs confronted by the problem. (*I think it more likely that West already knew from the appearance of the dummy and East's seven of clubs that East's attitude toward the opening lead was not a positive one and that the ten of spades was Meckwell's notorious upside-down suit-preference for diamonds. As with all top pairs, they give the signal that Partner needs, not rote count or attitude. - Ed.*)

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

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Allerton	Meckstroth	Jagger
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	1♠ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
3♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	4♠ <sup>4</sup>	Pass
4NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass	6♦ <sup>6</sup>	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Precision: 16+ HCP
2. 8+ HCP, 5+ hearts
3. Splinter, tending to minimum
4. RKCB
5. 0 or 3 key cards
6. Transfer to hearts

Every ten years or so I pester Eric about writing a book on Rodwell-Meckstroth Precision – when you see a sequence like this, especially the six-level transfer, you can understand why.

West	North	East	South
Robson	Weinstein	Forrester	Levin
—	—	Pass	Pass
2♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2♠ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
3♥ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Multi, weak major, 4-9 HCP, or any 4441 with 16+ HCP
2. Pass or correct
3. 1=4=4=4

I leave you to ponder the merits of some further move by East (presumably three spades would have been asking for controls or range).

### Round 19. Nicely Played (Stern)

On the following deal, Espen Lindqvist and Boye Brogeland had bid to six diamonds on the East/West cards, South having overcalled one spade whilst, in the other room, Steve Weinstein and Bobby Levin had played three notrump, making with four overtricks.

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

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

How would you play six diamonds on the lead of the king of spades?

You will have to bring in the heart suit and it is tempting to set about the hearts immediately, but which way to take the finesse? You have to assume that South does not hold jack-to-four diamonds, as that will surely doom the contract, while if North holds jack-fourth, you will have to play hearts via the simple finesse and hope that South does not have queen to four or more. Prospects are much better if trumps split three-two, which is when you have genuine options in the heart suit.

Lindqvist delayed his red-suit play, instead winning with the ace of spades and playing a spade straight back towards the jack. South won the queen and, fearing that declarer might need a discard on the jack of spades, played a third round to ruff it out. North duly ruffed and Lindqvist over-ruffed. He led a heart to the ace and ruffed a heart, then drew two rounds of trumps ending in dummy. Next he cashed the king of hearts and the fall of the queen meant that the hand was over; plus 920 and 9 IMPs to Norway.

Because trumps were two-two after the third trick, Lindqvist would still have been okay if someone had held queen to four hearts, as he could have ruffed out the queen and still had a trump with which to get back to dummy to cash the two established winners.

### Round 20. The Safe Hand (Senior)

Often declarer will know that he can afford to lose the lead to one defender, the safe hand, but not to the other, the dangerous hand, and must play accordingly. Take this deal, for example.

**Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.**

♠ 5  
♥ A K Q 4  
♦ A K 6  
♣ K Q 8 5 4

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

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

West	North	East	South
1♠	Double	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West usually led a fourth-best six of spades to the nine and jack. With just six top tricks, declarer had to make something of the clubs. Thus, declarer led a club to the two, queen and nine. If the spades were six-two, it appeared to be vital that declarer continue with the king of clubs when the queen scored. The point was that West could not do anything to threaten the contract as, with him on play, declarer had two more spade stoppers, so could afford to lose two club tricks.

See what happens if declarer instead continues with a low club, hoping to bring down a now bare ace on his left. East wins the jack and pushes a spade through and the West can establish the suit while still holding the ace of clubs.

A handful of declarers did make the contract after leading a low club off the dummy at trick three. East won with the jack of clubs and pushed his remaining spade through. West took the queen and ace of spades, then led another, retaining the ace of clubs as an entry (he thought). With eight tricks in and the clubs now useless, declarer discarded them on the spade continuations. Declarer then cashed the three top hearts and one top diamond to get a perfect count on the opposing hands. The fourth round of hearts endplayed East into leading a diamond into declarer's split tenace for nine tricks.

Antonio Sementa was shrewder than those defenders when Norberto Bocchi led his second spade through. Sementa cashed two spades, waiting to see what declarer discarded from the dummy. When declarer (Narkiewicz of Poland) discarded a heart and a club, Sementa cashed the ace of clubs and got out with a diamond. Declarer lost two spades, two clubs and a diamond.

The board was played 69 times in three notrump on a spade lead. Thirty-five declarers made it.

**Round 20. USA I v. Israel (Horton)**

**Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>
—	—	—	1♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT <sup>2</sup>
Pass	2♣ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	2♠ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Precision: 11-15 HCP, 2+ diamonds
2. 11-13 balanced
3. Checkback
4. 3-card spade support, could have 4 hearts

When four spades was played by North, it was generally made if East led the ten of diamonds, but it is a much tougher proposition if East leads a heart.

One way to go down is to duck the initial lead, when West will probably switch to a diamond. Declarer wins in dummy with the jack and plays a spade, West pitching a club. If declarer puts in dummy's queen (which sort of feels right) East wins and plays a heart. Declarer wins with the ace, cashes the ace and queen of clubs, pitching a heart, plays a diamond to the queen and a low diamond, but East ruffs and plays a heart and declarer must lose another trick for one down.

Let's see how four spades should be played by North, courtesy of Eric Rodwell:

East led the two of hearts. West won with the queen and switched to the five of diamonds. Declarer won with dummy's jack and played a spade. When West discarded a club Rodwell found the winning line when he put up the ace. He unblocked the king of clubs, crossed to dummy with a heart and pitched a heart and a diamond on the top clubs, then ruffed a heart. Down to the queen-jack-nine of spades and the ace-queen of diamonds, he was sure enough of the position to claim ten tricks. Rodwell was the only declarer to make four spades as North on a heart lead.

## Round 23. USA2 v. England (Bird)

England had started the final day of the round-robin in eighth place, the last position that would qualify for the knock-out stages. The two opponents they had still to face were high-riding China, to be followed by the USA2 team, which included three current holders of the Bermuda Bowl.

My alarm clock woke me at the requested 6:00 a.m. and I entered my office eyes still half-closed. Good news awaited me. England had recovered from the previous day's drubbing by Sweden and beaten the host nation by 51 IMPs to 35. Wonderful! Whether they could finish the job and qualify...well, I would find that out soon enough.

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

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Robson	Fleisher	Forrester	Martel
Moss	Malinowski	Lall	Bakhshi
—	1♥	1♠	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Andrew Robson led the four of spades. Chip Martel won the third round of the suit. The heart suit divided well and declarer played five rounds, Tony Forrester reducing to the queen of spades, the ace of diamonds and king-third of clubs. A finesse of the queen of clubs won the next trick and declarer then played a diamond to the king and the bare ace. Forrester could cash the queen of spades, but then had to lead away from his king-low in clubs. Declarer repeated the club finesse and had his plus 600. That was well-played – there was no escape for East.

In the other room, the auction was identical, as was the play to the first three tricks. David Bakhshi then led the nine of diamonds to West's ten and dummy's king. A diamond return put the contract one down, and USA2 collected 12 IMPs.

