

Chief Editor: **Henry Francis** (USA) • Editors: **Mark Horton** (Great Britain), **Brian Senior** (Great Britain) • Layout Editor: **Stelios Hatzidakis** (Greece)

USA1 - Norway tie for lead in Bermuda Bowl France lead the way in the Venice Cup

Bermuda Bowl

USA1 had a great day with three good wins against other highly regarded teams, 16-14 against Denmark, 22-8 over China in the afternoon vugraph match and 23-7 against Brazil. The only other team with three wins was Australia, who also defeated China (17-13) and Brazil (19-11) plus host country, Tunisia (20-10), while Norway, USA2, Poland and France all managed two wins and a draw. After six matches, only the joint-leaders, USA1 and Norway are unbeaten.

Biggest win of the day was by New Zealand who crushed Chile by 25-1. Chile bounced back though and achieved the second biggest win, 24-6 over South Africa.

Venice Cup

France are running away with the Venice Cup round robin, 19 VPs clear of the field after only six matches. On Day 2 they had two big wins, over highly fancied China (20-10) and Colombia (22-8), followed by a draw with perennial rivals, Great Britain. Already, France are the only undefeated side in the Ladies competition.

The only teams with three wins on the day were the two USA teams, with USA2 still playing without Lynn Deas. USA1 defeated Brazil (23-7), Netherlands (16-14) and Canada (20-10), while USA2 won all three matches by 16-14, against Italy, Germany and Tunisia. Also enjoying the day were Australia and second placed South Africa, both with two wins and a draw. South Africa had the one maximum of the day, against New Zealand.

And congratulations to the host nation, Tunisia, who, after a very nervous first day, moved off the bottom of the table with a 15 and two 14s on the day.



The World Bridge Federation flag flies at half-mast in honour of Edgar Kaplan

Rules and Regulations

The Rules and Regulations committee has decided that in the case of a fouled board which is not noticed at the table, the appeals period is extended until 11.00 a.m. the next day.

Ton Kooijman

VUGRAPH

Bermuda Bowl - Round 7 11h00

USA II - Brazil

Bermuda Bowl - Round 8 14h30

New Zealand - Chinese Taipei

Bermuda Bowl - Round 9 18h00

Denmark - China

Bermuda Bowl - Results

Round 4

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
1.	Denmark - USA I	45 - 53	14 - 16
2.	Canada - USA II	24 - 61	7 - 23
3.	Poland - India	66 - 32	22 - 8
4.	Australia - China	66 - 54	17 - 13
5.	South Africa - Brazil	44 - 49	14 - 16
6.	France - Tunisia	56 - 33	20 - 10
7.	New Zealand - Chile	86 - 12	25 - 1
8.	Chinese Taipei - Italy	31 - 41	13 - 17
9.	Norway - Venezuela	33 - 25	16 - 14

Round 5

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
1.	USA I - China	47 - 15	22 - 8
2.	USA II - Denmark	32 - 32	15 - 15
3.	India - Canada	32 - 34	15 - 15
4.	Brazil - Australia	43 - 60	11 - 19
5.	Tunisia - South Africa	17 - 39	10 - 20
6.	Chile - France	25 - 26	15 - 15
7.	Italy - New Zealand	70 - 17	25 - 5
8.	Venezuela - Chinese Taipei	32 - 51	11 - 19
9.	Norway - Poland	27 - 27	15 - 15

Round 6

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
1.	Brazil - USA I	17 - 54	7 - 23
2.	China - USA II	12 - 34	10 - 20
3.	Denmark - India	45 - 45	15 - 15
4.	Poland - Canada	46 - 31	18 - 12
5.	Australia - Tunisia	51 - 28	20 - 10
6.	South Africa - Chile	25 - 68	6 - 24
7.	France - Italy	39 - 27	17 - 13
8.	New Zealand - Venezuela	43 - 45	15 - 15
9.	Chinese Taipei - Norway	19 - 43	10 - 20

Bermuda Bowl - Program

Round 7

11h00

1.	USA I	-	Tunisia
2.	USA II	-	Brazil
3.	India	-	China
4.	Canada	-	Denmark
5.	Chile	-	Australia
6.	Italy	-	South Africa
7.	Venezuela	-	France
8.	Norway	-	New Zealand
9.	Chinese Taipei	-	Poland

