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Editorial

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

The World Championships in Salsomaggiore were, to no one's surprise, rife with controversy. Early in the Championships (March 29, 2022), the WBF released this statement:

The World Bridge Federation regrets to advise that while its preference is for Wroclaw as the location for the World Bridge Series, due to the current circumstances in the region, all options regarding the dates and location for the event are being considered. Further developments will be published as soon as possible.

This produced an immediate response from the Polish Bridge Union to Gianarrigo Rona, in part, as follows:

Let me respond to your last email informing us about the WBF Executive Council's resolution relating to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and its possible consequences on organizing the World Bridge Series in Wroclaw in August 2022. The EC resolution resulted in disbelief and strong disappointment amongst the Polish bridge community.

We would like to stress that although the war is close to Poland, it is not in Poland. If it were in Poland, all NATO countries would be involved and then it would be unimaginable to organize any world championships anywhere. If one doubts about hosting this event in Wroclaw, the same could be said about Turkey, Germany, France, Italy or any other country, even a neutral one like Sweden or Switzerland.

Poland and the Polish bridge community strongly opposes such reaction to current events in Ukraine and calls the World Bridge Federation to continue cooperation with the Polish Bridge Union on organizing the World Bridge Series in free, peaceful, hospitable and safe Wroclaw in August 2022.

Marek Michalowski, President, PZBS

On April 14, the WBF released the following statement:

The World Bridge Federation is pleased to confirm that the 2022 World Bridge Series will be held at Centennial Hall in Wroclaw, Poland, from 19th August to 3rd September 2022. The Schedule of Play is published on the Championship Pages and more information will be posted there as it becomes available.

Continued on page 21...

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45TH WORLD 2021 BRIDGE



TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



Results

Bermuda Bowl

Round Robin Qualification

1	Switzerland	312.24
2	Netherlands	307.38
3	USA2	301.13
4	Hungary	290.11
5	England	287.30
6	Italy	286.03
7	Norway	284.53
8	USA1	272.29

Quarterfinals

Switzerland	182	England	139
Netherlands	184	Italy	151
Norway	175	USA2	116
USA1	182	Hungary	144

Semifinals

Switzerland	230	USA1	182
Netherlands	192	Norway	78

Final

Switzerland	167	Netherlands	164
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Venice Cup

Round Robin Qualification

1	Poland	352.04
2	England	304.29
3	Sweden	294.70
4	USA2	294.65
5	Turkey	279.27
6	Italy	276.58
7	Denmark	261.10
8	France	260.14

Quarterfinals

Poland	202	Denmark	169
England	219	France	170
Sweden	221	Italy	181
Turkey	241	USA2	116

Semifinals

Sweden	215	Poland	213
Turkey	236	England	193

Final

Sweden	235	Turkey	170
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d'Orsi Trophy

Round Robin Qualification

1	USA1	324.09
2	Denmark	287.64
3	Poland	279.94
4	France	275.74
5	India	268.35
6	Sweden	267.89
7	USA2	263.36
8	Bulgaria	259.89

Quarterfinals

India	150	USA1	146
Denmark	183	USA2	152
Poland	85	Bulgaria	62
France	167	Sweden	51

Semifinals

India	225	France	197
Poland	239	Denmark	195

Final

Poland	239	India	194
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Wuhan Cup

Round Robin Qualification

1	France	304.85
2	USA1	303.58
3	Belgium	296.71
4	Poland	292.77
5	Italy	291.89
6	Romania	289.80
7	Latvia	270.61
8	Germany	270.36

Quarterfinals

France	189	Romania	181
USA1	212	Latvia	185
Germany	180	Belgium	164
Italy	218	Poland	187

Semifinals

France	228	Germany	154
USA1	221	Italy	151

Final

France	199	USA1	163
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2021 World Championships

Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy

March 27-April 9, 2022

David Stern, Sydney, NSW, Australia
Marc Smith, Southampton, Hants., U.K.
Mark Horton, Shrewsbury, Shrops., U.K.
Barry Rigal, New York, NY, U.S.A.
David Bird, Eastleigh, Hants., U.K.
Ron Tacchi, Vaupillon, Eure-et-Loir, France
Murat Molva, Istanbul, Turkey

BB RR2 USA1 vs. USA2 (Stern)

Round 2 saw USA2 (Bathurst/Hurd, Kranyak/Demuy) pitted against their countrymen USA1 (Hampson/Greco, Levin/Weinstein). Apart from the obvious rivalry, the players in this match share around 12 major international titles, not to mention USA National wins.

Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

<p>♠ Q 7 6 3 ♥ A 9 8 ♦ A Q 7 3 ♣ 5 2</p> <p>♠ J ♥ K Q 5 3 ♦ J 10 6 ♣ 8 7 6 4 3</p> <p>♠ A 10 9 8 ♥ 7 ♦ K 9 8 5 4 ♣ A K J</p>	<p>♠ K 5 4 2 ♥ J 10 6 4 2 ♦ 2 ♣ Q 10 9</p>
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West	North	East	South
Greco	Bathurst	Hampson	Hurd
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West	North	East	South
Kranyak	Levin	Demuy	Weinstein
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

While six diamonds may have been slightly more comfortable than six spades, the latter is quite playable with no losers outside the trump suit.

Levin won the heart lead, played a spade to the nine and later conceded another spade after ruffing hearts in dummy; plus 650.

At the other table, Bathurst won the heart lead and boldly led the queen of spades, pinning the jack, followed

by another spade finesse, two top clubs and a club ruff, and another spade finesse. Declarer claimed an overtrick for plus 1460.

Bathurst's and Levin's plays were exactly equivalent, each losing two tricks to the respective singleton honour offside. However, Bathurst's play makes an overtrick, as we saw, when the key honour (the jack) is singleton offside, whereas Levin's would have made an overtrick with the key honour (in his case, the king) onside. For some players, the pin is a more fun play to execute.

That was 13 IMPs to USA2.

In another match on the same board...

BB RR2 SWI vs. ITA (Smith)

Board 23 was a bidding challenge for the North/South pairs.

West	North	East	South
Madala	Drijver	Duboin	Brink
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT ¹
Pass	3♣ ²	Pass	3♠ ³
Pass	3NT ⁴	Pass	4♣ ⁵
Pass	4NT ⁶	Pass	5♥ ⁷
Pass	6♦ ⁸	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. 15+ HCP and four-card spade support
2. Game-forcing relay
3. Short hearts
4. Serious slam try
5. Control in clubs
6. RKCB
7. 2 key cards, no spade queen
8. An offer to play

Brink was happy to accept Drijver's suggestion of six diamonds as an alternative contract.

Madala knew his opponents were missing a key card and it might have been the spade ace, so his jack-of-spades lead was probably the best chance the defence had to beat the contract. As it happened, of course, that picked up the suit for declarer and thus Brink was soon claiming all 13 tricks. That resulted in North/South plus 1390 and 13 IMPs to Switzerland.

That was a well-deserved swing for the Swiss.

This deal was played in spades at 20 of the 24 tables in the Bermuda Bowl, with some pairs going down in six spades and many stopping out of slam.

BB RR3 SWE vs. NED (Horton)

An 'alarm-clock signal' is one in which a defender does something unusual with the idea of alerting partner to the possibility that something out of the ordinary is required.

An opportunity to wake partner up arose in Round 3.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Verhees	Bertheau	van Prooijen	Hult
—	—	1♦	1♠
2♣ ¹	4♠	5♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Transfer to diamonds

South led the king of spades. When North followed with the five, Hult cashed the ace of spades and switched to the four of clubs when Bertheau followed to the second spade with the nine, his lowest. North's ruff represented the setting trick, minus 50.

West	North	East	South
Nyström	de Wijs	Wrang	Muller
—	—	1♦	1♠
2♠ ¹	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Limit-raise or better in diamonds

When South led the king of spades, North contributed the queen! With the jack on view, that sounded the alarm for South, who realised that his partner was endeavouring to send some special message. His next card was the club six. North ruffed and returned the spade five to secure a second ruff. It was a brilliant way to acquire a couple of IMPs.

OT RR8 DEU vs. MAR (Rigal)

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

In the d'Orsi Trophy, after a sequence that even his NPC Nicholas Bausback described as rustic, Nedju Buchlev of the German Seniors arrived in six notrump as West.

There would be a swing on the board whatever happened since, at the other table, the Moroccan East/West had stopped in three notrump, making 12 tricks, for plus 490.

Guy Cambournac of Morocco led a passive eight of spades against six notrump, giving nothing away. Buchlev didn't want to rely on an immediate guess in hearts or the club finesse. He unblocked dummy's spades and crossed to a diamond in hand to take three more spade winners. North pitched a heart on the fifth spade; South threw a club, then a diamond, then, finally, a heart.

Buchlev next took three top diamonds, ending in dummy. North pitched a heart and then two clubs, South pitched a second heart on the last diamond. At this point, declarer knew North had started four-one in spades and diamonds and his two heart discards early on suggested a five-card suit. Thus he was down to one club and three hearts, while South was down to one heart and three clubs.

Accordingly, in this four-card ending...

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

Declarer led a club to the ace and, when the queen did not fall from North, led a low heart from his hand. Unless all three critical cards had been wrong all along, he knew South would have to win the heart and be endplayed or that North would win the heart and have to give him the last two tricks with a heart to the king. That was well done, for plus 990 and 11 IMPs.