The Round Robin ended this way:

1	USA1	311.07
2	China	307.18

3	Sweden	301.12
4	Norway	296.74
5	Netherlands	291.99
6	Poland	290.63
7	England	276.99
8	Italy	274.14

New Zealand, in ninth, was 6 VP in arrears.

## The Knockout Phase

### Quarterfinal Segment 4. China v. Poland (Senior)

Roughly a third of the field made five diamonds or five hearts with the East/West cards on this deal from Set Four of the quarterfinals, so those North/Souths who bought the hand in four spades were already ahead of the game. Actually making four spades was therefore just the icing on the cake. In China v. Poland...

### Board 54. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Ju	Nowosadzki	Shi
—	—	Pass	3♠
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Zheng Jun Shi received the lead of the king of hearts from Poland's Jacek Kalita, who continued with the queen of hearts. Michal Nowosadzki overtook with the ace and switched to the ten of diamonds: jack, king, ace. Shi ruffed a diamond, ruffed his last heart, then ruffed dummy's last diamond. Only now was it time to play on trumps, and when Kalita proved to have the bare ace he was endplayed, forced to either give a ruff and discard or lead away from the king of clubs, either of which would give the contract; plus 420.

West	North	East	South
Chen	Buras	Zhuang	Narkiewicz
—	—	Pass	3♠
Double	4♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Gang Chen also led the king of hearts. However, at trick two, he cashed the ace of spades before continuing with the queen of hearts. Zejun Zhuang overtook, and he too found the wrong minor-suit switch, but it didn't matter as, with the ace of spades out of the way, Chen could sit and wait for declarer to take the club finesse; down one, plus 100 and 11 IMPs to China. Well-played and well-defended by the Chinese.

### Quarterfinal Segment 5. USAI v. England (Klinger)

Board 68. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Malinowski	Levin	Bakhshi
3♦	Double	4♦	Double
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Bobby Levin (East) and Stevie Weinstein (West) produced a superb defence to defeat four spades here. They were the only ones to beat four hearts across all four competitions. Levin (East) gauged from the bidding that North/South had length in both majors. He therefore led the ace of spades: two, six, jack. He continued with the nine of spades (suit-preference for diamonds!), ruffed by Weinstein. Trusting partner, Weinstein switched to the nine of diamonds (suit-preference for spades = "I have another trump."); ten, jack, two. The five of spades return, ruffed by West, spelled defeat for four hearts; East/West plus 100.

Robson and Forrester had a major accident at the other table, ending in five clubs doubled, down four, minus 1100, for 15 IMPs away.

The contract was four hearts at four other tables in the Bermuda Bowl, but declarer was South each time and every West led a diamond winner, with the result that North/South was plus 620 at each table. In the other three competitions, four hearts was also made every time (17), whether declared by North or South.

### Quarterfinal Segment 6. USAI v England (Bird)

England had led USAI by 147-82 at the end of the fourth set. Calamity then struck in the fifth set, taken 76-13 by the Americans. England thus led by only 160-158 at the start of the final, sixth, stanza. Momentum was with the USAI team in a big way. What would happen? The early boards were drab, showing no sense of occasion. I propose to brush the first eight of them under my office carpet.

North did his best to look casual as he sorted his cards for the next board:

Board 89. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Allerton	Rodwell	Jagger	Meckstroth
—	1♥	3♦	4♣ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	5♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	7♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Heart fit
2. Exclusion key-card ask

Many would open one spade on the North cards, permitting a heart rebid after high minor-suit competition. Rodwell preferred one heart and this made the bidding easier than it might have been. Meckstroth's four-club bid over three diamonds agreed hearts. Rodwell then bid Exclusion RKCB to show his diamond void. Meckstroth saw no need to tax his brain, calculating the agreed response on two key-cards, the trump queen and a void. He blasted straight into seven hearts.

Rodwell ruffed the king-of-diamond lead, cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade low. He then used diamond-ruff entries to his hand to ruff two more spades. He duly made the grand slam without any assistance from the ace or king of clubs.

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Forrester	Levin	Robson
—	1♠	2♦	3♣
3♦	3♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	6♥	Pass	7♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

*Continued on page 16...*



# IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

## 969. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1NT	Double <sup>1</sup>	Redouble <sup>2</sup>	Pass
2♣	Double	2♦	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass

1. One-suiter
2. SOS

West led the four of diamonds. Once dummy appeared, declarer counted eight certain tricks. Often it is right to run the long suit. In this case, declarer saw that winning with the king of diamonds and running clubs would force him to make three discards. Then West would gain the lead in hearts, cash the other top heart and play on diamonds, unblocking the queen. Eventually West would take two spade tricks to defeat the contract.

There was another consideration: declarer did not want East to gain the lead. So, he played low from dummy at trick one and took East's eight of diamonds with the king. The play to the first trick marked East with the jack of diamonds (West would have led the queen of diamonds when holding the jack too and East would have played the queen if West had held only the jack.)

The bidding made it certain that West had the ace and king of hearts. Consequently, declarer played the queen of hearts at trick two as part of his plan to develop a heart as his ninth trick. West took this with the king and continued with the queen of diamonds. Declarer ducked, then took the diamond continuation with dummy's now-bare ace, throwing a low spade from hand. Again declarer did not touch the club suit, instead playing a low heart to his jack. West took this

with the ace of hearts and exited with a club. Declarer now claimed nine tricks: a heart, two diamonds and six clubs.

Of interest is that, if West had led the queen of diamonds at trick one, declarer would have had to duck in both hands to keep East off lead, otherwise the contract would have failed.

## 970. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

South might have opened two clubs, but got more valuable information from the leap to four spades over his one-level opening. South's leap to slam at his next turn was a little agricultural, but made largely because the partnership was a casual one.

West led the queen of clubs to dummy's king and East's ace. Declarer ruffed, then drew three rounds of trumps with the ace, king and queen of the suit. Declarer saw that he would always make twelve tricks if hearts were 3-3 so he cashed his top hearts. Alas, the suit proved to be 4-2, so making the contract depended on declarer playing the diamond suit for three tricks.

Declarer continued by ruffing his three of hearts then leading a low diamond from dummy. When East followed with the seven of diamonds, declarer played the jack from hand. When that held, declarer saw that he had a sure way to guarantee his contract by leading a low diamond from hand. If West followed with a low card he planned to play the queen from dummy. This would yield three tricks in the suit even if West

had ducked the jack of diamonds when holding king-fourth in the suit.

On the actual layout it was West who discarded on the second diamond so declarer played low from dummy and East was endplayed when he was forced to win the trick. A diamond return would see dummy's queen make a trick. At the table East exited with a club and declarer ruffed it in hand while he discarded a diamond from dummy. The ace of diamonds and dummy's remaining trump took the last two tricks: declarer made five trumps, three hearts, a heart ruff, two diamonds and a diamond ruff for a total of twelve tricks.

### 971. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

North's bids of two spades and four clubs suggested a modest hand with least four clubs and at most two hearts. South was happy to be in slam as long as North had the king of clubs, which was shown by the five-diamond response to the four-notrump enquiry.