Round 8

14h30

1.	Chile	-	USA I
2.	Tunisia	-	USA II
3.	Brazil	-	India
4.	China	-	Canada
5.	Poland	-	Denmark
6.	Australia	-	Italy
7.	South Africa	-	Venezuela
8.	France	-	Norway
9.	New Zealand	-	Chinese Taipei

Round 9

18h00

1.	USA I	-	Italy
2.	USA II	-	Chile
3.	India	-	Tunisia
4.	Canada	-	Brazil
5.	Denmark	-	China
6.	Venezuela	-	Australia
7.	Norway	-	South Africa
8.	Chinese Taipei	-	France
9.	New Zealand	-	Poland

Bermuda Bowl Rankings after 6 rounds

1.	U.S.A. I	115
2.	NORWAY	115
3.	U.S.A. II	110
4.	AUSTRALIA	105
5.	ITALY	101
6.	BRAZIL	98
7.	POLAND	96
8.	FRANCE	95
9.	DENMARK	90
10.	CHINA	89
11.	CHINESE TAIPEI	86
12.	CANADA	82
13.	NEW ZEALAND	82
14.	CHILE	77
15.	VENEZUELA	74
16.	SOUTH AFRICA	74
17.	INDIA	70
18.	TUNISIA	51

Smoking in Hammamet

The tournament is normally non-smoking, unless if, by special agreement of the concerned players at a table, the tournament director is requested to allow it.

The tournament director will, however, be entitled to forbid smoking if the room becomes too smoky.

On submitting their lineups, team captains will be requested to add an S to the names of the smoking players. No cigars or pipes. Only players are allowed to smoke.

The same smoking policy will apply next year at the World Championships in Lille, France.



Faxes and email

Please check with the Press Room from time to time if you are expecting to receive either faxes or email. The Press Room does not have the time nor the staff to seek each person out. The Press Room opens daily at 10 a.m.

Venice Cup - Results

Round 4

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
10.	Colombia - France	28 - 60	8 - 22
11.	India - Chinese Taipei	35 - 45	13 - 17
12.	Germany - Australia	38 - 64	10 - 20
13.	Canada - China	55 - 44	17 - 13
14.	Brazil - Great Britain	36 - 32	16 - 14
15.	Netherlands - USA I	26 - 34	14 - 16
16.	New Zealand - South Africa	8 - 69	3 - 25
17.	Tunisia - Argentina	44 - 49	14 - 16
18.	USA II - Italy	37 - 32	16 - 14

Round 5

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
10.	France - China	58 - 33	20 - 10
11.	Chinese Taipei - Colombia	27 - 61	8 - 22
12.	Australia - India	38 - 40	15 - 15
13.	Great Britain - Canada	42 - 30	17 - 13
14.	USA I - Brazil	62 - 23	23 - 7
15.	South Africa - Netherlands	44 - 44	15 - 15
16.	Argentina - New Zealand	45 - 72	9 - 21
17.	Italy - Tunisia	47 - 45	15 - 15
18.	USA II - Germany	46 - 39	16 - 14

Round 6

Table	Match	IMPs	VPs
10.	Great Britain - France	22 - 22	15 - 15
11.	China - Chinese Taipei	39 - 27	17 - 13
12.	Colombia - Australia	25 - 64	7 - 23
13.	Germany - India	40 - 33	16 - 14
14.	Canada - USA I	24 - 50	10 - 20
15.	Brazil - South Africa	36 - 52	12 - 18
16.	Netherlands - Argentina	56 - 49	16 - 14
17.	New Zealand - Italy	23 - 63	7 - 23
18.	Tunisia - USA II	47 - 54	14 - 16

Venice Cup - Program

Round 7

11h00

10.	France - USA I
11.	Chinese Taipei - Great Britain
12.	Australia - China
13.	India - Colombia
14.	South Africa - Canada
15.	Argentina - Brazil
16.	Italy - Netherlands
17.	USA II - New Zealand
18.	Tunisia - Germany

Round 8

14h30

10.	South Africa - France
11.	USA I - Chinese Taipei
12.	Great Britain - Australia
13.	China - India
14.	Germany - Colombia
15.	Canada - Argentina
16.	Brazil - Italy
17.	Netherlands - USA II
18.	New Zealand - Tunisia