BB RR8 NOR vs. USA2 (Smith)

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Double
2♥	2♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

This deal was a classic major-suit battle. The Norwegians did well to get to game with only a combined 18 HCP. Having competed to the two-level in response to his partner's takeout double, Kevin Bathurst then reassessed his prospects when Tor Helness jumped to game. His decision to sacrifice was right in that the penalty was only minus 300 against a vulnerable game.

The most important question, though, was whether it was a phantom sacrifice?

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Double
2♥	2♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The auction was identical up until North's final decision. With three top losers, many of those watching on VuGraph might have thought it was just a question of whether declarer could get the trumps right in four hearts. Boye Brogeland quickly demonstrated that it was not necessary to rely on a mis-guess from declarer.

Brogeland led the ace of diamonds and got the ten (upside down) from Bakke. Knowing that declarer must have at least one more diamond, he then cashed the king of diamonds in case his partner had started with a singleton. When everyone followed, Brogeland switched to the king of spades. The bidding had told him that declarer would not hold a second spade, so there was only one more chance remaining: Brogeland now played a third round of diamonds, enabling his partner to score the queen of hearts via a trump promotion to put the contract one down. That was plus 100 to North/South and 9 IMPs to Norway.

BB RRI2 SWI vs. USAI (Smith)

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Katz</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	2♠ ¹	3♣ ²	5♣
5♠	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Hearts and clubs
2. Diamonds

Would anyone else have come up with that five-club bid chosen by Mikael Rimstedt? When the opponents have spades, all of the other suits are effectively the same, so there is no real difference between the junior major and the minors. The most important point, though, was to take away West's four-spade and four-notrump bids.

Ola Rimstedt made a valiant effort to beat the slam, leading the five of clubs in an attempt to get his partner in with the queen to give him a diamond ruff. Declarer won trick one with his singleton queen and claimed all 13 tricks: East/West plus 1010.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Wrang</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	2♠ ¹	2NT ²	4♥
Pass ³	Pass	4♠	4NT ⁴
5♣	5♥	Pass	Pass
5♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Hearts and a minor
2. Spade support, invitational-plus
3. Forcing
4. Takeout

Have you noticed how top players always get the best partners – I mean, my partner never freely raises me when I have an eight-card suit. The Americans were content to defend at the five level to concede 480, but won 11 IMPs.

BB RRI6 ENG vs. SWI (Rigal)

In Round 16, England, in fifth place, played Switzerland, the leaders of the Round Robin.

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Townsend</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass	2♥ ²
Pass	3♥ ³	Pass	4♣ ⁴
Pass	4NT ⁵	Pass	5♣ ⁶
Pass	5♦ ⁷	Pass	5NT ⁸
Pass	7NT	Pass	Pass

1. Strong, artificial, forcing
2. Natural, two of the top three honours
3. Agrees hearts
4. Singleton diamond (!)
5. RKCB
6. 1 or 4 key cards
7. Heart queen?
8. Queen of hearts, no outside king

Brink's four clubs showed a singleton diamond by agreement, contrary to his intentions, after which the players had different views of the auction, until they agreed that seven notrump was to play. This contract needed the spade suit, regardless of whether the hearts were breaking. Tom Townsend led the jack of diamonds and, since Drijver couldn't see through the backs of the cards, play proceeded diamond ace, heart ace-king, spade ace, diamond queen, spade finesse, for one off.

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Norton</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Bell</i>
Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass	2♦ ²
Pass	2♥ ³	Pass	2♠ ⁴
Pass	2NT ⁵	Pass	3♣ ⁶
Double	Redouble ⁷	Pass	3♥ ⁸
Pass	4♣ ⁹	Pass	4NT ¹⁰
Pass	5♦ ¹¹	Pass	5NT ¹²
Pass	6♣ ¹³	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Strong
2. Waiting
3. Hearts or balanced
4. Forced
5. 24+ HCP, balanced
6. Stayman
7. Suggestion to play
8. 5+ hearts, 4+ spades
9. Control; agrees hearts
10. RKCB
11. 1 or 4 key cards
12. King ask
13. Either the club king or both the spade and diamond kings

North-South played the third-best slam. Norton won the club lead with the queen, got the bad news in hearts, and ducked the third round. He won the spade exit, ruffed a club to hand, and drew the last trump...

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

Now he had to commit himself. West had had four hearts and, if the carding were to be believed, five clubs, consistent with his double of three clubs. It seemed likely that East would have length in spades and diamonds. So, declarer discarded his low spade on the queen of hearts, and crossed to the king of spades, planning to cash the ace of clubs to squeeze East whenever he was four-four or three-five in spades and diamonds. Unluckily for him, in a sense, East was two-six, but luckily his spade doubleton included the queen, so Norton made his contract to win 14 IMPs. Seven declarers in the Bermuda Bowl played six hearts and Norton was the only one to make it.

BB RR17 SWI vs. USA2 (Bird)

It was a privilege to commentate on this encounter between the two teams at the top of the leaderboard. The standard was the best I have seen so far. No absurd misunderstandings for you to enjoy, no huge penalties, no three-diamonds-redoubled contracts. Just eight of the world's top players strutting their stuff. Let's see the best of the action.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	1♣
3♥	Double	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Drijver won the heart-two lead with dummy's ace,

crossed to the ace of spades and led the queen of clubs. This was the one suit he could not afford to lead as the cards lay, and Hurd could have beaten the contract by covering. When he found some reason not to cover, declarer was reprieved. He played low from dummy and West ruffed. Drijver won the diamond switch with the ace, ruffed his remaining heart in dummy, and drew the last trumps with the queen. Only two tricks had to be lost in diamonds and that was a see-saw plus 620.

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
—	—	—	1♣
4♥	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Michal Klukowski bid one level higher, despite the vulnerability, and was doubled there. John Kranyak led the ace of spades and switched adventurously to the four of diamonds, South's nine forcing the queen. A second spade was won by North's king, and he continued his imaginative defence with the diamond deuce. 'Ten, please,' said declarer and South won with the jack. The ace of hearts and a second diamond trick put the game two down, restricting the loss to 3 IMPs.

BB RRI9 ITA vs. SWE (Rigal)

Are you a thief or a technician? The board below from Round 19 demonstrated that one could go for a swindle or a genuine line:

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Madala</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	2♠	Double	3♦
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Madala led the king of spades. Hult won with his ace, cashed the king of clubs, led the nine of clubs to the ace and a diamond to the queen. South won with the king and dealt a diamond ruff to North. A later heart loser meant two down for minus 100.

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Wrang</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	3♠	Double	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Lauria won the king-of-spades lead in hand to play the king of clubs, then a sneaky jack of diamonds. When South ducked, he could switch tack and play three rounds of hearts. That allowed him to ruff a heart and draw trumps with no further problems.

In the match between New Zealand and USA2, both declarers in five clubs followed the legitimate line for the contract by playing three rounds of hearts after finding the bad break. Whibley as North returned a diamond; declarer took the ace, ruffed a heart and drew trumps, conceding a diamond.

Kranyak as North played back a spade; when declarer ruffed, he could no longer succeed. The winning move is to pitch a diamond on the spade! South wins but is endplayed; a spade back lets declarer ruff in dummy and pitch a diamond. Now it is possible to ruff a heart in dummy and also catch North in a trump coup! He plays a diamond to the ace, ruffs a heart, ruffs a diamond, plays a club to the ace and a diamond, neutralizing North's remaining jack-five of clubs.

BB RR22 NOR vs. SWI (Smith)

Going into this match in the penultimate round of the qualifying stage, Switzerland was sitting comfortably atop the table. Norway was lying fifth.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
Pass	INT ¹	Pass	2♦ ²
Pass	2♠ ³	Pass	3♦ ⁴
Pass	3♥ ⁵	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. I am very young
2. Transfer
3. 4/5 hearts and a weak doubleton in spades
4. Re-transfer
5. Resisting the temptation to bid 4♥

Christian Bakke's decision to open one notrump with a six-card major might not have been everyone's first choice (however, he is very young), and he was undoubtedly surprised to see his partner transferring to his long suit. Equally surprisingly, dummy was very unsuitable and, when the club finesse failed, he was one down: North/South minus 100. Bakke chided Brogeland: "Hold more trumps, please."

This seemed like a normal contract, and thus unlikely to register on the scorecard. However...

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

Brink led the seven of clubs. Helness called for the queen from dummy and Drijver withheld his king (more on that later).

Conveniently in dummy at trick two, Helness led a trump to his ten and South's king. Brink continued clubs, Drijver ducked again and, although declarer could have cashed the ace of spades from hand had Drijver covered, it was easier when Helness was allowed to lead the second round of trumps from dummy. North's queen appeared, so declarer drew trumps, crossed back to his hand in clubs and led a diamond towards dummy's king-queen. North won with the ace and exited in hearts, but declarer had no choice but to play a diamond to the queen. North's jack came tumbling down, giving declarer his tenth trick with the ten of diamonds: East/West plus 790 and a spectacular 12 IMPs to Norway.

Note that declarer has entry issues and, to defeat the contract, Drijver has to cover with the king of clubs at trick one. After winning with the ace, declarer then needs to cross to dummy somehow to play the first round of trumps. Crossing with a club sets up a club ruff for South. Playing a diamond to the king allows North to win and return a diamond, then he gets a diamond ruff when South wins the first round of trumps. A tough gig indeed!