West led a low diamond. Declarer took East's king of diamonds with the ace and continued by cashing the ace and king of trumps, discovering that East had started with three. As he had to develop a long trick in hearts, declarer cashed the ace and king of hearts, then ruffed a heart in dummy with the jack of trumps. East's discard of a diamond meant that it was useless to ruff a second heart in dummy. Instead, when declarer returned to hand with the ace of spades and played another heart, he threw dummy's ten of diamonds on it, allowing West to win the trick, as East parted with a second diamond.

Declarer ruffed the spade continuation low in hand then ruffed a diamond in dummy. All that remained now was to ruff a spade in hand, draw East's remaining trump with the queen and cash the established heart for his twelfth trick.

### 972. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

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

This deal was played in a team game between a very-experienced team and one made up of less-experienced players. The auction shown was conducted by a pair from the former group. The jump shift to two hearts was strong and promised a good six-card suit. After the raise to three hearts, control-bidding and key-card enquiries followed. When South cue-bid the king of clubs over five notrump, North was happy to bid the grand slam.

The lead was the same at both tables, the nine of trumps. The less-experienced declarer took this with dummy's queen and followed this by drawing the rest of the outstanding trumps with his ace and king. Next, he cashed the ace and king of diamonds. When the suit proved to be 4-1, he had to concede a trick to the defenders.

The more-experienced declarer played the first three tricks identically. However, instead of tacking diamonds, he played two more rounds of trumps, discarding a diamond from dummy. It was only after cashing the ace of spades and the ace-king of clubs that he took the ace and king of diamonds. If the diamond suit had been 3-2, he would have cashed the queen of diamonds and ruffed a spade back to hand to take the last trick with a diamond. As East had kept two diamonds, there was no point in following that plan. Instead, declarer led the seven of spades from dummy and, since East had been forced to pitch three spades and two clubs on the trumps, his king of spades was now bare. Declarer ruffed away East's spade king and took the last two tricks with dummy's queen of diamonds and queen of spades.

Forrester opened one spade and, here, a three-diamond overcall might have made life more awkward for North/South. As it was, Robson was able to bid three clubs, then four diamonds to agree hearts and show a good hand. He didn't need to think too long before raising six hearts to the grand. The play was the same as in the Open Room and no IMPs were exchanged.

Across all competitions, only 17 of 30 Pairs (one match had been conceded) bid seven hearts.

The Quarterfinal results were:

**USAI** 195 – England 162  
**Poland** 215 – China 141  
**Netherlands** 207 – Sweden 173  
**Norway** 239 – Italy 202

On another day, any of the losing teams could have defeated any of the winners.

### Semifinal Segment 3. Netherlands v. Norway (Bird)

After just two sets of this semifinal, the Netherlands led Norway by 118-31. How was that possible, when many punters would rate the two teams equally?

On the following board, both declarers exhibited some dazzling cardplay.

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Tundal</i>	<i>de Wijs</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♥ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2NT <sup>2</sup>
Pass	3♥ <sup>3</sup>	Double	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1. Spades			
2. Super-acceptance			
3. Re-transfer			

The jack-of-hearts opening lead was ducked. Declarer won the next heart and played the ace of spades, East throwing a club. After cashing the king of clubs, declarer ruffed a heart in dummy. He then played the ace of clubs and ruffed a club with the eight of spades. Tundal overruffed with the ten and had to assist declarer with

his return from queen-low in spades and queen-to-four diamonds. He chose to lead the six of spades, run to South's jack. A trump to the king drew West's queen and East then had to find a discard in this position:

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

The two singletons were important guards, so he threw the three of diamonds.

Dummy's nine of spades finished the job. East had to throw the seven of diamonds and declarer ditched his heart loser. He then led the eight of diamonds to the king and ace, continuing with the five of diamonds toward the now-bare ten in dummy. West had to win with the queen of diamonds and return the diamond nine to South's jack.

So, that is the standard of cardplay required to reach a Bermuda Bowl semifinal. Impressive, indeed!

West	North	East	South
<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>van Prooijen</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♥ <sup>1</sup>	Double	3♣ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	3♥ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1. Spades			
2. Super-acceptance			
3. Re-transfer			

Brogeland won the heart lead and played a second heart to East's queen. Declarer won the club return with dummy's ace and led the eight of diamonds to the jack and queen. He took the next club with the king and ruffed a heart in dummy. The ten of diamonds to the king and ace was followed by a diamond ruff in dummy.

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

Brogeland ruffed a club with the eight of spades, overruffed with the ten. West had no good return. If he played the diamond nine, declarer would ruff with the two of spades, continuing with the ace and the jack (or a heart). If instead, West played a low trump, declarer would win with the jack and play a heart.

It was a high-quality pushed board. In the other semifinal, both Jeff Meckstroth and Jacek Kalita went one down in four spades.

The scores in the semifinals were **Poland** 186 – USA 134 and **Netherlands** 220 – Norway 77.

### The Final, Segment 1. Poland v. Netherlands (Jacobs)

After nearly two weeks of top-level play, the Bermuda Bowl eventually reached its apotheosis: the final. And what a final it was: two countries which have both won the Bermuda Bowl in this decade competed for it in a direct encounter. Apparently, both countries have such a large reservoir of good players that a few changes in either team do not stop them from reaching this prestigious final again.

The first board was instructive...

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Nab</i>	<i>Buras</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Narkiewicz</i>
—	2♠ <sup>1</sup>	Double	4♠
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 5+ spades and 4+m, 5-10 HCP

An uncomplicated auction, and a normal enough lead of a top club followed by the ten of diamonds to dummy's ace. Declarer has two problems: he should draw the opponents' trumps and also find a way to get the clubs going. The danger is that he won't have enough trumps left in either hand. Buras immediately went after the trumps, leading low from dummy to the queen and East's ace. A diamond came back, declarer ruffing in hand. A club was ruffed in dummy and another diamond ruffed in hand, which brought down West's king. When another club ruff with dummy's king of spades established the suit, declarer

was home, since trumps could now be drawn and the club winners cashed; Poland plus 590.

West	North	East	South
<i>Tuczynski</i>	<i>de Wijs</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Double
1♥	2♠	3♥	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

In the other room, de Wijs did not open as dealer and the final contract was undoubled. At trick two, Chmurski also shifted to a diamond, won by dummy's ace but, at this point, declarer lost a tempo by ruffing a diamond in hand himself. Then came a club ruff, a diamond ruff, another club ruff with the spade king and, only then, a trump to East's ace. When East returned a low heart, declarer now had to guess right for his contract. When he called for dummy's jack, West won the queen and returned the suit to fatally shorten declarer's trumps; one down, Poland another 50 and 12 IMPs, off to a flying start.

### The Final, Segment 4. There's No Free Lunch (Klinger)

This arose in Stanza 4 of the Bermuda Bowl final:

#### Board 54. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>	<i>Prooijen</i>	<i>Tuczynski</i>
—	—	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♠ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Smolen: 4 spades and 5 hearts

Tuczynski, South, led the queen of hearts – two – three – king. East played the nine of clubs to South's ace, who switched to the four of spades: jack – queen – ace. Declarer cashed the ace of diamonds, discarding the seven of spades from dummy. Then came the ten of clubs – two – king – heart four. Declarer made the rest; 11 tricks, plus 650.