Round 9

18h00

10.	France - Argentina
11.	Chinese Taipei - South Africa
12.	Australia - USA I
13.	India - Great Britain
14.	Colombia - China
15.	Italy - Canada
16.	USA II - Brazil
17.	Tunisia - Netherlands
18.	New Zealand - Germany

Venice Cup Rankings after 6 rounds

1.	FRANCE	121
2.	SOUTH AFRICA	102
3.	U.S.A. II	100
4.	CANADA	100
5.	U.S.A. I	99
6.	GREAT BRITAIN	95
7.	CHINA	93
8.	AUSTRALIA	91
9.	NETHERLANDS	89
10.	GERMANY	89
11.	ITALY	89
12.	ARGENTINA	88
13.	BRAZIL	85
14.	INDIA	79
15.	NEW ZEALAND	76
16.	CHINESE TAIPEI	76
17.	TUNISIA	68
18.	COLOMBIA	66

THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of the IBPA Executive will be held today, Wednesday 22 October at 9.00a.m. Please meet in the Press Room. Note change of venue.



Daily Bulletins

With everyone being modest in collecting his or her Daily Bulletin, we should have plenty of copies. Therefore it seems realistic to assume that there should be no problem in getting one.

Ton Kooijman

Carnival Time

Brazil too hot for France

The third round match between Brazil and France was featured on Vugraph and provided excellent entertainment, with plenty of big swings, the majority of them going to the South American stars.

The match got off to a dramatic start.

Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.

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

Photograph courtesy of Koziak's new digital camera



Gabriel Chagas (Brazil)

In the Closed Room Perron opened a strong notrump and on a less than perfect defence emerged with eight tricks.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Chagas	Mari	Branco
1♠	1♣	1♦	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
2♣	Dbl	All Pass	

Here North's system prevented him from opening INT, so East/West were able to enter the auction. When Chagas doubled INT to show a good hand, Levy decided, perhaps unwisely, to look for a safer spot. According to French sources it was possible he had four spades and five clubs, so he was left to stew in two clubs doubled.

Chagas led the four of hearts and Levy tried the ten, covered by the jack and ace. He played the four of spades and Chagas won to continue with the queen of hearts. Declarer won with the king and played a spade. North won and cashed the nine of hearts before playing a spade. Declarer was in deep trouble and when he discarded a diamond from dummy South ruffed and played the last heart, which North ruffed with the ten of clubs. Levy overruffed and played a trump, but now Chagas could draw trumps and play the queen of diamonds. Declarer could only arrive at four tricks, -800 and Brazil were off to a 12 IMP start.

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fonseca	Perron	Mello	Chemla
2♥	Pass	1♥	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Chagas	Mari	Branco
INT	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

Both teams reached the doomed four hearts. There was much speculation as to how one might reach 3NT, which turned out to be the contract at many tables in both the Bowl and the Cup.

After 1♥-2♥ East might well settle for 3NT on the grounds that as long as partner has as little as the ace of hearts it can hardly be worse than the diamond finesse, and at the other table it was possible for East to bid 3NT and leave the final decision to West.

Brazil doubled their lead on the next deal.

Board 3. East/West Game. Dealer South.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fonseca	Perron	Mello	Chemla
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Chagas	Mari	Branco
INT	2♣	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

The cards were lying well for declarer in 3NT and on the lead of the king of hearts there were no real problems in arriving at nine tricks.

Something went wrong in the Open Room.

When Chagas entered the auction with a bid which

promised hearts and another suit, Mari decided to ignore him and went in search of the best game. There was clearly a misunderstanding as to the meaning of the two heart bid and the end result was a poor final contract.

As an aside you, can decide for yourselves if North should get involved over a strong notrump, but it was an action found at other tables. At one, East doubled two clubs and when South and West passed North bid two diamonds. East doubled again and South, thinking North had longer diamonds, passed. -800 was not a disaster if East/West made 3NT but they stopped in two. Assuming South's pass showed some clubs and denied three hearts, the most important thing is for North/South to find their best spot. A sensible way of playing is for North to redouble with four diamonds and to bid the suit with five. Two hearts should show five hearts and four spades and two spades the reverse. It would be unsound for North to simply bid two hearts as a diamond fit might be missed.

Back to the action.

North led the king of hearts and when that was allowed to hold he continued with the eight of hearts. Levy put up the jack and played a spade to the ten and king. Chagas played the queen of hearts and there was nothing Levy could do. He needed a second heart trick to have any chance but now he was soon conceding one down.