BB QF1 ENG vs. SWI (Bird)

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Dyke	Zimmerm'n	Byrne	Piedra
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

When the bidding ended, I observed in my commentary that the East/West hands were short of stuffing (tens and nines). On a closer inspection, I saw that they were also somewhat short of high-card points! Byrne was (sub-)minimal for his one-notrump response. It was clear from Dyke's raise to three notrump that he had expected more (*or that he'd been transported back to Australia – Ed.*).

Piedra led the two of hearts, and dummy's queen was followed onto the table by the eight and four. A spade to the jack lost to the king and South's king of hearts then drew the nine, six and ten! Byrne's falsecard, with no further entry expected to his hand, was aimed at attracting a heart continuation.

Only a third round of hearts would give declarer a chance, and the jack of hearts duly appeared on the table. Byrne won with the ace and cashed two more hearts. When a diamond was led, South played low and dummy's king won, North signalling with the queen. The ace, queen and another spade then endedplayed South. He cashed the ace of diamonds but then had to lead from his king-nine of clubs into the split tenace. It was a dazzling piece of cardplay by Michael Byrne.

West	North	East	South
Brink	Townsend	Drijver	Bakhshi
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

I was not surprised that Drijver did not rate his empty hand as a one-notrump response. You will not thank me for a detailed description of the play in one spade, but Brink went one down to lose 100. It was 12 IMPs to England, who had produced a very special session against the round-robin winners. They led by 49-20, no doubt realizing that there was a lot of bridge still to be played in the match.

BB QF2 NOR vs. USA2 (Smith)

Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kranyak	Bakke	Demuy	Brogeland
—	Pass	Pass	2♣
3♣	3♥	4♣	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

“No respect, I can’t get no respect!” was the schtick of the late Rodney Dangerfield. Have you noticed how little respect two-club and two-notrump openings are getting at these championships? The next player here seems to be quite willing to get in at the three-level, even vulnerable, on very moderate hands. How much did the aggressive American bidding have on Brogeland’s decision to give up attempting to bid the hand, and instead just punt what he thought he could make? You can understand Brogeland’s thinking: “Surely the one card that partner is unlikely to hold is the ace of clubs, so let’s bid six spades now and hope he has enough stuff in the red suits to make 12 tricks.”

Kranyak led the two of hearts, so declarer claimed: North/South plus 1010.

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

1. Strong
2. Waiting
3. Sets spades as trumps
4. Control-bids
5. RKCB
6. 2 key cards, no spade queen
7. Asks for third-round heart control

Terje Aa is old enough to have learned respect, so he stayed silent at the other table, giving the Americans a free run. Spector set the suit with his jump to three spades and then the pair control-bid and Blackwooded their way to six spades.

Spector won the club lead and drew trumps in one round. He then cashed the ace of diamonds and used his trump entries to try to ruff down the diamond king-queen. When that failed, he simply took a heart finesse for the overtrick: North/South plus 1010 for a push. It was an opportunity lost.

VC QF2 SWE vs. ITA (Tacchi)

Sanna Clementsson and Emma Övelius of Sweden executed a great scientific auction on the following deal to reach an excellent grand slam. However, Francesca Piscitelli and Ilaria Saccavini of Italy were not to be outdone.

Board 29. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Buratti	Clementsson	Aghemo	Övelius
—	1♠	Pass	2♥ ¹
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT ²	Pass	4♣ ³
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble ⁴
Pass	4♥ ⁵	Pass	4NT ⁶
Pass	5♠ ⁷	Pass	6♥ ⁸
Pass	7♠ ⁹	Pass	Pass

1. Natural, game-forcing
2. Non-serious slam try
3. Club control
4. 1st-round club control
5. Heart control; denies diamond control
6. RKCB
7. 2 key cards plus the spade queen
8. Asks for 3rd-round heart control
9. I have it!

West	North	East	South
Larsson	Piscitelli	Bertheau	Saccavini
—	1♠	Pass	2♣ ¹
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT ²
Pass	5♠ ³	Pass	5NT ⁴
Pass	6♠ ⁵	Pass	7♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Artificial game-force
2. RKCB
3. 2 key cards plus the spade queen
4. Grand slam try; king ask
5. Heart king plus 3rd-round heart control (?)

That was a brilliant push.

VC QF3 TUR vs. USA I (Molva)

Board 42 from the Venice Cup quarter-finals was interesting in that there was a 12- or 13-IMP swing in all four matches. In every match, three notrump was made in one room and defeated in the other.

Turkish declarer Hatice Özgür found a nice way to come to nine tricks on this deal in their match with USA 2.

Board 42. Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ J 7 4 3
♥ K Q 10 6 5
♦ J
♣ Q 6 4

♠ A 10 9 8
♥ A 9 4 3
♦ A 2
♣ J 7 5

♠ K Q 6
♥ J 2
♦ K Q 7 5 3
♣ A 10 8

♠ 5 2
♥ 8 7
♦ 10 9 8 6 4
♣ K 9 3 2

West	North	East	South
Özbay	McCallum	Özgür	Baker
—	—	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

After a routine Stayman auction to three notrump, South, Lynn Baker, led the nine of diamonds. Özgür won with dummy's ace, noting the fall of the jack from North. She elected to cross to her queen of diamonds while North discarded the five of hearts. Declarer exited with the five of diamonds, South winning her six while both dummy and North discarded low clubs.

South pressed on with the eight of diamonds, ducked again by Özgür, discarding a heart from dummy; North came down to three hearts. South exited with the eight of hearts, ducked to North's queen. Feeling the pressure of trying to guard three suits, North returned her remaining low club, South winning with the king while declarer unblocked the jack from dummy.

South exited with her second heart, but Özgür went up with dummy's ace and tested the spades, ending in dummy. Then she turned her attention to clubs; when the queen appeared from North, declarer had her nine tricks.

Had North exited with the second top heart instead of shifting to clubs, declarer would have had to work a bit harder. She must win and cash her two top spades and the diamond winner, pitching the heart from dummy. North is obliged also to discard her heart. This is the ending:

♠ J 7
♥ —
♦ —
♣ Q 6

♠ A 10
♥ —
♦ —
♣ J 7

♠ 6
♥ —
♦ —
♣ A 10 8

♠ —
♥ —
♦ —
♣ K 9 3 2

♠ 5 3
♥ 9 7 6
♦ —
♣ 3

♠ A 10 2
♥ K 10
♦ —
♣ Q

♠ K 6
♥ 2
♦ —
♣ A J 8

♠ Q J 9 8
♥ —
♦ —
♣ K 5

Declarer can, quite elegantly, play the ace and another club, catching South in a wink.

At the other table, the declarer, Janice Seamon-Molson took the six-of-diamonds lead with dummy's ace and led the jack of clubs at the second trick. When North, Dilek Yavas, covered with the queen, there was no route to nine tricks and the contract drifted one off; 12 IMPs to Turkey.

BB QF4 SWI vs. ENG (Bird)

After a 24-hour break, while COVID reared its ugly head, play resumed in the quarterfinals. England led Switzerland 92-86, with three out of six sessions played.

Board 53. Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ 5 3
♥ A 9 7 6 3
♦ A J 10 9 4
♣ 3

♠ A 10 2
♥ K 10 8 4
♦ 8 3
♣ Q 10 9 6

♠ K 6
♥ Q J 2
♦ K Q 7
♣ A J 8 7 4

♠ Q J 9 8 7 4
♥ 5
♦ 6 5 2
♣ K 5 2

West	North	East	South
Dyke	Drijver	Byrne	Brink
—	Pass	INT	Pass
2♣	2♦	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Bas Drijver, who had little hope of winning the auction, entered with a splendid lead-directing two diamonds. Byrne was then faced with the two-of-diamonds opening lead to North's nine. He won with the queen and led the jack of hearts to North's ace. Back came the jack of diamonds to declarer's king, retaining transportation for the defenders.

Declarer had eight top tricks and could place the club king with South. since North had not opened the bidding. Byrne cashed the queen of hearts and exited with the seven of diamonds. North won and then had to cash his two diamond winners or abandon them.

When Drijver returned a spade, Byrne rose with the king. He then cashed the two heart winners in dummy, bringing South down to the queen-jack of spades and the king of clubs. (South had to retain two spades to guard against the ace-ten in dummy.) Byrne cashed dummy's ace of spades and overtook the queen of clubs with the ace, felling South's king. Finally, he scored the eight of clubs for his ninth trick. It had been hard work after the well-judged, two-diamond, overcall.

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Norton	Gawrys	Bell
—	1♥	INT	2♠
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Find a diamond lead after this auction! Mike Bell led the queen of spades and declarer wrapped up an easy overtrick. It was just 1 IMP to Switzerland.

VC SF2 ENG vs. TUR (Bird)

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ösbay	Senior	Özgur	Dhondy
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	INT
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Irem Ösbay had no good action over one club, but doubled for take-out on the second round. With a well-placed stack of diamonds, Özgur was happy to leave it in.

How many down would you predict? GIB told us that any lead of a ten or higher would result in two down. Lower spot-card leads would collect only one down. Let's see.

Ösbay led the queen of hearts and had plus 500 in her sights. Heather Dhondy won with king and played a diamond to the king and ace. A spade switch was now needed for two down, but East cashed the ten of hearts. Another heart gave West two tricks, but she then had to return a black suit, to declarer's advantage. A low club went to the king and ace. West won the eight of clubs with the queen and exited with a club to the jack. Dhondy cashed dummy's queen of diamonds and played a spade to her eight, endplaying West. She could cash the nine of clubs, but then had to lead into declarer's ace-queen of spades. That was only one down.