That seemed a normal result. Indeed, at ten other tables in the finals or play-offs for third in the world teams, four hearts made, scoring plus 620, 650 or 680. One

East/West pair scored 630 in three notrump, one was plus 140 in three hearts and two went down in four hearts.

This was the only table where East/West were defending, and what a defence it was.

West	North	East	South
Kalita	de Wijs	Nowosadzki	Muller
—	—	INT	Pass
2♣	2♦	Double	3♦
Double <sup>1</sup>	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Takeout

With the favourable vulnerability, North thought that little damage would be done by overcalling two diamonds. It would be a convenient way to compete and indicate a good lead for partner when East/West ended up declaring. Things did not quite go that way.

Looking at all four hands, what would you expect to be the outcome in three diamonds doubled? North looks to have two losers in spades, two in hearts and two in diamonds. That would be two down for minus 300, a nice 8-IMP pick-up against plus 650 at the other table. Watch how Michael Nowosadzki expanded two down into four down.

He led the ace of hearts – jack – ten – three and switched to the four of diamonds(!) – five – heart two – three. Declarer played dummy's four of spades: seven – ten – ace. East reverted to diamonds, leading the jack! – six – club four – queen. Declarer played the four of hearts. East took the king, cashed the ace of diamonds – ten – club eight – eight and played the five of hearts. West won with the eight and continued with the nine. North ruffed with the nine of diamonds, East discarded the two of spades and dummy let another club go. North cashed the king of diamonds and these cards remained:

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

North played the jack of clubs to the ace, followed by the five of spades. West took the king and East made the last two tricks with the seven of trumps and the top club; four down; East/West plus 800 and 4 IMPs to Poland, plus a message to North that there is no such thing as a free lunch.

## The Final, Segment 6. Front Page News (Horton)

This deal from the final session was sure to play a significant role:

### Board 91. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Verhees	Nowosadzki	van Prooijen	Kalita
—	—	—	1♣ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT <sup>3</sup>
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

- 3+ clubs (can be 2+ clubs and longer diamonds if 18-19 balanced)
- 18-19 balanced

Four hearts was easy enough, declarer managing to take 12 tricks.

West	North	East	South
Buras	de Wijs	Narkiewicz	Muller
—	—	—	1♣ <sup>1</sup>
Double	1♥ <sup>2</sup>	3♣	Pass <sup>3</sup>
Pass	3♥ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	4♣ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

- Strong: 15+ HCP
- 8+ HCP, 4+ spades
- 18+ balanced, no 3-card spade support or 4 hearts
- 5+ hearts
- Control; agrees hearts

If declarer could take 12 tricks, Netherlands, who were winning the last set 15-0, but trailing by 17 in the match, would move to within 6 IMPs with five boards to play. If de Wijs took fewer than 12 tricks, Netherlands would lose 11 IMPs and be 28 in arrears.

The club lead was taken in dummy, and two rounds of diamonds took care of the losing club. A heart to the ten lost to the jack and declarer ruffed the club return, and then passed the jack of spades. That worked, but

the king of hearts did not fall under the ace and the Bowl was on its way to Poland once more.

**Poland** won the final 174-153, a 21-IMP margin. The swing on this deal was 22 IMPs, meaning that had de Wijs made six hearts, Netherlands would have won by a single IMP, had the last few boards gone the same way!

The playoff for third place was won by **Norway**, 149-140 over USA1.

## 2019 Venice Cup

In the Venice Cup, it was a case of “rounding up the usual suspects” – China, England, France, Netherlands and USA – with upstarts Poland and Sweden playing the role of “persons of interest”.

### The Round Robin

#### Round 8. USA2 v. Japan (Horton)

Rivers of blood flowed on the following deal...

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

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

In one room, Fukuyoshi and Yanagisawa had taken 12 tricks in four hearts for plus 680. In the other room...

West	North	East	South
<i>Deas</i>	<i>Miyakuni</i>	<i>Molson</i>	<i>Kato</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Double
Redouble	Pass	Pass	Pass

When West made a support redouble, North could not think of anything sensible to bid – neither can I. However, some pairs play that a pass in this position is a suggestion to play for penalties; South was one of them.

South led the jack of hearts and declarer managed to take all the tricks – it was easy to get the trumps right and, once a diamond had slipped past the ace, South was toast. Six overtricks adds up to plus 3120 and a modest 20-IMP swing.

Remarkably, despite collecting another 28 IMPs with slam and game swings, USA2 lost this match 50-56, which says a lot for the resolve of their Japanese opponents.

#### Round 12. Scotland v. Canada (Tacchi)

With this match, the halfway point was passed and these two teams were on the cusp, being eighth and ninth place in the table. There were five teams fewer than four VPs away from the final qualifying position, so the race was tightening up, and every VP was crucial. McQuaker and McGowan for Scotland use Acol which, to those of you who are not as ancient as I, means a weak notrump with four-card majors. Did you hear the author’s nostalgic sigh as he penned that last sentence?

The following board will not need explanation as to the play of the cards, but it good to see two fine auctions getting to the right contract.

#### Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Leslie</i>	<i>Blank</i>	<i>Punch</i>
—	1♠	Pass	2NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	4♣ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4♦ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	4♥ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass	5♠ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	6♦ <sup>6</sup>	Pass	6♥ <sup>7</sup>
Pass	7♠	Pass	Pass

1. Artificial GF with 4+ spades
2. Shortage in clubs
3. Control-bids
4. RKCB
5. 2 key cards and the trump queen
6. Asks for third-round diamond control
7. Yes, and a bonus third-round heart control

West	North	East	South
<i>McQuaker</i>	<i>Nisbet</i>	<i>McGowan</i>	<i>Bryant</i>
—	1♠	Pass	2NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT <sup>3</sup>	Pass	5♠ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	5NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass	7♠ <sup>6</sup>
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Jacoby
2. Singleton/void club
3. RKCB
4. 2 key cards and the trump queen
5. Confirms all 5 key cards and the trump queen, grand slam try, ask for kings
6. Whatever, you need, I have it

The latter was a classic auction that, hopefully, club players could easily replicate if they played the Jacoby Two Notrump convention.

The teams qualifying for the Knockout phase were:

1	China	296.03
2	Poland	290.99
3	Norway	290.56
4	USA I	284.43
5	England	279.90
6	Japan	277.56
7	Sweden	276.47
8	Netherlands	275.63

## The Knockout Phase

Quarterfinal match results were:

<b>China</b> 192 – Japan 114
<b>England</b> 217 – Poland 165
<b>Netherlands</b> 238 – Norway 161
<b>Sweden</b> 225 – USA I 199

The semifinal scores were:

<b>Sweden</b> 233 – England 138
<b>China</b> 189 – Netherlands 112.

### The Final, Session 4. China v. Sweden (Senior)

Sweden had won each of the first two sessions the previous day by 9 IMPs, and China the third set, also by 9 IMPs. The more astute reader will therefore realise that Sweden went into the second day with a lead of ... 9 IMPs.