Brazil 24 France 0.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fonseca	Perron	Mello	Chemla
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	INT

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Chagas	Mari	Branco
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♣	Dbl	INT
Pass	2♦	All Pass	

France opened their account when they bid and made a thin game in the Closed Room.

West's opening lead was the three of spades, slightly strange in view of South's 'better minor' opening bid. Still, all was not yet lost.

Declarer won in hand and played the three of diamonds. West went up with the ace. Now it was! The switch to the king of hearts was just the icing on the cake for Chemla who claimed 10 tricks.

Branco made eight tricks in his diamond partscore so that was 11 IMPs for France.

The action showed no sign of slowing down on the next hand.

Board 5. North/South Game. Dealer North.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fonseca	Perron	Mello	Chemla
	INT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Chagas	Mari	Branco
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

With trumps 2-2 and clubs no worse than 4-2, six spades by North would be unbeatable. The French auction in the Closed Room got spades played the right way round thanks to Perron's off centre INT, but stopped short.

The natural sequence in the other room meant South would be declarer, but as soon as Branco heard of spade support he was off to the races.

Levy found the lead of the six of hearts which might have caused some players to agonise for a considerable period of time.

In less time than it took the announcer to call the card Branco had played low and was soon claiming twelve tricks.

13 well earned IMPs putting Brazil ahead 37-11.

Mercifully, things calmed down a little, although the teams continued to trade partscore swings over the next five boards. The score had advanced to 49-19 when this board arrived.

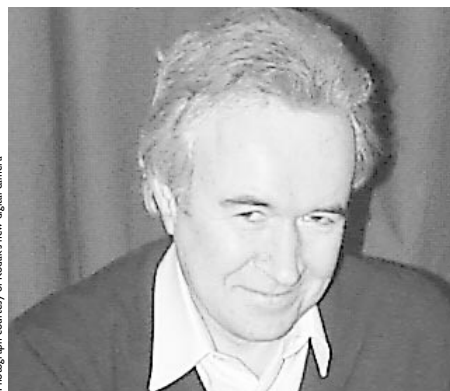
Board 11. Love All. Dealer South.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fonseca	Perron	Mello	Chemla
	INT		
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♣	3♠	All Pass

When you pick up a hand like East's, your problem is to find out if partner has anything useful. It is not clear how you should set about this – perhaps the practical approach is to close your eyes and bid game. West knew his partner had a good hand but he can scarcely be blamed for passing three spades.



Michel Perron (France)

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Chagas	Mari	Branco
	2♦	4♠	INT
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	Pass

Having started the match with eight minus scores, Mari knew his side must be well behind, and he took the not unreasonable decision of bidding what he hoped he could make. Chagas doubled and the spotlight was on Branco. There was only one card in his hand that would lead to the defeat of the contract and that was the two of spades.

Of course he led the ace of clubs and then switched to the two of spades, but now it was too late. Mari took his time, but eventually recorded +590.

Chagas was sufficiently annoyed to go under the screen – perhaps asking why the 'obvious' opening lead had been missed.

Of course you could argue that the only way declarer is likely to arrive at ten tricks is by using some trumps for ruffing, which might point you to the winning lead, but its hard to overlook the Barry Crane maxim, 'when God deals you AK in a suit it is so you don't have a lead problem.'

Whatever, France collected 9 badly needed IMPs.

Any lingering hopes of a French counter attack were extinguished three deals later.

Board 14. Love All. Dealer East.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fonseca	Perron	Mello	Chemla
		Pass	1♦
1♠	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Levy	Chagas	Mari	Branco
		Pass	1♦
1♠	2♦	Pass	3♣
3♠	4♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

With the heart finesse working and the ace of clubs well placed there was nothing the defence could do about five diamonds.

Six more IMPs to Brazil, who ran out winners by 67-33 IMPs, 22-8 VPs.

The trump Imperative

by Knut Kjaernsroed

The textbooks strongly advise a trump lead against doubled contracts. If the Italians, Versace/Lauria had abided by this rule, they would have reduced Norway's win in the third match of the Championships considerably. First, Board 11:

North/South Game. Dealer South.