Do you see now why I hate writing up part scores? So many tricks to describe!

West	North	East	South
Brock	Yavas	Brown	Kuranoglu
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	INT
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

After the same auction, Sally Brock started with the ten of diamonds, drawing the king and ace. The nine-of-diamonds return was allowed to win, West throwing the nine of clubs. Fiona Brown switched to the spade six, declarer's eight going to the ten. Brock was then right on the money with her queen-of-hearts shift.

South won with the king of hearts and ran the seven of clubs to East's king. East led another spade. Declarer could have endplayed West now if she'd won with the ace. She tried the queen instead, losing to the king. Brock cashed three heart tricks and exited with a spade. Declarer won with the ace, took the queen of diamonds and the ace of clubs, but had to concede trick 13 to the queen of clubs and was three down for 800. That was 12 IMPs to England.

You will believe me when I say that I am exhausted after tapping in all those details. I do not intend to write up another part score deal for at least a few months.

BB Final I SWI vs. NED (Smith)

A couple of Dutch supporters proudly pointed out that this was a first, with a Dutch pair sitting in both directions at a table in the Bermuda Bowl final. Of course, Sjoert Brink and Bas Drijver had been teammates with two pairs of the current Dutch team the last time Netherlands won the trophy, in 2011, on home soil in Veldhoven. I did confess that I have referred to Brink/Drijver with comments such as "IMPs to the Dutch" a couple of times this week, only to have it pointed out that it was "IMPs to the Swiss". Of course, the first time in commentary today that I said, "IMPs to the Dutch", some wag had to ask, "Which Dutch?"

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Continued on page 15...



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra



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

1093. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

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

West led the king of diamonds. Declarer could count six tricks outside trumps. He saw that if he could keep his trump losers to one, he would make his contract.

Declarer observed that no matter how he played the trump suit he would almost always have at least one loser in the suit. If trumps were three-two, the ace and another trump would carry the day. So, declarer turned his attention to dealing with a four-one trump break.

With that in mind, declarer led a low trump at trick two. West played the eight of trumps and dummy's jack won the trick. Declarer returned to hand with a low club to his king to lead a second low trump. West rose with the king of trumps, dummy followed low and East discarded a diamond.

Declarer ruffed West's continuation of the queen of diamonds, played a low trump to dummy's queen, led a spade to his ace and drew West's remaining trump with the ace. This brought declarer's trick total to seven and he claimed three more club tricks for his contract.

Note that declarer's play in the trump suit would only lose a second trump trick if East had been dealt a

singleton king or four trumps to the king and a singleton club (provided he does not take the king on the first round of trumps). Otherwise, declarer would have been able to pick up the trump suit for one loser.

1094. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♠
Double	INT	2♥	2♠
3♥	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

South had to justify his sporting bidding after West led the queen of hearts. There was no hope of ten tricks unless trumps were three-two. Even if trumps behaved, there was still the matter of losing at least one trick in each minor.

Declarer found a neat solution to this problem. After winning the first trick with the ace of hearts, declarer led the three of clubs. This caught West in a Morton's Fork. If West played a low club, dummy's queen would win the trick and declarer's king of clubs would be discarded on dummy's king of hearts. Then, finding the spades and diamonds both to be three-two, declarer would claim ten tricks: four trumps, two hearts, three diamonds and the queen of clubs.

At the table, West rose with ace of clubs and exited with a heart to dummy's king, on which declarer threw a diamond from hand. After playing a trump to his ace,

declarer cashed his king of clubs then exited with a low trump to West's king. West played a third round of hearts. Declarer ruffed and led his queen of diamonds. This was covered by West's king and dummy's ace. Next, declarer threw his remaining low diamond on the queen of clubs. East could take his queen of trumps but that would be the third and last trick for the defenders.

1095. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

This deal is based on a blast from the past that, until now, had been an undisturbed relic in my archives. Unless West planned to make his opening lead a club, the par result was for West was to bid five hearts as it is down only one on best play.

Alas for the defence, West led the ace of hearts and continued the suit. Declarer ruffed the second heart in dummy and cashed the ace of trumps, which revealed that the suit was originally four-zero. Declarer next led a low diamond from dummy. East took his ace and king of diamonds, with West signalling that he held an odd number.

In the hope of establishing his jack of trumps as the setting trick, East played the king of hearts to force declarer to ruff in dummy. Declarer did so and led the jack of diamonds. East placed West with five diamonds and so discarded a club, as did declarer.

Declarer continued with dummy's ten of diamonds. East discarded another club, but declarer ruffed this winner to reduce his trump length to two, the same as East's. Next declarer cashed the king and ace of clubs and was relieved to see that East had begun with four clubs in a 4=3=2=4 shape.

In the two-card ending, with East holding the jack-eight of trumps under declarer's queen-ten, it didn't matter whether East ruffed the club from dummy high or low: declarer would take the last two tricks to make his contract. Declarer took five trumps, two heart ruffs in dummy, a diamond and two clubs for ten tricks in all.

1096. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

This deal is from a team game. North's jump to two notrump promised a forcing raise in spades with four-card support. South rebid of four spades showed a minimum, balanced hand.

Both West players led the obvious card, the queen of clubs. At the first table, declarer took the ace of clubs and drew three rounds of trumps ending in dummy. Next, he led a low heart to his queen, which held, and a heart to dummy's ten, which lost to East's jack. After cashing the ace of hearts, East played the king and another club. West took the setting trick with the ten of clubs.

At the other table, the declarer was much more experienced. After winning the first trick with the ace of clubs, like his counterpart at the other table, he drew three rounds of trumps. Then he cashed the king and ace of diamonds and ruffed dummy's remaining diamond. Instead of touching hearts, this declarer exited with a club.

West played the ten of clubs. As East did not want to be on lead after the third round of clubs he overtook the ten with his king of clubs and exited with another club to West's jack. West counted declarer as beginning with a 5=3=2=3 shape and assumed that declarer held the queen rather than the ace of hearts (otherwise there was no defence). On that basis West saw that leading either minor suit now would allow declarer to ruff in dummy and discard a heart from hand: the ace of hearts would be the defence's last trick.

So West got off play by leading a low heart. Declarer called for dummy's eight and, when this fetched the jack, declarer's problems were over. After winning the trick with the queen of hearts declarer claimed ten tricks, conceding a heart to East's ace.



Real Life

Larry Cohen
Delray Beach, FL

Losing at Lille

David Berkowitz and I finished second in the World Open Pairs in Lille, France in 1998. The following board was one of the reasons why we did not do better.

The World Open Pairs is the most gruelling Pairs event anywhere. It is played in 13 sessions over seven days, four sessions of qualifying, four sessions of semifinals and a five-session final. Because drop-in pairs from teams knocked out of the Rosenblum are permitted to enter the pairs at each stage, there is no carryover from one stage to the next.

The World Open pairs is also the rarest event to win – just nine pairs had done so since its inception in 1962. Incredibly, one of our opponents on this deal, Marcelo Branco of Brazil, had done it twice, with different partners, Gabino Cintra in 1978 and Gabriel Chagas in 1990.

On the second round of Session 3 of the Finals, I picked the wrong opponent against whom to card honestly:

Dealer East. Both Vul.

```

♠ 10 3 2
♥ A K Q 10 5 4 2
♦ K
♣ 9 7

♠ A Q J 8
♥ 8 7
♦ 8 6 3 2
♣ A 10 8

♠ 6 4
♥ J 6
♦ Q J 10 5
♣ Q J 6 5 3

♠ K 9 7 5
♥ 9 3
♦ A 9 7 4
♣ K 4 2

```

West	North	East	South
Berkowitz	Branco	Cohen	Chagas
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

David led a diamond, and Gabriel Chagas, fresh from winning a silver medal in the Rosenblum Teams (the knockout finalists had automatic placement into the

pairs finals), won in dummy and cashed one high heart. Next, he played a spade to the nine and David's jack.

If David had been out of hearts, declarer would have had immediate access to his ninth trick. However, David accurately played back a heart. Chagas won and started to run the suit. With one heart to play, this was the position:

```

♠ 10 3
♥ 2
♦ —
♣ 9 7

♠ A Q
♥ —
♦ 8
♣ A 10

♠ —
♥ —
♦ J 10
♣ Q J 6

♠ K 7
♥ —
♦ A
♣ K 4

```

Unsure of LHO's shape, declarer had to guess what to throw on the last heart. I had earlier thrown my second spade to let David know what was going on. Unfortunately, that also told Chagas that the spades were four-two and not five-one (we play five-card majors, but David had chosen to open a four-bagger in third seat).

Chagas threw a *spade* in the diagrammed position, and David was helpless. No matter what he discarded, he would have to give Chagas his ninth trick in a minor.

Thanks to my spade discard, the ending was easy for Chagas to read. David threw a diamond, and Chagas played a spade. David cashed his other spade, and Chagas correctly threw his diamond ace to score his club king at trick 13, for 61 out of 70 matchpoints.

Why didn't David keep three spades in the endgame? Think about the penultimate round of hearts. On that trick, David had been squeezed down to the ending you see above. Had David kept three spades, he would have had to part with a minor-suit card. No matter which one he discarded, he'd be dead.