There were three 16-board sets to play, and it was still anyone's guess who would be the new world champions at the end of the day.

#### Board 57. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Wang	Larsson	Shen
—	1♥	Pass	2NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass

1. FG heart raise, 3+ trumps

West	North	East	South
Lu	Rimstedt	Liu	Grönkvist
—	1♥	Pass	2♣ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	2♠ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	2NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass	3♣ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	3♦ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. FG relay: usually (a.) balanced; (b.) 5+ clubs; or (c.) 3+-card support
2. 6+ hearts, denies 14-16 HCP
3. Relay
4. Unbalanced
5. Short in diamonds

The two North/South pairs followed different uncontested auctions to the heart game. There are four top losers and, at first sight, only one discard from a four-card holding, so little prospect of success. However, it will not be easy for the defence to cash its spade winners, so there is a chance if declarer can guess who to play for the ace of clubs and try for a Morton's Fork Coup.

Liu led the four of diamonds to the queen and king. Rimstedt cashed the ace of hearts, came back to hand with the king of hearts, and led the two of clubs. To beat the contract, Liu had to rise with the ace of clubs and lead the four of spades to cash the spade winners. Well, good luck to anyone who would find that defence. Liu played low, so dummy's queen scored, and Rimstedt discarded her king of clubs on the ace of diamonds. Now she could draw the missing trump and give up three spade tricks; contract made for plus 420.

Of course, if East goes up with the ace of clubs and plays a second diamond, declarer has two club tricks and two spade discards on the ace of diamonds and the queen of clubs, so again comes to ten tricks.

In the other room, Larsson cashed the ace of spades and collected what looked to be a high, and therefore discouraging, eight from Bertheau. When she failed to continue spades to unblock them, Wang found another way home – despite misguessing the clubs. At trick two, Larsson switched to a diamond to the queen and king and Wang led a heart to the ten, followed by a club to the jack, king and ace. Larsson had one more chance to untangle the spades, but nothing had changed for her and she exited safely with a club to dummy's queen. But safely proved not to be good enough. Wang ruffed dummy's last club, played a heart to dummy, and cashed the ace of diamonds for a spade pitch followed by a diamond ruff. Now she exited with a spade, and Bertheau was endplayed. The ruff and discard enabled Wang to pitch her last spade from hand while ruffing in dummy; ten tricks for plus 420 and a far-from-dull push.

**Sweden** was victorious, 189-169. **England** won the bronze-medal match over the Netherlands, 162-157.

# 2019 d'Orsi Trophy

As usual, the American teams were the favourites but there were 11 top European teams which were serious contenders.

## The Round Robin

### Round 4. USAI v. Canada (Senior)

This is the second instalment in the new Hammer horror film franchise, "An American Nightmare", starring Kit Woolsey as the hapless teenager you know is going to be the first victim of the demented slasher...

#### Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

At one table for the Americans, Gaylor Kasle opened the South hand with three notrump. That concluded the auction and East/West cashed the first six tricks for down two and minus 100. Okay, that's not the best result in the world for declarer, but a lot of North/Souths went minus on the deal, so no worries.

This was the auction from the other table:

West	North	East	South
Woolsey	Kirr	Bramley	Carruthers
—	—	Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>
1♠	Pass <sup>2</sup>	3♠	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass

1. Strong, artificial, forcing: 17+ HCP
2. 0-4 HCP unless a trap pass

The pre-emptive raise bullied Carruthers into introducing his diamonds at the four level (East/West were in 500 territory) and Martin Kirr tried five clubs. Looking at what could well prove to be a solid suit, Carruthers repeated the diamonds and, looking at his own eight-card suit and a diamond void, Kirr 'corrected' to six clubs, at which point Carruthers gave up.

Now you or I or next door's cat would lead a top spade and down would go the contract, but Woolsey read something into the oppositions' auction which convinced him that a little more imagination was

required. He led the three of clubs! And Carruthers wrote plus 920 on his scoresheet; 14 IMPs to Canada.

(The maiden film in the American Nightmare series can be viewed in the section on the Bermuda Bowl, page 5.)

### Round 9, England v. Italy – The Replacement's Tale (Horton)

David Kendrick joined the English Senior team at the eleventh hour. Here he is in action against Italy:

#### Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kendrick	Comella	Ward	Sabbatini
—	—	—	1♥
INT	Pass	2♥ <sup>1</sup>	3♥
Pass	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Transfer to spades

North led a heart and, when dummy's queen was allowed to hold, declarer played a diamond. If he puts in the ten, North will win and play a second heart, enabling South to clear the suit, after which there are only eight tricks. Knowing that South must hold the ace of diamonds, declarer avoided this trap by playing the king. When it held, he was up to eight tricks. It looks tempting to play the diamond jack at this point, but South will win and switch to the queen of spades, after which declarer will have no way to generate a ninth trick.

Appreciating the danger, declarer crossed to dummy with a club and played a diamond. That meant South's ace hit thin air and, whatever the defenders did, declarer could establish a ninth trick in diamonds.

When East/West stopped in three spades at the other table, England gained 10 IMPs.

### Round 20, India v. England (Smith)

With suitable apologies to Lewis Carroll...

Of the nine countries represented in all four events, only USA, China and England had four teams in the top eight of their respective Round Robins after six days' play. With third-placed England playing India, who were leading the field, this seemed like a good time to check out the Seniors

event. Perhaps this would be the place to find some good, old-fashioned, sound bridge, rather than the high-octane fare we'd experienced so far from the more youthful brigade. Then again, perhaps not with David Kendrick at one of the tables!

**Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Kendrick	Dhakras	Ward	Sridharan
—	—	—	1♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
2♣	Double	Pass	Pass
2♦	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. 2+ diamonds, 11-15 HCP

The presence of 'Kamikaze Dave' at the table certainly makes for exciting viewing (and, presumably, scoring – as long as you don't suffer from a weak stomach). Even the most mundane of deals can quickly become interesting. Dave Kendrick restrained himself on the first round of the auction here, but could not resist wading in when opener limited his hand (but notably failed to raise his partner's suit). Even the dormouse knew that dummy would turn up with the rest of the spade suit (and he was asleep).

The king-of-clubs lead would have given the defence a shot at 1100, but Dhakras led a routine jack of hearts. After three rounds of hearts, declarer played a club to North's bare king and ruffed the ace-of-spades exit. The second round of clubs was taken by South with the ten, and the defence played a trump to North's queen and a second round back to the ten, jack and king. Declarer played a third round of trumps to North's ace and Dhakras exited with his last trump. South then claimed the last three tricks with two high clubs and the thirteenth heart. North/South plus 800.

West	North	East	South
Saha	Holland	Das	Mould
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣ <sup>1</sup>
2♦	4♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. Drury			

The English South fits the mould (pun intended) of a traditional Seniors player, so he would never dream of opening that flat 11-count. When Holland opened in third seat, Mould used Drury to show a maximum pass with a spade fit. Subrata Saha also ventured into four-figure territory but, of course, Holland was never going to double now that he'd found a fit, and he jumped directly to game. There was still a price to be paid, though. Sukamal Das, expecting his partner to have something useful for his vulnerable intervention, now let declarer know he had a surprise waiting.