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

The bidding was short:

West	North	East	South
Helness	Lauria	Helgemo	Versace
			1NT
Pass	2♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Lauria led the king of clubs and shifted to a trump, but it was too late. Helness won, and was able to trump two diamonds in dummy to land his doubled contract. An initial low trump lead gives declarer no chance.

Shortly after they arrived at a crucial point again:

Board 15. North/South Game. Dealer South.

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

This time the bidding went:

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♠	Dble	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

3♥ was, of course, a trial bid.

A trump lead would again give declarer no chance, he would probably have ended up two down. But when Versace chose the king of diamonds, that was all Geir Helgemo needed to land his contract. He took the ace of diamonds, a club to the ace and a club taken by South's king. The trump shift came, but once again too late. Helgemo trumped a club and claimed ten tricks.



Bermuda Bowl MAPOLANDOF

The opening board was an unlikely push – both teams played and made 4♣.

Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.

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



Cezary Balicki (Poland)

Why was this push unlikely? Well, East/West have a fine save in 5♣ – at many tables it was beaten only one trick. Ten pairs saved in diamonds, and nine more pushed their opponents to 5♥, where they scored a plus for beating the contract one trick. The bidding was the same at both tables here – North opened 1♥ and South splintered to 4♣. North returned to 4♥, and both East, with his near-yarborough but lots of diamonds, and West, who had a good second suit, decided to defend. Wrong decision.

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

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

West	North	East	South
Shivdasani	Romanski	Ghose	Kowalski
		2♥	2♣
3♥	4♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

This contract certainly had good chances. The big problem was the lack of entries to the South hand.



Jaggy Shivdasani (India)

Romanski won the singleton club opening lead with the jack, then cashed the ♦A and ♦Q. He had to hope that East did not have the last trump because this was the only way he could take the necessary second club finesse. But of course East ruffed the second club. He switched to the ♥Q – king, ace, and West returned the ♥4. East could have cashed the ♠A for down two here, but he continued with hearts and declarer escaped for down one. In the Closed Room the Indian pair stopped in 4♦, making four for a 6-IMP gain.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

♠ 10 9 8 6			
♥ 9			
♦ 8			
♣ A Q J 6 5 4 3			
♠ K Q 7 3		♠ A 4 2	
♥ K 8 7 5		♥ 6 2	
♦ A K 10 5 3		♦ J 9 6 4	
♣ –		♣ 10 9 8 2	
	N	E	
	W	S	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shivdasani	Romanski	Ghose	Kowalski
1♦	2♣	2♦	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

This was good bidding on the part of the Poles – they found a good advance save against the diamond game. 4♥ was set two tricks, but there had been no double so this was only minus 200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Dalal	Balicki	Padhye
1♦	3♣	3♦	3♥
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Zmudzinski and Balicki were not to be stopped, despite the aggressive 3♣ overcall by Dalal. North led his singleton heart and quickly scored a ruff, but now the first lead of trumps disclosed the situation and Zmudzinski had no problem taking the rest of the tricks for a 9-IMP pickup.

Board 8 was an interesting deal in just about every match.

Board 8. Love All. Dealer West.

♠ 10 6			
♥ –			
♦ A K Q 8 5 3			
♣ A K 10 6 2			
♠ A J 9 5 4		♠ 3 2	
♥ 10 9 8 7 2		♥ A Q J 3	
♦ 7		♦ J 2	
♣ 9 4		♣ Q J 8 5 3	
	N	E	
	W	S	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Dalal	Balicki	Padhye
Pass	1♣	1♥	Dbl
2NT	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

Balicki led the ♦2, and Dalal went wrong when he pulled the remaining trump. Now he was one trump short of being able to ruff three clubs and so was beaten one trick.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shivdasani	Romanski	Ghose	Kowalski
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

Ghose led a spade, and Romanski played to ruff out the clubs, winding up with 12 tricks for a 10-IMP gain.

At some tables the opening lead against the diamond slam was the ♥A. After that the slam came home easily. At one table the ♥Q was led, and declarer neglected to cover. Declarer eventually went down when he drew two rounds of trumps and found himself left with a club loser.

Board 10. Game All. Dealer East.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Dalal	Balicki	Padhye
2♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	All Pass

Apparently something went wrong in the bidding mechanism here. West has a giant hand opposite a partner who could open the bidding. It's surprising that West was willing to stop in game. Balicki had no problem taking 12 tricks.