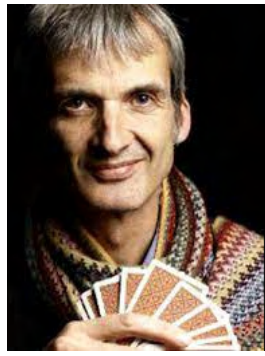
Say David had thrown a diamond to reduce to three-two in the blacks. Chagas would lead the last heart and throw his *diamond ace*, leaving David with no effective answer. (Declarer would score one of his black-suit kings at trick 13.)

If, instead, David blanked his club ace, Chagas would blank his club king in the five-card ending, then play a club. It was a frustrating deal for the defense. David was discarding after declarer, yet was squeezed first.

I apologized to David for my revealing carding. Graciously, David said he was sure Chagas would have made three notrump anyway. Chagas smiled enigmatically.

Country Life

Andrew Robson
London



The Consummate Artist

There's no better practitioner of the declarer-play art than Herefordshire's Tony Forrester. Here he is in action at the Crockford's Cup.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

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

1. There is a strong case for bidding three diamonds, at least in part to attract the lead. Three notrumps (or five clubs) would stand little chance on an opening diamond lead.
2. Asking for a spade stopper.
3. A tad reluctantly given his void diamond. Hopefully, North, who can infer you are short, will have diamonds covered.

At your columnist's table, the contract was five clubs. This was wrecked by the lousy splits in every suit (especially trumps) and declarer ended up down two (down one is possible). Forrester made three notrumps and here's how.

West led the queen of spades and declarer gratefully took the king, expecting to chalk up ten tricks on a normal club split. When, at trick two, East discarded (an encouraging nine of diamonds) on the ace of clubs, the experienced declarer sat up. A challenge beckoned – of

precisely the sort Forrester relishes. Can you guess what he did at the next trick?

Declarer found the only play to give himself a chance – he led a spade, severing the defensive lines of transportation. West won with the knave and cashed the ace and seven, dummy and East throwing diamonds. Had West now refrained from cashing his fifth spade and switched specifically to a club (from knave-ten-nine), declarer would have been unable to succeed, his entries in a tangle.

In practice, West fell for the temptation and cashed the fifth spade, before then leading a diamond. Declarer rose with dummy's ace (retaining all his hearts), crossed to the queen of clubs and, when he led back to dummy's king, East had to discard from four hearts and the king of diamonds. Either was fatal – when he threw a heart, declarer could lead to his ace-king-queen and score the last trick with the promoted nine. Game made.

Had West refrained from cashing the fifth spade (squeezing partner), but mistakenly switched to a diamond, declarer succeeds by inserting dummy's ten, losing to East's queen. He wins the heart return and cashes the queen of clubs, then goes over to the king, again squeezing East in the red suits.

World Championships (Continued)

West	North	East	South
<i>V. Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	1♥	3♥ ¹	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	
1. Bid 3NT with a heart stop			

You would have thought the defence would be easy with the long trump hand's shape on display in dummy. It didn't work out that way, though. Brink overtook the king-of-hearts opening lead, cashed the jack, then played the ace of spades and a second spade back to his partner's king. A third spade now would have promoted a trump trick for South, giving the Swiss plus 500. Bas Drijver, though, chose to believe his partner's play, rather than his bidding, and played a third round of hearts, allowing declarer to ruff in safely, draw trumps and claim the rest; East/West plus 300 and perhaps the first chink in the Swiss armour, when the contract rated to be the same in the other room. But...

West	North	East	South
<i>Piedra</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Zimmerm'n</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	1♥	3♥ ¹	Double
4♣	4♥	5♦	5♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
1. Bid 3NT with a heart stop			

Pierre Zimmermann cashed a top diamond, and we all could have proceeded onto the next board in about 10 seconds flat had he then switched to his singleton club. When he instead continued with a second high diamond things slowed down considerably. Declarer ruffed in hand, crossed to the ace of hearts and led a club. Fernando Piedra rose with the ace and then started to think. They played three more boards in our room and, when we checked again with our spy at the other table, Piedra was still thinking. Eventually, he played a club for his partner to ruff. Simon de Wijs got the spades right to avoid a second undertrick, but that was still East/West plus 100 and 9 IMPs to Switzerland when it might have been a handful in the other direction.

In the dying seconds of the first half...

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

♠ K 5
 ♥ 9 7 3
 ♦ 10 7 6 4 3
 ♣ 7 5 3

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

♠ 9 6 3
 ♥ A 10 2
 ♦ A J 9 2
 ♣ Q 8 4

♠ Q 8
 ♥ K Q 8 4
 ♦ 8 5
 ♣ A J 9 6 2

West	North	East	South
<i>Piedra</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Zimmerm'n</i>	<i>Muller</i>
1♠	Pass	2NT ¹	Pass
4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. 3+ trump support, invitational or better

Declarer won the opening diamond lead in hand and cashed the ace of spades. When no honour appeared, Piedra cashed the king of diamonds and played a second trump. When spades fell two-two, he claimed eleven tricks, losing just the ace of clubs for plus 450. Surely this deal could not swing more than an overtrick IMP, could it?

West	North	East	South
<i>V. Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♠	Pass	2NT ¹	Double
4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. 3+ trump support, invitational or better

Perhaps aided by his partner's double, Drijver found the best lead, a heart. With no way for North to regain the lead quickly to lead a second heart, though, it seemed that the Swiss would gain only an IMP, as all sensible lines seem to lead to ten tricks.

However, Brink won trick one with the queen of hearts and, with nothing more attractive, returned the suit in the vague hope that Drijver had led from jack-third.

Van Lankveld won with the jack and cashed the ace of spades, no honour appearing. Since he no longer needed a heart discard on dummy's diamond winners, there was now a losing option. With a four-three diamond break surely better odds than finding trumps two-two, who can really blame Lankveld for taking the bait? So, rather than playing a second trump, declarer unblocked the diamonds and crossed to dummy with the ace of hearts. When he then tried to cash one of dummy's diamond winners, Brink ruffed in with the queen of spades. Declarer could get rid of one of his clubs, but Brink quickly cashed the ace of clubs and North's king of spades was the setting trick. Three defensive tricks had suddenly become four: East/West minus 50 and 11 IMPs to Switzerland.

Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

♠ Q 7 3 2
 ♥ K 4 3
 ♦ K J 9 3
 ♣ 4 3

♠ J 9 6 5 4
 ♥ 7
 ♦ 7 5 4 2
 ♣ 9 7 5

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

♠ A K
 ♥ A 6 5 2
 ♦ A 8 6
 ♣ A K J 8

West	North	East	South
<i>V. Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	Pass	2♣ ¹
Pass	2♦ ²	2♥	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	2NT
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♦	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Strong
2. Waiting

Brink's first error was to win the opening heart lead in dummy and take the club finesse, which won. When he then played the ace of diamonds and took a losing finesse to the queen, East returned a thoughtful queen of clubs. Had West held the fourth club, this would have broken up the black suit squeeze on West by severing transportation between the two hands.

With East holding the club guard, declarer was still cold by cashing the ace-king of clubs and the top spades from his hand, then playing off the diamond winners from dummy. When he then cashes the queen of spades, East would have been squeezed out of his heart stop or his club winner. When Brink won the club switch and laid down the ace of hearts, though, he had severed his own transportation and the squeeze would no longer work. North/South minus 50.

West	North	East	South
<i>Piedra</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Zimmerm'n</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	—	2♥ ¹	Double
3♣ ²	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1. Hearts and a minor			
2. Pass or correct			

To say that three clubs doubled played poorly would be the understatement of the championships. The defence began with three rounds of trumps, leaving declarer with a trump winner in dummy. Declarer had options as to when he took that trick, but it was the only one he got. The Dutch pair scored twelve tricks on defence; North/South plus 2000 and 19 IMPs to the Netherlands.

BB F3 SWI vs. NED (Rigal)

The Netherlands started the third set leading 73-59.

Board 45. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>V. Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	1♠	Pass	2♣ ¹
Pass	2♦ ²	Pass	2♥ ³
Pass	2♠ ⁴	Pass	2NT ⁵
Pass	3♣ ⁶	Pass	3♦ ⁷
Pass	3NT ⁸	Pass	Pass
Pass			

- Artificial game-force
- Minimum without 4 hearts
- Relay
- Has a second suit
- Relay
- Diamonds
- Relay
- 5=2=4=2

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Van Prooijen</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
—	1♠	Pass	1NT ¹
Pass	2♦ ²	Pass	2♥ ³
Pass	3♣ ⁴	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- Artificial game-force
- Natural
- Relay
- 5=2=4=2 or 7=1=4=1

Both tables reached three notrump, leaving the South hand completely unknown. Both defenders led clubs. Brink won in dummy and elected to lead a low diamond to the ten and jack. Back came a diamond. Declarer won with the ace and tried the queen of hearts. Van den Bos won and returned a low spade. Brink would have been fine had he ducked this, but he won, unblocked clubs and played a third diamond. The defenders could win and cash out the spades for down one.

Verhees took the top clubs and crossed to the ace of spades to finesse in diamonds. When that lost, he basically needed the jack of diamonds to fall. His luck was in. It really isn't clear to me if there is a best line or whether the best approach in theory should be followed as opposed to Brink's 'pressure' line.

BB F4 SWI vs. NED (Horton)

On the final deal of the fourth set, both sides were able to start with a weak bid, but the effect was somewhat different:

Board 64. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>V. Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	Pass	3♥	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Despite the poor 2=7=2=2 pattern and the prevailing vulnerability, East weighed in with a maximum pressure pre-empt and South had enough to take a shot at game. West led the three of clubs and thousands of spectators could see that going up with dummy's king and then knocking out the ace of diamonds would result in at least nine tricks.