Holland won the ten-of-diamonds lead in hand with the queen, cashed the king of clubs and advanced the jack of spades, just to make sure. East won with the king and shifted to hearts, but declarer won with the ace, pitched his two heart losers on dummy's high clubs, ruffed a heart to hand, and played the ace and another diamond. Das scored three trumps tricks, but that was all the defence could get: North/South plus 790 and just another dull, flat board in Wonderland.

**Round 22, Poland v. Ireland – Every Card Tells a Story (Wojcicki)**

After two passes, vulnerable against not, you open a strong, artificial one club (17+ HCP). LHO overcalls one spade (natural) and you become the declarer in six notrump on the following layout:

**Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.**

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

♠ A J 5 3  
♥ A Q  
♦ K J 7 3  
♣ A K Q

West leads the nine of clubs (Rusinow). You take the trick with the queen and start with a low spade. West rises with the king and continues with the eight of clubs. East follows. You cash the last club – both opponents follow. Now you play the ace and queen of hearts – both opponents follow. On a spade to the queen, East discards the thirteenth club. On dummy's king of hearts, West follows with the jack and you discard a low diamond. You lead a spade to the ace – West follows, while East discards a heart. The position is:

♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ A 10 6 5  
♣ —  
  
♠ J  
♥ —  
♦ K J 7  
♣ —

West has shown five cards in spades, and has followed three times in hearts and clubs. East has shown one spade, four hearts and four clubs. The problem is the diamond suit distribution. The position of only one outside card (the ten of hearts) is still unknown.

You cash the last spade. West follows, you pitch a low diamond from dummy and East lets go the two of diamonds. Yes, East is 1=4=4=4 and had to discard a diamond! So, you play a diamond to the ace and take the marked finesse against East's queen, only to discover that the real layout is:

<p>♠ Q 8 2 ♥ K 9 8 ♦ A 10 6 5 ♣ J 7 5</p> <p>♠ K 9 7 6 4 ♥ J 7 3 ♦ Q 9 ♣ 10 9 8</p> <p>♠ A J 5 3 ♥ A Q ♦ K J 7 3 ♣ A K Q</p>	<p>♠ 10 ♥ 10 6 5 4 2 ♦ 8 4 2 ♣ 6 4 3 2</p>
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The East player who found this imaginative defence was Piotr Bizon from Poland.

The qualifiers for KO play were:

1	USA2	285.36
2	India	280.07
3	France	277.93
4	England	275.09
5	Denmark	271.06
6	Netherlands	266.04
7	China	263.10
8	Chinese Taipei	262.21

## The Knockout Phase

### Quarterfinals, USA2 v. Netherlands – No Escape (Senior)

Board 27. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Mulder</i>	<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Vergoed</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Double	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Alan Sontag was for many years one of the finest Open players in the world (five Open world titles). Now concentrating on the Seniors (three Senior world titles), at least at World Championship level, he showed on this deal from the quarterfinals of the d'Orsi Trophy that he is still as sharp as ever when at the helm in a tricky contract.

Hans Vergoed of the Netherlands led the king of hearts; Sontag ducked. He also ducked the continuation of the queen of hearts but won the third round of the suit (the jack), throwing a club from dummy, while Andre Mulder pitched an encouraging two of spades. Sontag led the eight of spades and Vergoed had to find a discard. The Dutch pair were playing reverse signals, and he did not wish to pitch the nine of diamonds in case Mulder held, for example, king-ten doubleton. He therefore discarded the nine of clubs, aware that this might look like a high one, therefore discouraging. Of course, this should not matter because South should have made his suit-preference signal with his choice of heart to lead to tricks two and three: the ten, then the two.

Sontag ducked the spade in dummy, so Mulder won with the ten and, understandably not reading the position, led the jack of diamonds. Sontag won with the queen and rattled off all five diamond winners. Vergoed, South, was under no pressure, but what was Mulder to keep when the last diamond was cashed?

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

On the last diamond, South discarded a heart, dummy the jack of clubs, and North? If he kept two cards in each black suit, Sontag would play the ace and another spade and win the last two tricks with the ace of clubs and the queen of spades, just making his contract. So Mulder came down to three spades and one club. But that was no good either. Sontag cashed the ace of clubs, then led the seven of spades from the ace-queen-seven; Mulder won with the jack, but then had to

lead into the ace-queen to give the contract. There was no way out at that point.

Had South played the ten of hearts at trick two, then the deuce of hearts at trick three, perhaps Mulder would have found the killing defence when in with the ten of spades: leading a club rather than a diamond, removing an entry for the criss-cross squeeze that Sontag executed.

The d'Orsi Trophy Knockout results were:

#### Quarterfinals

**Netherlands** 210 – USA2 182

**England** 168 – China 164

**Denmark** 181 – France 180

**India** 170 – Chinese Taipei 167

#### Semifinals

**England** 245 – Netherlands 168

**Denmark** 224 – India 154

#### Final

**Denmark** 194 – England 167

#### Third-Place Playoff

**India** 160 – Netherlands 141

## 2019 Wuhan Cup

The qualifying table looked like this:

1	England	311.19
2	USA2	290.83
3	China	282.10
4	Russia	281.93
5	Romania	281.46
6	France	273.81
7	Latvia	270.42
8	USA1	267.59

### Quarterfinals, Segment 1, England v. Latvia - Making Partner's Life Easy (Senior)

This deal from the first session of the quarterfinals saw the majority of those who played in three notrump on the North/South cards making their contract. Of those who failed, the majority got the diamonds wrong.

#### Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

East/West had always bid and supported spades and the usual opening lead was therefore a spade from West. Where declarer won the first trick and played a club, West needed to rise with the ace and shift to the queen of hearts. Even with the aid of Smith Peters, or in this case the lack of a Smith Peter, that is not an easy defence to find, and I do not believe that anyone found it. However, what about the tables where declarer played on diamonds at trick two?

West	North	East	South
Myers	Rubins	Brock	Alfejeva
Pass	1♣	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Like most Wests, Barry Myers led the three of spades to the jack and ace. Declarer played the king of diamonds, unblocking the ten, and Sally Brock discarded the queen of spades and, when declarer continued to play on diamonds, followed that up with the nine, then the seven, of spades. By transferring protection of the spade suit to partner, Brock was able to keep her heart holding intact, along with one club and one spade, thus making it crystal clear to partner what was required in the defence.

Alfejeva cashed all the diamonds plus the king of spades, then led a heart and ducked it to Brock, who led her club to Myers. He cashed the ten of spades then led the queen of hearts and that was down one. That earned 4 IMPs for England as, at the other table, the Latvian East/West pair climbed up to four hearts and played there, two off, for minus 100.

The knockout phase results were:

#### Quarterfinals

**England** 185 – Latvia 173

**USA1** 170 – China 150

**Russia** 250 – France 210

**Romania** 196 – USA2 139

#### Semifinals

**USA1** 194 – England 166

**Russia** 174 – Romania 174

(Russia won by dint of victory in their Round-Robin match.)

