



Friday, 14 January 2000

Issue: 7

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# Decision Day!

Today promises to be one of the most exciting in the history of these famous championships.

In the Orbis Bermuda Bowl, there are so many permutations it is impossible to predict who will survive to the last eight. The teams most at risk appear to be **Sweden, Italy, Brazil, France** and **Bulgaria**, but even some of those ahead of them are in jeopardy.

In the Orbis Venice Cup it looks as if **China, Canada** and **USA 2** will fight it out for two out of three places, with the Americans having the toughest programme.

What is absolutely clear is that we are going down to the wire, with triumph and disaster both waiting to make an appearance.

Meanwhile France and Poland are contesting the final of the Orbis Senior Exhibition Matches.

*Smiles... from the Italian Party*



Gianarrigo Rona



Federica



Christina - Vittorio

## IMPORTANT! Orbis World Transnational Open Teams

In order to assist the organizers, the deadline for Registration is Saturday noon. Teams containing at least one member of a losing team from the Orbis Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup competition may register on Sunday between 16.00 and 18.00.

Captains of Transnational teams are requested to advise the Hospitality Desk of any changes in the names of players.

The captains of the teams who have not paid their entry fees must pay before the start of play. Please see Christine Francin in the WBF Office, the Warwick Room on the Mezzanine. The entry fee is \$600.

Players from the Orbis Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup who wish to register a team for the Orbis World Transnational Teams may do so at

Hospitality. There is no charge for players from either of these competitions who wish to participate in the Orbis World Transnational Teams, but if they are joined by players who have not competed, the entry fee is \$100 per player for each of those competitors who play on a six-person team; \$120 for those who play on a five-person team; \$150 for those who play on a four-person team. The entry fee is payable to Christine Francin in the WBF Office (Warwick Room on the Mezzanine). Captains in possession of the receipt may proceed to the Hospitality Desk to register their teams.

The Warwick Room will be open for payments between 10 am and 12 noon and from 2.30 pm until 6 pm.

**ORBIS BERMUDA BOWL - RESULTS****Round - 15**

Country		Imps	Vps
1 Bulgaria	China	25 48	10 20
2 Chinese Taipei	Argentina	42 63	11 19
3 Bermuda	Norway	41 68	9 21
4 Australia	New Zealand	59 37	20 10
5 USA 2	Italy	67 36	21 9
6 Canada	Brazil	17 81	3 25
7 Guadeloupe	Poland	38 41	14 16
8 Indonesia	South Africa	49 42	16 14
9 France	Sweden	45 46	15 15
10 USA 1	Pakistan	29 41	13 17

**Round - 16**

Country		Imps	Vps
1 Argentina	Bulgaria	21 47	10 20
2 Norway	Chinese Taipei	47 25	20 10
3 Pakistan	Bermuda	60 19	23 7
4 New Zealand	China	67 39	21 9
5 Italy	Australia	94 32	25 3
6 Brazil	USA 2	46 58	13 17
7 Poland	Canada	78 47	21 9
8 South Africa	Guadeloupe	52 39	18 12
9 Sweden	Indonesia	69 30	23 7
10 USA 1	France	42 20	20 10

**Round - 17**

Country		Imps	Vps
1 Bulgaria	Norway	27 69	6 24
2 Chinese Taipei	Bermuda	86 34	25 5
3 Argentina	New Zealand	57 67	13 17
4 China	Italy	15 55	7 23
5 Australia	Brazil	30 38	14 16
6 USA 2	Poland	41 41	15 15
7 Canada	South Africa	46 54	14 16
8 Guadeloupe	Sweden	13 54	7 23
9 Indonesia	USA 1	51 55	14 16
10 France	Pakistan	45 0	24 6

**ORBIS VENICE CUP - RESULTS****Round - 15**

Country		Imps	Vps
11 Australia	USA 2	55 37	19 11
12 Great Britain	Bermuda	55 39	18 12
13 Hong Kong	France	3 56	5 25
14 Egypt	China	53 32	19 11
15 Colombia	Canada	33 64	9 21
16 India	Netherlands	34 56	10 20
17 Germany	Argentina	44 26	19 11
18 Denmark	USA 1	6 76	2 25
19 Brazil	Indonesia	33 31	15 15
20 Austria	New Zealand	42 30	17 13

**Round - 16**

Country		Imps	Vps
11 Bermuda	Australia	22 58	8 22
12 France	Great Britain	18 51	8 22
13 New Zealand	Hong Kong	51 44	16 14
14 China	USA 2	66 56	17 13
15 Canada	Egypt	51 48	16 14
16 The Netherlands	Colombia	70 26	24 6
17 Argentina	India	54 8	24 6
18 USA 1	Germany	64 58	16 14
19 Indonesia	Denmark	43 90	6 24
20 Austria	Brazil	56 53	16 14