Not having all 52 cards in view, declarer played dummy's two and East won with the jack and continued with the queen of clubs. It would do no good to win that and, when declarer ducked, East switched to the jack of hearts. Declarer won with the ace and played the queen of diamonds, West taking the ace and returning the two. Declarer won in dummy and played a heart, soon claiming nine tricks.

Here's what happened. Declarer won the heart return and cashed three diamonds. The last of these saw West

down to the ace of clubs and three spades. When he discarded a spade, declarer knew the remaining cards in the suit were now breaking 2-2.

Because of the spade position declarer could also have got home by taking the second heart, but that was clearly inferior.

However, suppose West had started with five spades headed by an honour. After taking the ace of diamonds, he can exit with the nine of spades and, if declarer wins in hand and ducks a heart, East wins and plays a second spade. If that was how the cards were disposed the only winning move would have been to go up with the king of clubs at trick one.

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
2♠!	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

I. Spades and a minor

North had an awkward decision over two notrump and he opted to take the low road. West led the five of clubs. Declarer won the second round of the suit with dummy's king and knocked out the ace of diamonds, plus 120, but a 7-IMP swing for Switzerland.

Switzerland beat Netherlands 167-164 in the final and thus won the 2021 Bermuda Bowl.

The Case for Adding Partial to Duplicate Bridge (Part I)

Bruce Altshuler, Los Angeles

Introduction

For the most part, except for periodic scoring adjustments, the format of duplicate bridge has remained unchanged for over eighty years. Unlike rubber bridge, duplicate bridge deals start with no partials for either side. A bonus of 50 is added to all partial contracts made, which is why two spades making two scores 110 and not just 60.

As a long-time rubber-bridge player, I learned to appreciate that there is considerable skill in dealing with partials, the ability to bid with partials, and to push the opponents too high when they have a partial, an art lost in a duplicate forum. Zia, Hamman and Baze, among others, are known for their mastery of rubber bridge. The legendary Meyer Schleifer was elected to the Bridge Hall of Fame primarily on his tremendous success at rubber bridge. For reasons unknown or unremembered, partials were never included in duplicate bridge, I suspect because no one could figure out how to do it or to

solve the problem of partial carryovers from one deal to another.

Some years ago, bridge expert Danny Kleinman suggested to me that if one were to pre-assign partials to selected boards uniformly throughout the duplicate field, one could make duplicate compatible with partials, a format which I call "Partial Conditions." In fact, according to Jeff Rubens, unbeknownst to Kleinman or myself, a similar suggestion was made decades ago in *The Bridge World* by Sonny Moyses. Also, the use of honours, scoring 100 for four of the top five cards in a contracted suit or 150 for all five top honours (ace-king-queen-jack-ten) or for all four aces in one hand in a notrump contract were a part of duplicate bridge scoring until 1946! One can incorporate partials without adding 'honours' to the scoring format, but restoring honours to scoring would make yet another intriguing option.

With the use of a simple label, or pre-fabricated boards, to approximately one-third or 12 of the 36 boards, varied partials can be assigned either to North/South or to East/West or, on certain boards, to both directions. Match-pointing and the current IMP scale would remain exactly the same. Unlike rubber bridge, any made partial on one hand, would NOT carry over to the next hand. Each board would stand on its own.

Scoring with Partial Conditions

The use of scoring honours in rubber bridge would not be included and the assignment of the 50-point bonus for made partials would remain unless the partial is converted to a game. Thus, if East/West are assigned a 30 partial and bid and make exactly one notrump, they continue to score 90 as before, but the 50-point partial bonus would not count towards game as the one notrump partial of 40 added to the assigned 30 partial would only add up to 70. With a 30 partial, a pair would need to bid at least two notrump (30 partial plus 70) making at least two to convert the partial to a non-vulnerable game bonus. In this example, making two notrump would lead to plus 300 for the non-vulnerable game, plus 70 for the partial, or a score of 370.

If East/West have a 60 partial, vulnerable, and bid two making three, instead of scoring 140 (90 plus 50), the pair converts their partial into a game by scoring over 100, and score 590, 500 for the vulnerable game, and 90 for the partial. Just as in a rubber match, East/West might try to push North/South with a 40 partial from two to an unmakeable three level, or find themselves doubled for down two or three at the three level in an unsuccessful attempt to 'push' the opponents too high.

With a 60 partial, a pair may settle for one notrump, sufficient for game, but with the strength to make nine to eleven tricks, eagerly waiting to inflict a severe penalty on any pair with the temerity to enter the auction. If

one has a 20 partial, one still needs to bid three notrump to close out the game, but three of a major or four of a minor suffices for game. With a 30 partial, a pair can stop in two notrump, three of a major, or four of a minor for game.

I have devised a fixed set of partials so that, in a set of 36 Boards, 12 boards, or one-third of the total, would be assigned fixed partials, with four out of 12 partial boards assigned two-way partials. For example, On Board 3, North/South would be assigned a 40 partial. On Board 12, the pre-assigned partials would be North/South plus 30 and East/West plus 80. Under my setup, in a seven-board team match, either two or three deals would be assigned partials. In an eight-board match, three deals would have partials assigned, and in a 16-board match, six deals would be assigned partials.

At IMPs

Each board can be IMPed on its own, as it is now. The use of partials would likely lead to more frequent penalty doubles and increased game and slam swings, while retaining the same partscore swings as before.

Here is a set of 36 boards, with my suggested partials assigned. The other 24 boards would have no partials assigned to either direction. Eight boards have one-way partials and four boards have two-way partials assigned. Labels can be affixed to each board to 'remind' the players, or if played on the Internet, the partial condition can be displayed and remain throughout the auction, reducing the common rubber-bridge pitfall of 'forgetting the partial'. There is an equal mix of vulnerable, both vulnerable and non-vulnerable conditions for each direction.

Board	Vul.	NS Partial	EW Partial
3	EW	+40	None
4	Both	None	+60
8	Neither	+70	None
12	NS	+30	+80
13	Both	None	+20
16	EW	+90	+40
18	NS	+60	None
22	EW	+None	+70
24	Neither	+20	+90
26	Both	+60	+60
30	Neither	None	+30
31	NS	+80	None

The game and slam scoring and doubled scoring would remain the same, except as affected by the partial – i.e., doubling the opponents into game in two diamonds doubled with the opponents 60 on, making two would score the game bonus plus the partial value doubled, and the extra 50 for the unsuccessful double. Computer scoring can easily be adjusted to score all contacts quickly and accurately.

Next month we'll discuss system and scoring strategy.



CONFESSIONS OF A BRIDGE ADDICT (3)

Joseph Silver, Hampstead, Québec
(Originally published in *Bridge Winners*)

In January 1964, I was skiing north of Montréal, where I met a young lady by the name of Muriel Dalphond. She spoke no English, and I spoke very little French, but love (lust?) conquerors all. We dated until the end of May. On the last weekend in May, Muriel's best friend was getting married, and Muriel was the maid of honour so, naturally, she expected me to accompany her, but not so fast! You see, as of May 1964, I had 288 master points, and fewer than the 50 red points needed to become a Life Master. On the same weekend as the wedding, there was a New York City Regional, and a man must have priorities musn't he?

So, I went off to NYC with my buddy Stevie Reiter (from Vermont) without a second thought. On May 29, 1964, we came second (to Mark Blumenthal) in the Men's Pairs, giving me 23.5 red points, for a total of 311 master points, of which 71 were red, making me Canada's second-youngest Life Master. When I got home, surprisingly enough, Muriel took no joy in my major accomplishment. In fact, she told me in no uncertain terms that she was through with me! (and who could blame her, certainly not me).

Over the following 40 years, I often thought of her with sadness. I did not regret that I had gone to NYC because, by my lights, I had no choice, I am a bridge player after all, and nothing to me was more important than that! The story does not end there. In the early 2000's, we reconnected, and have been living together for the last 20 years. (We were married four years ago in Las Vegas while staying with my good friends Marc and Brenda Jacobus. Brenda had said it was about time and had arranged things.) Muriel, however, did learn two things over the last 60 years, and that is, I love her but, more importantly, I am a card player through and through.

Somehow, I managed to get to my third, and final year (hopefully) of law school. I never went to an afternoon class since, on most days, from noon to midnight, I could be found playing bridge at the Vanderbilt. I never read a case except for one, but it was only one page long. I depended on my class notes, and those of my friends, to study for exams. Luckily, in addition to having exams only once a year, one needed only a 60% average over all the subjects to pass. In class, the professor's words went from his mouth to the notes I was taking, I never had any idea what was said in class, but I did take full, and complete, notes. The only thing I wanted to do was play bridge. (And, of course, fornicate. – *Joey used the coarser Anglo-Saxon verb. – Ed.*) Law school was my beard (*Joey's disguise – Ed.*) to give some respectability for my bridge. The only reason I was not thrown out was because my father was good friends with the Dean of the Law School.

During my final year's exams, I took a weekend off in the middle to go play the Open Pairs at the Cleveland Nationals. Despite all that, I staggered through, surprisingly finishing in the middle of my class (but with very little legal knowledge). More surprisingly, I won the Greenshields Prize for criminal law, which I learned about on graduation. (I figured the chance of me winning any academic prize was the same as an infinite number of monkeys typing on an infinite number of typewriters producing the works of Shakespeare! I knew how to spell 'criminal law', but that was the extent of my knowledge.)