THINDIAY

Round 4

Photograph courtesy of Kodak's new digital camera



Adam Zmudzinski (Poland)

Ghose's 2♣ opening showed a long club suit. When Shivdasani was able to raise clubs, Ghose decided to show his second suit. Shivdasani was more than happy to go on to game now that he realized his side had a double fit.

Kowalski opened his singleton club, and Romanski made a slight technical error when he put in the ten. Declarer was now able to win the jack and later pick up the entire suit with a later finesse. Since Kowalski shifted to a spade upon winning the ace of trumps, declarer scored up 12 tricks for an 11-IMP gain.

The next two deals had the vugraph audience on the edge of their chairs.

Board 16. East/West Game. Dealer West.

♠ 9 8 6	♥ 10 9 8 6	♦ 9 8	♣ A K 6 3									
♠ K Q J	♥ A Q 5	♦ A K J 7 6 4	♣ 9									
♠ A 10 4 3 2	♥ 4	♦ 10 5 3	♣ J 8 4 2									
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>					N		W		E		S	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ 7 5	♥ K J 7 3 2	♦ Q 2	♣ Q 10 7 5									

Board 15. North/South Game. Dealer South.

♠ A K Q 8 7 5	♥ -	♦ J 7 6	♣ 10 9 6 4									
♠ J 9 6	♥ 9 5 4	♦ A K Q 2	♣ 8 7 5									
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>					N		W		E		S	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ 10 4 3	♥ J 8 7 6 3	♦ 8 4	♣ Q 3 2									
♠ 2	♥ A K Q 10 2	♦ 10 9 5 3	♣ A K J									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shivdasani	Romanski	Ghose	Kowalski
2♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
6♠	All Pass	5♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass

⁽¹⁾ Three controls

Shivdasani trotted out Blackwood, and when Ghose showed three controls, Shivdasani had no problem bidding the slam and collecting 13 IMPs.

Board 14. Love All. Dealer East.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shivdasani	Romanski	Ghose	Kowalski
Dbl	2♦	1♣	1♠
All Pass		2♥	3♠

Dalal and Padhye did well on this deal – Padhye's 3♠ bid effectively silenced his opponents. He went down one trick when he lost three trumps, a heart and a club. Things went differently at the other table.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Dalal	Balicki	Padhye
3♣	Pass	2♣	2♠
4♥	All Pass	3♥	3♠

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Dalal	Balicki	Padhye
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Balicki found the killing opening lead – a diamond. Zmudzinski took his three top diamonds and led a fourth round, promoting Balicki's trump ten to set the contract one trick. A very good opening lead and a devastating defense. But the real action took place in the Open Room.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shivdasani	Romanski	Ghose	Kowalski
Pass	2♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	4NT
Dbl	All Pass	Pass	6♠

Ghose sat there for what seemed forever as he tried to work out what Shivdasani's double asked for. Was Shivdasani void in hearts? Did he have a killing holding in diamonds? The vugraph audience suffered along with Ghose. The difference was they could see all the cards, and they knew Shivdasani was asking for a diamond.

Finally Ghose put a card on the table – a heart! The Polish fans cheered and the Indian followers groaned. With the cards lying so incredibly favorably, Romanski was able to take all 13 tricks for the very unusual score of 1860. Since 4♠ had been beaten a trick at the other table, the swing was 18 IMPs. If Ghose had found the diamond lead, the slam would have been set three tricks for a 12-IMP pickup for India.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shivdasani	Romanski	Ghose	Kowalski
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

Shivdasani and Ghose were understandably eager to try to recover some of the IMPs they lost on the previous board, so they bid quickly to this somewhat optimistic slam. When the diamonds behaved, they felt good about reaching the slam. But all they got out of it was a push because this was the bidding at the other table:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Dalal	Balicki	Padhye
1♣	Pass	1♦	1♥
2♦	3♥	3♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

Board 20. Game All. Dealer West.

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

India closed out the set by bidding and making 3NT while Poland stopped in 2NT, making just eight tricks.

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Dalal	Balicki	Padhye
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The opening spade lead went to the queen and ace, and Padhye immediately went after diamonds. Balicki took his ace and continued spades, but the nine proved to be a major card. Zmudzinski was able to win the king, of course, but now declarer had three spade tricks to go with the two diamonds he had already set up plus four heart tricks.