**Round - 17**

Country		Imps	Vps
11 Australia	France	33 47	12 18
12 Great Britain	Hong Kong	69 39	21 9
13 Bermuda	China	35 60	10 20
14 USA 2	Canada	42 68	10 20
15 Egypt	Netherlands	28 57	9 21
16 Colombia	Argentina	36 40	14 16
17 India	USA 1	22 72	5 25
18 Germany	Indonesia	68 37	21 9
19 Denmark	Austria	65 40	20 10
20 Brazil	New Zealand	63 49	18 12

**ORBIS BERMUDA BOWL - PROGRAMME****ROUND - 18 (10.00)**

1 Bermuda	Bulgaria
2 Pakistan	Chinese Taipei
3 New Zealand	Norway
4 Italy	Argentina
5 Brazil	China
6 Poland	Australia
7 South Africa	USA 2
8 Sweden	Canada
9 USA 1	Guadeloupe
10 France	Indonesia

**ROUND - 19 (14.00)**

1 Bulgaria	Italy
2 Chinese Taipei	Brazil
3 Bermuda	Poland
4 Norway	South Africa
5 Argentina	Sweden
6 China	USA 1
7 Australia	France
8 USA 2	Indonesia
9 Canada	Guadeloupe
10 New Zealand	Pakistan

**ORBIS VENICE CUP - PROGRAMME****ROUND - 18 (10.00)**

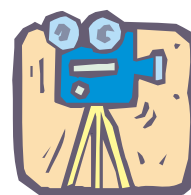
11 Hong Kong	Australia
12 New Zealand	Great Britain
13 China	France
14 Canada	Bermuda
15 The Netherlands	USA 2
16 Argentina	Egypt
17 USA 1	Colombia
18 Indonesia	India
19 Austria	Germany
20 Brazil	Denmark

**ROUND - 19 (14.00)**

11 Australia	Canada
12 Great Britain	The Netherlands
13 Hong Kong	Argentina
14 France	USA 1
15 Bermuda	Indonesia
16 USA 2	Austria
17 Egypt	Brazil
18 Colombia	Denmark
19 India	Germany
20 China	New Zealand

**VuGraph Matches**

Friday 14 January 2000



Orbis Venice Cup

10.00 The Netherlands v USA 2

Orbis Bermuda Bowl

14.00 Italy v Bulgaria

**Results & On line VuGraph**

If you want to follow the results on the internet or see the online VuGraph simply go to:

[www.bermudabowl.com](http://www.bermudabowl.com)

## ORBIS BERMUDA BOWL RANKING AFTER 17 ROUNDS

1	NORWAY	315
2	USA I	302
3	POLAND	294
4	INDONESIA	293
5	USA 2	292
6	SWEDEN	285
7	ITALY	284.5
8	BRAZIL	281
9	FRANCE	276
10	BULGARIA	272.5
11	ARGENTINA	246
12	CHINA	233
13	AUSTRALIA	232.5
14	PAKISTAN	230
15	CHINESE TAIPEI	227
16	SOUTH AFRICA	227
17	NEW ZEALAND	222.5
18	CANADA	209
19	GUADELOUPE	193
20	BERMUDA	149

## ORBIS VENICE CUP RANKING AFTER 17 ROUNDS

1	USA I	325
2	NETHERLANDS	319
3	DENMARK	314
4	FRANCE	313
5	AUSTRIA	308
6	GERMANY	301
7	CANADA	294
8	CHINA	286.5
9	USA 2	286.5
10	GREAT BRITAIN	250
11	AUSTRALIA	239.5
12	ARGENTINA	232
13	EGYPT	227
14	BRAZIL	227
15	INDONESIA	210
16	NEW ZEALAND	210
17	COLOMBIA	184.5
18	HONG KONG	180
19	BERMUDA	173
20	INDIA	171

## ORBIS SENIORS TEAMS - SEMI FINALS

		Carry Over	1 <sup>st</sup> Session	2 <sup>nd</sup> Session	Total
21	North America <b>Poland</b>	0 - 8	46 - 17	28 - 84	74 - 109
22	China <b>France</b>	0 - 8	21 - 72	62 - 65	83 - 145

## ORBIS SENIORS TEAMS - PLAY OFF FOR 5/6

		Carry Over	1 <sup>st</sup> Session	2 <sup>nd</sup> Session	Total
23	Australia <b>World Champions</b>	0 - 8	28 - 38	25 - 84	53 - 130

## ORBIS SENIORS TEAMS - PLAY OFF

		Carry Over	1 <sup>st</sup> Session	2 <sup>nd</sup> Session	Total
	<b>North America</b>	4.3			
	<b>China</b>				

## ORBIS SENIORS TEAMS - FINALS

		Carry Over	1 <sup>st</sup> Session	2 <sup>nd</sup> Session	3 <sup>rd</sup> Session	Total
	<b>Poland</b>	12	38			
	<b>France</b>		42			

## When you need it, go for it!

By Henry Francis

A disastrous start condemned the Australian team to the bottom of the field in the Seniors Exhibition competition. However, the Australians regained a measure of respectability by winning four and tying one of their last six matches.