During my final year of Law School, I inherited the McGill Bridge Club from Jacques Guertin, who had graduated and moved to California. Being president was a great gig; not only could I direct the weekly duplicate and pocket all the entrance fees, but McGill gave the club an annual stipend which I also pocketed, after paying what few expenses we had. During this period, I remember a conversation with Sam Gold, (Montréal's Mister Bridge, mentor to Peter Nagy and Eric Kokish, a giant in the early years of bridge, someone who has been overlooked by the ACBL Hall of Fame through pure ignorance, a disgrace!) I was fishing for a compliment to enforce what I already knew about what a bridge talent I was. (After all, I was Canada's second-youngest LM.) To my surprise, Sam answered by telling me that one was rubbish as a bridge player until one had 10 years of experience. Well, to say I was insulted was an underbid, and I knew with certainty he was wrong, and I proved him wrong, because it didn't take me 10 years to become a 'bridge player' – it took me 20!

When I graduated law in 1965, Québec's quiet revolution had started, meaning that the populace, consisting mostly of French Canadians, were tired of the dominance of the English language. They wanted the dominant language to be French, not English, and

who could blame them? The problem was that my French was almost non-existent. I had no talent for French, it had been my "bête noire" throughout my 18 years of school. I knew that if I wished to live in Montréal, I had to learn the language. School had always emphasized French, but I had learned nothing. So, I decided that in the fall, after graduation, I would go to live in Paris for a year.

That summer, I took a job delivering heavy bolts of cloth for my uncle, in order to make enough money for my trip. During my first week of work, I had an accident where my right hand was cut open, severing the tendon and making it impossible to work. However, the party responsible paid me a few thousand dollars in damages. All I could think about after the accident was lucky me, now I get to hang out at the Vanderbilt full time.

My preparation for my year-long trip to Paris was almost nil. I had decided that I would do some post-graduate work in law, and someone had given me the name of a small hotel close to the law faculty, but that was all until a chance meeting with a classmate on the bus, who told me about "la Cité Universitaire", (the international student residence) and that I needed photocopies of my degrees, who knew? Finally, in mid-September, the big day arrived. After saying good-bye to my Vanderbilt friends, I packed my one suitcase, and my parents took me to the airport. The last words I said to my mother before leaving were, "DON'T FORGET TO RENEW MY BRIDGE WORLD SUBSCRIPTION."

To Be Continued (Perhaps)



The Sweethearts (Top and Ball)

Elena Ström, Stockholm

A Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale begins:

A whipping Top and a little Ball lay together in a box, among other toys, and the Top said to the Ball: "Shall we be married, as we live in the same box?"

Top or Ball...what is your call as North in this situation? Neither side is vulnerable and you hold:

♠ 5 2 ♡ Q 8 6 4 ♦ 9 8 ♣ 8 6 5 4 2

West	North	East	South
Nicolaisen	Magnussen	Christiansen	Henriksen
—	—	1♣	INT
Double	?		

This deal is from a Danish Senior training match and, at one table, North chose to pass. That did not work out so well as East/West collected a penalty of 1100 on imperfect declarer play. This was the full deal:

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

At the other table...

West	North	East	South
Adamsen	D. Schaltz	K.-Palmund	P. Schaltz
—	—	1♣	INT
Double	Redouble ¹	Pass	2♣ ²
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
2♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. SOS
2. Clubs

Dorthe Schaltz hit the Ball and scored a Top, as two clubs in this situation showed clubs. East/West could make three notrump with an overtrick (or even six diamonds), but that was not easy to find after South's one notrump overcall; 14 IMPs to the Schaltz team was the result.

Offer to IBPA Members

Each week Bermuda Bowl winner Bas Drijver and his brother Tom show an interesting deal from the ABC, the ACBL Bidding Contest. Check this video:

< <https://youtu.be/c34mMugx934> > and notice how the Drijver Bros reached 7NT using the app bid72. Feel free to write about the deal in your columns or articles.

Members of IBPA are offered a free one-year subscription to bid72, an app to practice bidding and building bridge partnerships. Just send an email to info@bid72.com mentioning your name and the name plus email-address of your favorite partner and both of you are good to go at no charge. Bid72 organizes in-app bidding contests and training sessions for large bridge communities like ACBL, English Bridge Union and the Dutch Bridge Federation.

Check www.bid72.com for more information.

...Editorial (continued)

That was one controversy avoided. Others surfaced between those two announcements, at the World Championships themselves. Play was interrupted for a day, players and WBF staff tested positive, the schedule was adjusted, teams withdrew from the NBO Championship, basically a consolation event for teams no longer in play, and many substitutes and replacements were authorized ad hoc. When the USA I Mixed Team was allowed both a substitute, then a replacement pair when the substitute tested positive, in their knockout match with Latvia, the Latvian Bridge Federation asked why:

We are writing on behalf of the Latvian Mixed Team who qualified for the quarterfinals in the 45th WBF Teams Championships in Salsomaggiore. When arriving for the first segment of the quarterfinals on April 4, 2022, the Latvian team members were informed that three of the six members of their opponents (USA I) had had positive COVID-19 tests, so they wanted to sub in Cheri Bjerkan, who had played for USA I in the Venice Cup. According to a decision of the Head TD, the segment was played with this substitute, which was already against General Conditions of Contest points 3.6 and 17.4. Also, Convention Cards were not filled out properly according to the WBF's regulation.

When arriving for the second session, the Latvian team noticed that the USA I team had been supplemented with two other players, both of whom had also played both in Venice Cup and in the NBO Trophy Cup on the same day, which again is against General Conditions of Contest 3.6 and 17.4. After consulting with Head TD, it was explained that Cheri Bjerkan has received a positive COVID 19 test, and that USA I team was allowed to add 2 more players.

Later that evening, a Member of the Rules and Regulations Committee sent an email to Karlis Rubins, NPC of the team, stating that Supplemental Conditions of Contest had a revision dated March 23, 2022, namely point 4.4, which allows the replacement of players during the tournament. However, it also clearly states that any replacement needed vetting by the Credentials Committee as well as no objections from the Executive Council.

We believe that the changes made in the team composition of USA I were illegal and we are asking for annulment of quarterfinal boards played so far and instead to award team USA I a technical loss for not being able to submit a valid lineup.

Jelena Alfejeva, President, Latvian Bridge Federation

There was no joy for Latvia: USA I defeated them in the quarterfinal and went on to win the silver medal.

Edwin B. Kantar

November 11, 1932 - April 8, 2022



With a profound sense of bereavement and loss, I regret to acknowledge that the great Eddie Kantar passed away this morning at the age of 89. Eddie, I can't find adequate words. You were simply the best.

Frank Stewart on Bridge Winners

Eddie Kantar lost no time in moving from frigid Minneapolis to balmy Venice Beach in southern California after graduating from the University of Minnesota. He found the beaches along the Pacific Ocean much more pleasant than the 10,000 frozen lakes of Minnesota.

As well as being one of the all-time great bridge players, Eddie was an accomplished table tennis, racquetball and paddle tennis player. To date, he is the only person to have competed in the World Bridge Championships and the World Table Tennis Championship. He had considerably better results at the bridge World Championships. He was inducted into the ACBL Bridge Hall of Fame in 1996, the same year he was inducted into the Minnesota State Table Tennis Hall of Fame. In 2018 he was also inducted into the National Paddle Tennis Hall of Fame. Other accomplishments were the Sidney Lazard Sportsmanship Award and the Precision Award for Best Article about a Convention or System.

Eddie's wins are too numerous to list: there were 17 North American Bridge Championships, with multiple wins in each of the Vanderbilt, Spingold and Reisinger, the top three ACBL events, three USBF Trials wins and two Bermuda Bowl wins. He also won a Pan-Am Games gold in 1977 and the Maccabiah Games in 1981.

Eddie was arguably the greatest player/writer/teacher of all time. Others may equal him as a player and/or as a writer, but not for all three categories. He was beloved for his self-deprecating humour and many of his 35 books are classics, especially *Kantar's Complete Defensive Play*. He was a regular in many bidding forums, the *ACBL Bulletin* and other bridge magazines. He was for years the Bridge Editor of *Sports Illustrated* magazine when that weekly periodical had a bridge column.

Kantar studied languages at the University of Minnesota and was fluent in French and Spanish, with a working knowledge of a few others. He was in constant demand as a bridge lecturer/teacher all over the world. During a stint in the U.S. Army, Eddie was teaching bridge to a class in Germany, so he taught in German. "Even though the students spoke only German, by the end of the class they were begging me to teach in English," Eddie recalled.

Eddie had successful bridge partnerships with Marshall Miles, Bob Hamman, Billy Eisenberg and Alan Sontag. His partnership with Hamman resulted in the finest piece ever to appear in the *ACBL Bulletin*, entitled *Robert's Rules*. This had nothing to do with *Robert's Rules of Order* (Henry M. Robert, 1876), but with the rules Robert's partners had to follow when they played with him. The rules attest to Kantar's wonderful sense of humour. They are:

Robert's Rules

- Rule 1: If you have a choice of bids and one of the choices is three notrump, bid three notrump.
- Rule 2: Do not play me for the perfect hand; I NEVER have it.
- Rule 3: If everyone at the table seems to be bidding his head off, trust them, not me.
- Rule 4: When contemplating a slam, always subtract a king from what it sounds like I have before bidding the slam.
- Rule 5: Be practical.
- Rule 6: Do the right thing.