#### Final

**Russia** 175 – USA1 170

#### Third-Place Playoff

**Romania** 190 – England 166

The Wuhan Cup for Mixed Teams had been a little hard to handicap due to the fact that this was its inaugural edition. Whilst there were many World Champions on the English, French and American teams, partnership harmony is often more important than raw talent.

# 2019 World Transnational Teams

## Swiss Qualifying Round 5. Australia Seniors v. Warhorse (Senior)

### Round 5. Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

In one room, The Australian Seniors team opponents stopped in three hearts, just making, for plus 140. In the other room...

West	North	East	South
Wang J.	Buchen	Shi H.	Thomson
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♣ <sup>1</sup>	2♠	Double <sup>2</sup>
Pass	3♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Natural, FG
2. 4 hearts
3. Asks for spade stop

Wang led the nine of spades and Shi ducked to keep transportation with his partner open. Thomson won with the queen of spades and played a spade straight back to East!

East was now in the position of either having to cash the spades or probably not getting another opportunity to do so. A heart switch is best on the actual layout and leads to the demise of the contract, but East, as would many of us, decided to cash the spade winners and hope for the best.

On the third spade, West could pitch a club. On the fourth, declarer threw a heart from hand and a club from dummy, while West discarded a heart. But the fifth spade left West without recourse. In practice, he pitched a second club, so that was that – declarer threw a heart from each hand and had one spade, one heart, three diamonds and four clubs, so nine in all – but it would not have mattered had West chosen to unguard one of the red suits instead.

Say that West throws a second heart. Declarer can win East's diamond exit and play the ace and another heart to the jack, and that squeezes West again in the minors. Or perhaps West chooses to unguard the diamonds.

Declarer wins East's return and cashes the ace of hearts then all the diamonds, and this time West is squeezed in hearts and clubs. It's a repeating squeeze and, once East decides to cash his spade winners, there is no defence.

## Swiss Qualifying Round 12. Australia Seniors v. JSQX NJZS B.C. (Senior)

Australia's Ian Thomson found an imaginative call on this deal from Round 12 of the Transnational Open Teams, and Peter Buchen put down an extremely suitable dummy.

### Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Thomson	Tao	Buchen	Tang
—	—	Pass	1♦
Double	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

At his second turn to bid, Thomson had had all three of his suits bid against him, so he decided to keep quiet – after all, a double would surely see partner bid some number of hearts and that would not have been good news, while it was unclear where he would be able to go for tricks if he played in notrump. However, when North gave preference to diamonds, Thomson reassessed the situation, realizing that partner must be short in diamonds, so might have a little spade support. He therefore ventured two spades on his four-card suit, despite the suit having been bid on his left.

North led the jack of diamonds. Dummy was perfect. Thomson won with the king of diamonds, cashed both red-suit aces, then took a diamond ruff, a heart ruff, and a second diamond ruff. After taking a second heart ruff, he exited with the king of clubs, and there was no way to prevent him making both the ace and queen of spades to bring his total to nine, for plus 140.

As you can imagine, quite a lot of East/Wests went minus on this deal, including the Australians' counterparts in the other room (two hearts, two off, minus 100), so Thomson's excellent judgement, allied with Buchen's perfect dummy, earned his side 6 IMPs.

All World Teams Championships results can be found on the WBF website: [www.worldbridge.org](http://www.worldbridge.org)



## New Honorary Chairman of IBPA



IBPA President Barry RIGAL and Chairman Per JANNERSTEN congratulate the new Honorary Chairman of IBPA, ZHU Qingfeng

In a move to cement the relationship between the Hainan Bridge Festival (HBF) and the IBPA, Zhu Qingfeng, Chairman of the HBF, has been appointed Honorary Chairman of the IBPA. Mr. Zhu was made aware of the appointment during the World Team Championships in Wuhan in September. The official announcement was made by Barry Rigal during this year's IBPA Awards Ceremony at the opening of the Hainan Bridge Festival in Sanya on Sunday, September 29.

Mr Zhu has been president of the Sanya Bridge Association since 2009 and President of the Hainan Bridge Association since 2014. (Sanya is a city in the island province of Hainan.) The Hainan Bridge Festival is Zhu's brainchild – he founded it in 2016. The IBPA began presenting its awards there in 2018.

The HBF has developed very interesting innovation to bridge events: the "Three-Bid Teams". In it, each player is allowed just three bids on any given deal – pass, double and redouble do not count. The event is unique in bridge and is skyrocketing in popularity.

## Beth Palmer 1952-2019



Beth Palmer of Silver Spring, MD, winner of seven World Championships (six Women's and one Mixed) and over 25 NABCs, passed away Wednesday at the age of 67. She had qualified to go to Wuhan, but was unable to do so due to health reasons. She is survived by her husband Bill Pettis and daughter Julie.

## Future World Championships

At a combined press conference of the World Bridge Federation and the Chinese Contract Bridge Association in Wuhan on Friday, September 27, 2019, WBF President Gianarrigo Rona announced that, subject to the usual caveats of contract signing, financing and site approval, the following would be the sites of future WBF World Championships:

2020	Qingtao, China
2021	Marrakech, Morocco
2022	Krakow, Poland
2023	Hong Kong
2025	Bermuda

The WBF continues its tradition of returning to Bermuda every 25 years since 1950 for the playing of the Bermuda Bowl.



## Correspondence

The Editor reserves the right to abridge and/or edit correspondence.  
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## Australian Selection Process

*In response to the mild controversy engendered by some nations' team selection processes as a result of the new Wuhan Cup for Mixed Teams, Ron Klinger enlightens us on the (rather complex) Australian protocol.*

Until the 1990s, our Butler Trials were the only selection vehicle for the Australian Open and Women's Teams. In the 1990s, the Australian Bridge Federation introduced Playoff Qualifying Points (PQPs). They are awarded for high placing in National Championships. The number of points is dependent on the stature of the event and the number of entries. PQPs are reviewed annually.

Up to a few years ago, the National Playoffs were held in February for the Seniors and for the Open and Women's simultaneously in March. A limited number of teams entered (based on PQPs) and were seeded according to the number of PQPs. After a round-robin, the leading four played knockouts.

Three years ago this was changed. PQPs for the preceding 12 months were calculated at the end of September and teams of 4, 5 or 6 were invited to enter. The top eight entries, based on the team's total PQPs, then enter the playoffs, the Open in November and the Women's and Seniors simultaneously in December. We now play long (128-board) KO matches in the Open and Women's, 96 in the Seniors (how condescending!). The #1 team based on PQPs has choice, then #2 and #3. After the first KO round, the winning team with the most PQPs again has choice.

The events with the most PQPs available are the National Open Teams in January and the Butler Trials in July. To compete in any of the Playoffs you are required to have won at least one PQP in that division or in an Open event.

Last year, the ABF amended the scheme so that when you enter the Playoffs, the pairs have to play in that partnership. PQPs won by that partnership are multiplied by two. PQPs won by a player in other partnerships are times one.