Venice Cup

Round 4

Germany vs Australia

by Barry Rigal

On what was a particularly challenging set of hands, vast numbers of IMPs changed hands in the Germany-Australia Venice Cup match, with both teams being faced with some very tough decisions.

The set started out with what seemed to be a possible pick-up for Germany.

Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.

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

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

Photograph courtesy of Koakki's new digital camera



Sabine Auken - Daniela von Arnim

Sabine Auken and Daniela von Arnim had a controlled auction to sniff at slam and stop in 4♥. When the defence took their club ruff to hold Auken to +420, it gave Germany the hope that Australia might get too high in the other room. In fact, Vogt/Gladiator doubled 4♥, and when the club ruff got away, that was -690 and a 7 IMP gain for Australia. There was more good news for Down Under on the second board.

Board 2. North/South Game. Dealer East.

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

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

Auken held the North hand after 2♦ (Multi) - pass-3♥ to her. She elected to pass, hoping that her LHO could bid 3♣ and that she could then reopen. In fact it was von Arnim who bid 3♣, and after much internal agitation Auken passed. 3♣ drifted two down, which did not have to be a tragedy since Tully declared 5♦ from the North seat. On a club lead all Gladiator had to do was duck, and declarer would have been likely to go two down (how to reach 5♣?). But Gladiator released the ♣K at trick one, and was -600 for a 13 IMP loss.

Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.

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

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

Board 4 was a "lucky" board for Australia because they combined their disasters. Auken elected to overcall

4♣ over a 1♦ opening by Beech, who reopened with a double. Bourke tried 5♦ in response to this and put down a very suitable dummy. However, the play is not straightforward. On the heart lead to the ace and a heart back, Beech covered and Auken ruffed. If she now exits with a spade she can ensure the defeat of the contract whenever it can be beaten (and maybe she can work that out). Instead she played the ♣A. Beech ruffed and cashed the ♦A. Now if she ruffs a heart, ruffs a club, ruffs a heart high, finesses in trumps and runs the trumps, she squeezes North - but she missed it and went one down.

By contrast, when Tully at the other table overcalled 2♣, it encouraged her partner to look for higher things. When Beale tried 3NT, Vogt doubled and no one was chicken enough to escape. Three spade tricks and five diamonds later, that was 1400 and 15 IMPs to Germany.

Board 5. North/South Game. Dealer North.

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

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

Board 5 saw another big swing as East/West for Germany stayed out of the auction altogether, allowing Australia a limit raise sequence to 3♥. Plus 140 went well with 690 from 4♣ doubled making with an overtrick from the other room. Beech overcalled 2♣ and Bourke jumped to 4♣ at her first turn.

Board 8. Love All. Dealer West.

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

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

Australia extended their lead when both Auken and Tully reached 6♦ from the North seat. Auken received a trump lead and knew West was 5-5 in the majors. Her spade spots meant that she could ensure success if East had a doubleton ace-jack or nine of spades, with some additional chances. She drew a second round of trumps and from there could not find a way home.

By contrast Tully had no such clues - though Vogt led a spade in response to a lead-directing double. Tully decided to draw only one round of trumps before ruffing out clubs. When West could not overruff the third round of clubs she was home; 14 IMPs for Australia, giving them a 22 IMP cushion.

Things quietened down for a while before Auken tried a slightly risky experiment.

Board 16. East/West Game. Dealer West.

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

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

West Beech	East Bourke
2♣	2♦
3♦	3♣
4♣	4NT
5♥	6♦

Auken, in pass-out seat, tried a sporting double, assuming it would be clear to von Arnim that this was neither a void-showing double nor a double based on spade tricks. Alas! von Arnim led a spade, and when trumps behaved so well, it was easy for Australia to collect 1640 for a 9 IMP gain. Vogt and Gladiator had done well to reach slam in their room.

That left Australia heading for the maximum 25 VPs, and indeed the final swing could easily have gone either way.

Board 20. Game All. Dealer West.

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

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

Beech opened 1♥ in third seat on the East cards, and that persuaded von Arnim to double. Auken jumped to 2♣, collecting nine tricks. By contrast Tully/Beale bid unopposed to 3NT, and declarer had to go after spades. That allowed the defence to give declarer a guess in clubs. When declarer got it wrong, the 6 IMP pick-up for Germany meant that they had escaped with a 20-10 VP loss.