Kantar pointed out that the rules offered no guidelines about what to do when they were in conflict with one another. If he went four down in a ridiculous three notrump contract, Eddie would have been accused of violating any or all of the other rules, especially the catchall Rule 6. Kantar and Hamman dissolved their partnership after failing to come first or second in the 1969 Bermuda Bowl,

the first time a North American representative team had ever failed to do so at that time.

It is unusual for a great player's most-famous deal to be a disaster, but such was the case with Eddie. It occurred in the 1975 Bermuda Bowl final, on Board 92 of 96, with Italy leading North America 195-183. The North Americans had begun the set up by 25 IMPs, but were down 12 at that point. Here is the infamous deal:

Board 92. Dealer West. NS Vul.

<p>♠ A K 10 9 ♥ — ♦ A 9 7 ♣ J 9 8 6 3 2</p> <p>♠ 4 3 ♥ Q 10 8 7 ♦ Q 10 6 4 ♣ 7 5 4</p>	<p>♠ 7 6 5 2 ♥ K 4 3 2 ♦ J 5 3 ♣ K 10</p> <p>♠ Q J 8 ♥ A J 9 6 5 ♦ K 8 2 ♣ A Q</p>
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West	North	East	South
Eisenberg	Belladonna	Kantar	Garozzo
Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass	2♦ ²
Pass	2♠ ³	Pass	3♥ ⁴
Pass	3NT ⁵	Pass	4♣ ⁶
Pass	4♦ ⁷	Pass	4NT ⁸
Pass	5♦ ⁹	Pass	5♥ ¹⁰
Double	Redouble ¹¹	Pass	5♠ ¹²
Double	5NT ¹³	Pass	7♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Precision: 11-15, 6+ clubs or 5+ clubs and a 4-card major
2. Relay: 2♥ would not have been forcing
3. 4-card spade suit

4. 5+ hearts, forcing to game
5. An offer to play
6. Club slam try
7. Diamond control, certainly the king or ace, given the 3NT bid
8. Declarative-Interrogative, shows two aces and further interest
9. Confirms first-round diamond control, in this case the ace, and shows interest in a grand slam
10. Heart control
11. First-round heart control
12. Usually a control; here, Garozzo deemed his holding to be worthy
13. Grand-slam try

When Garozzo bid seven clubs, Kantar thought, "God is not an Italian after all." Kantar led a heart. Then came the shock of seeing Garozzo's dummy. Belladonna ruffed the heart, led a club to the queen, cashed the club ace and claimed plus 2140 and 12 IMPs.

Had Kantar played the king of clubs on the first round of the suit (which he admitted never occurred to him), Belladonna, when asked what he would have done, said afterwards, "The North Americans would be World Champions today." Belladonna would have played to trump coup Eisenberg out of the ten-fourth of clubs, eventually losing a trick to Kantar's ten of trumps. That would have won 17 IMPs for North America, a 29-IMP swing and would have been one of the greatest defensive deals of all time. The final score of the match was Italy 214 – North America 189, a margin of 25 IMPs.

John Carruthers
(With assistance from the ACBL Hall of Fame, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The New York Times*, the *1975 World Championship* book and Wikipedia.)



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World Bridge Calendar

2022

May 12-15	Shree Cement Bridge Championship	New Town Kolkata, India	bridgewebs.com/wbba
May 12-15	13 th Assos Bridge & Culture Festival	Canakkale, Turkey	neseedirim@msn.com
May 13-15	Grand Prix of Kosice	Kosice, Slovakia	bridgeclub.sk
May 14-22	22 nd Deutsches Bridgefestival	Wyk-auf-Föhr, Germany	bridge-verband.de
May 17-22	34 th Cairo Bridge Festival	Cairo, Egypt	egyptbridge.org
May 19-22	Uzlina Bridge Cup	Murighiol-Uzlina, Romania	playbridgeindelta.com
May 21-28	70 th South American Bridge Festival	Cali, Colombia	csbnews.org/festival-cali
May 21-29	Turkey Summer Championships	Antalya, Turkey	tbricfed.org.tr
May 24-Jun 1	Festival Juan-les-Pins	Antibes, France	festivalsdusoleil.com
May 25-29	International Bridge Festival	Budapest, Hungary	ibbf.hu
May 26-30	Nordic Teams Championship	Kuopio, Finland	facebook.com/bridgeliitto
May 26-31	Marit Sveas International	Lillehammer, Norway	msibt.org
May 30-Jun 3	WBT Masters	Lillehammer, Norway	wbtresults.org
Jun 2-6	53 rd Grazer Bridgetagge	Graz, Austria	bridgegraz.at
Jun 3-6	Festival de Bridge de Vichy	Vichy, France	bridgeauverne.fr
Jun 4-9	Bridge en Corse	Porto Vacchio, Corsica	bridgeclub-portovecchio.com
Jun 9-13	Victor Champion Cup	Melbourne, Australia	abf.com.au
Jun 12-22	55 th Euro National Team Champs.	Funchal, Madeira Is., Portugal	eurobridge.org
Jun 16-19	Josefi Tournament	Velden, Austria	bridgeaustria.at
Jun 24-Jul 3	Slawa Bridge Congress	Slawa, Poland	pzbs.pl
Jun 24-Jul 3	40 th International Bridge Festival	Albena, Bulgaria	bridgealbena.org
Jul 1-12	International Bridge Festival	Biarritz, France	festival-bridge-biarritz.com
Jul 2-14	Australian National Championships	Adelaide, Australia	abf.com.au
Jul 6-10	Lozenets Bridge Festival	Lozenets, Bulgaria	bridge.bg
Jul 7-14	54 th Tel-Aviv Bridge Festival	Tel-Aviv, Israel	ibf-festival.org
Jul 8-17	Dansk Bridgefestival	Svendborg, Denmark	bridgefestival.dk
Jul 13-17	Kammergut Bridge Days	Gmunden, Austria	bridgeaustria.at
Jul 14-24	ACBL Summer NABC	Providence, RI	acbl.org
Jul 15-23	Baltic Congress	Sopot, Poland	pzbs.pl
Jul 15-24	Hangon BridgeViikko	Hanko, Finland	bridgefinland.fi
Jul 19-26	European Youth Team Championships	Veldhoven, Netherlands	eurobridge.org
Jul 21-24	Scarborough Summer Congress	Scarborough, England	ebu.co.uk
Jul 21-29	Festival Mondiale	Deauville, France	mondiale-bridge-deauville.com
Jul 25-31	Viru Bridge	Vosu, Estonia	bridge.ee
Jul 27-Aug 7	Grand Prix of Warsaw	Warsaw, Poland	pzbs.pl
Jul 28-30	EuroGames	Nijmegen, Netherlands	eurogames20232.eu
Jul 29-Aug 7	Swedish Bridgefestival	Örebro, Sweden	svenskbridge.se
Jul 30-Aug 4	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	svenskbridge.se
Aug 5-13	Norwegian Bridge Festival	Lillehammer, Norway	bridgefestival.no
Aug 5-14	Summer Meeting	Eastbourne, U.K.	ebu.co.uk
Aug 7-13	Wachauer Bridge Week	Mautern, Austria	bridgeaustria.at
Aug 7-14	World Youth Transnational Champs	Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy	wordbridge.org
Aug 9-14	Coffs Coast Gold Congress	Coffs Harbour, Australia	coffsbridge.com.au
Aug 10-14	Varna Bridge Festival	Varna, Bulgaria	bridge.bg
Aug 12-21	Festival Internationale de Bridge	La Baule, France	festivalbridgelabaule.com
Aug 19-Sep 3	World Bridge Series	Wroclaw, Poland	worldbridge.org
Aug 20-28	Festival La Grande Motte	La Grande-Motte, France	festival-bridge-lagrandemotte.fr
Aug 22-Sep 3	International Bridge Festival	Mamaia, Romania	frbridge.ro
Aug 23-28	65 th International Festival du Touquet	Le Touquet, France	letouquet-festivaldebridge.com
Aug 24-28	Territory Gold Bridge Festival	Darwin, Australia	ntba.com.au
Sep 2-4	International Women's Tournament	Augsberg, Germany	bridgezentrum-augasberg.de
Sep 9-21	60 th International Festival	Pula, Croatia	pulabridgefestival.com
Sep 12-17	FISU World University Championships	Antwerp, Belgium	fisunet/sport-events/fisu-calendar
Sep 12-18	Guernsey Bridge Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	ebu.co.uk
Sep 12-18	Abano Bridge Festival	Abano Terme, Italy	termebridgefestival.com
Sep 14-23	Asian Games	Hangzhou, China	hanzhou2022.cn/En
Sep 23-25	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	bridgescanner.com
Oct 1-8	NZB National Congress	Mt. Maunganui, NZ	nzbridge.co.nz
Oct 11-16	18th HCL Bridge Championships	New Delhi, India	hcl-bridge.com
Oct 19-28	Australian Spring Nationals	Sydney, Australia	abf.com.au
Nov 1-3	European Small Fed's Championship	Larnaca, Cyprus	eurobridge.org
Nov 7-13	Madeira International Open	Funchal, Madeira, Portugal	bridge-madeira.com
Nov 10-23	Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	bridgeredsea.com
Nov 24-Dec 4	ACBL Fall NABC	Phoenix, AZ	acbl.org
Dec 2-10	Festival de Mar del Plata	Mar del Plata, Argentina	aba.org.ar
Dec 27-30	Year End Congress	London, England	ebu.co.uk