Cheers, Ron

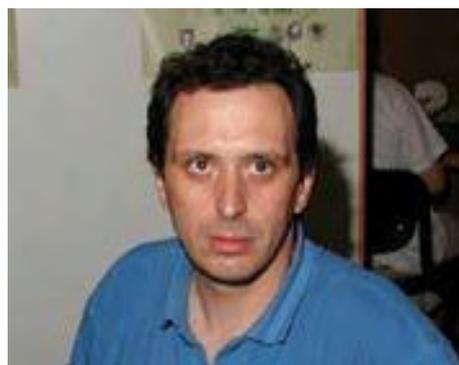
Hi John,

Excerpt from my bridge column in The Sydney Morning Herald for November 2 in a report about the Wuhan Cup (World Mixed Teams):

In the 96-board semi-finals, USAI defeated England by 194-166. The other semi-final between Romania and Russia ended in a tie. In the round-robin, Russia had defeated Romania 37-17 and according to the World Bridge Federation regulations, Russia went into the final. That really is a silly rule. There are better and fairer ways to resolve a tie. Why not a 4-board playoff? Russia, fourth, had finished ahead of Romania, fifth, by 0.47 of a Victory Point in the round-robin. Based on the WBF regulation, Russia would still have been in the final if they had qualified eighth and Romania had qualified first

Cheers, Ron

## Kalin Karaivanov 1967-2019



Bulgarian international player Kalin Karaivanov died on September 7 of a heart attack during the bridge festival in Mamaia, Romania. He was born on January 29, 1967 in Varna, Bulgaria and had represented Bulgaria many times, winning bronze medals in the 2000 Transnational Teams and in the 2009 Bermuda Bowl.



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# World Bridge Calendar

## 2019

Sep 30-Oct 14	Hainan Bridge Festival	Sanya, Hainan, China	wangjj_bridge@yahoo.com
Oct 8-14	Sicily Overseas Congress	Palermo, Sicily, Italy	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 9-16	56 <sup>th</sup> Internacional de Las Palmas	Las Palmas, Canary Is., Spain	www.bridgelas palmas.es
Oct 11-12	Gold Cup Finals	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 11-13	Bridge Bowl	Vienna, Austria	www.bridgecentrum.at
Oct 11-13	Limerick Congress	Limerick, Ireland	www.cbai.ie
Oct 11-15	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	www.bridgescanner.com
Oct 16-20	Jordan International Festival	Amman, Jordan	www.jordanbridgefederation.com
Oct 20-27	European Small Federations Champ.	Novi Sad, Serbia	www.eurobridge.org
Oct 24-31	5 <sup>th</sup> Festival de Bridge du Paris CC	Rueil-Malmaison, France	www.parisbridgefestival.com
Oct 25-27	Patensie Teams	Jeffreys Bay, South Africa	www.ecbridgeunion.com
Oct 26	2 <sup>nd</sup> Anna Maria Torlantano Memorial	Pescara, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Oct 29-31	KCBL Open	Seoul, South Korea	www.pabf.org
Oct 31-Nov 11	22 <sup>nd</sup> Madeira Open	Funchal, Madeira, Portugal	www.madeira-bridge.com
Nov 7-9	6 <sup>th</sup> Marbella International	Marbella, Spain	www.aebridge.com
Nov 7-17	Red Sea Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridgeredsea.com
Nov 8-11	Tarnowski Mityng Brydzowy	Tarnow, Poland	www.wajdowiczmemorial.pl
Nov 13-16	Masters Lisboa	Lisbon, Portugal	www.fpbridge.webs.com
Nov 14-16	18 <sup>th</sup> European Champions Cup	Bucharest, Romania	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 20-24	6 <sup>th</sup> Festival el-Gouna	Qesm Hurghada, Egypt	maykhouri@gmail.com
Nov 28-Dec 8	ACBL Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org
Nov 29-Dec 4	National Day Festival	Dubai, UAE	www.bridgewebs.com/4jacks
Nov 30-Dec 8	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunway International Festival	Sitges (Barcelona), Spain	www.sunwaybridgefestival.com
Dec 6-8	SBU Winter Congress	Peebles, Scotland	www.sbu.org.uk
Dec 6-8	Città di Milano	Milan, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Dec 6-15	Festival de Mar del Plata	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.aba.org.ar
Dec 14-16	Cape Town Festival	Cape Town, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
Dec 27-30	Year End Congress	Blackpool, England	www.ebu.co.uk

## 2020

Jan 8-19	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 13-22	78 <sup>th</sup> International Tournament	St. Moritz, Switzerland	www.bridge-stmoritz.ch
Jan 25-31	Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.bermudaregional.com
Jan 30-Feb 2	Reykjavik Bridge Festival	Reykjavik, Iceland	www.reykjavikbridgefestival.com
Feb 5-11	EBU Overseas Congress	Rome, Italy	www.ebu.co.uk
Feb 10-15	29 <sup>th</sup> Sun, Sea & Slams	Barbados	www.barbadosbridge.org
Feb 20-23	Slava Cup	Moscow, Russia	www.slavacup.com
Feb 21-29	Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	www.qldbridge.com.au
Feb 26-Mar 1	43 <sup>rd</sup> International Festival	Budapest, Hungary	www.ibbf.hu
Feb 28-Mar 8	3 <sup>rd</sup> European Winter Games	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.wintergames.bridgemonaco.com
Mar 5-8	Tórshavn Bridge Festival	Tórshavn, Faroe Islands	www.bridge.fo
Mar 9-16	68 <sup>th</sup> SABF National Congress	Cape Town, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
Mar 15-20	Dead Sea Festival	Be'er Sheva, Israel	www.bridgeredsea.com
Mar 18-28	ACBL Spring NABC	Columbus, Ohio	www.acbl.org
Mar 26-29	Tasmanian Bridge Festival	Launceston, Tasmania, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Apr 15-22	Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Congress	Perth, Australia	www.abfevents.com.au
Apr 30-May 4	Australian Autumn Nationals	Adelaide, Australia	www.abf.com.au
May 1-3	German Bridge Trophy	Berlin, Germany	bridge.schroeder@t-online.de
Jun 17-27	55 <sup>th</sup> Euro National Team Champs.	Funchal, Madeira Is., Portugal	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 2-11	Kongres Brydzowy	Slawa, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Jul 3-12	Dansk Bridgefestival	Svendborg, Denmark	www.bridgefestival.dk
Jul 16-26	ACBL Summer NABC	Montréal, Quebec	www.acbl.org
Jul 24-26	Summer Congress	Dublin, Ireland	www.cbai.ie
Jul 24-Aug 2	26 <sup>th</sup> Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 25-30	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 31-Aug 9	Kongres Bałtycki	Sopot, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Aug 2-8	Wachauer Bridge Week	Mautern, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Aug 21-30	Grand Prix Warszawy	Warsaw, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Sep 11-16	World University Championships	Bydgoszcz, Poland	www.fisu.net
Nov 26-Dec 6	ACBL Fall NABC	Tampa, Florida	www.acbl.org