They had some fine moments. For example, needing IMPs desperately in the next-to-last match, Bill Westwood picked up:

- ♠ 8
- ♥ A K J 8 4 3
- ♦ A J 6
- ♣ A K 2

His RHO opened one spade. Naturally he

doubled, and when partner responded two clubs, he took the bit between his teeth in good old Aussie fashion and bid six clubs!

He might have had second thoughts if he had known his partner's trump holding was J-9-8-7 and that the suit had to be brought in for no losers.

No problem! Bobby Evans played the ace and king of trumps, and sure enough the queen-small fell on his left. Incidentally the swing on this board probably kept the World Champions out of the semifinals.

Like most of the field, Neville Moses played four spades with four top losers on this deal from the final qualifying match:

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

Moses as North declared the hand and got a diamond lead to the queen and ace. He took only two rounds of trumps before playing the ace and ten of diamonds, crushing West's nine and setting up the seven for a heart discard. He lost only two clubs and a heart to make his game.

Note the importance of drawing only two rounds of trumps. If declarer takes three rounds and then plays diamonds, East can cover the ten, forcing declarer to ruff. Then he would have to return to hand with a trump to cash the diamond, and he would not have sufficient control to handle the hearts while setting up his club trick.

## SPECIAL OFFER!

### World Championship Book Bermuda 2000

The official book of these championships will be published during the summer (probably June).

Principal analysts will be:

Eric Kokish (*The Final*)

Brian Senior (*The Semi-finals*)

Barry Rigal (*The Quarter-finals*)

with guest contributors including Henry Francis.

There will be a wealth of good hands, including every deal from the finals and semi-finals, photographs and statistics – including a complete listing of all participants in all four events.

On publication, the price will be \$30 plus p&p. For the duration of these championships, buy at the special price of \$25 with free postage and packing.

Please see Elly Ducheyne in the Press Room to place your order.

## Orbis Venice Cup - Round 12

## Denmark v Canada

The mouth-watering prospect of seeing an Orbis Venice Cup match on VuGraph was too much to resist. To ensure a balanced commentary, Peter Lund was brought to the commentator's table to balance the contributions of Eric Kokish.

An awkward set of boards proved to be rather testing, especially under the glare of the spotlights.

### Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul

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

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Saltsman</i>	<i>Drøgemüller</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Steen Møller</i>
		1♦	Dble
1♥	1♠	2♦	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

Do you think North, having five cards in a suit that her partner had promised some support for, should have doubled one heart. If you don't do that you may fail to expose a baby psyche by West. South led the eight of spades, and North won and switched to her singleton club. The defenders were not hard pressed to take the first six tricks, North getting two club ruffs, to leave declarer two down, -100.

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Cilleborg</i>	<i>Reus</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gordon</i>
		1♦	Dble
1♥	Dble	2♦	Pass
3♦	4♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	Pass	5♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	



Kirsten Steen Møller, Denmark

With a likely trump trick, how unreasonable was it for East to sacrifice? The answer was -800, as the defence followed an identical path to that in the Closed Room. A fast start for Canada, 12-0.

### Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul

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

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Saltsman</i>	<i>Drøgemüller</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Steen Møller</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♦	Pass
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

North's Two Clubs was presumably Drury. When South showed a minimum by passing over Two Diamonds, North still had enough to try for a vulnerable game. Ten tricks were easy, +620.

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Cilleborg</i>	<i>Reus</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gordon</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♠
Dble	2♦	Pass	2♣
Dble	Redble	3♣	3♠
All Pass			

It doesn't look right to rebid Two Spades on the South hand. Why not bid Two Hearts? When North redoubled should South have jumped to game? This was a bad miss by the Canadian pair, and it cost them 10 IMPs.

Bobby Wolff brought the house down at the end of this board by asking Peter Lund the following question, 'Peter, how would you bid those North-South hands if you were playing with yourself?'

### Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul

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

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Saltsman</i>	<i>Drøgemüller</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Steen Møller</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	INT	Dble
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	3♠	All Pass	

West was happy to sit for INT doubled, and right she was, as there are only six tricks for the defence. Of course, North was not going to stand it and she removed to Two Spades. West decided to compete further and now North fell from grace by bidding again. If she had passed and led her doubleton diamond then she would have taken a ruff to defeat Three Clubs. There was nothing to the play in Three Spades, and declarer was two down, -200.

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Cilleborg</i>	<i>Reus</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gordon</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

Once again the bidding was the key feature of the deal. North was able to bid a forcing notrump and then transfer to spades when South showed a strong balanced hand. The same two down meant a flat board.

Should North respond to the opening bid of One Spade? Well, the great Maria Erhart, one of the most aggressive players in the world saw her partner open a Blue Club and rebid One Spade. Maria gave her the dummy, which we think says it all!

### Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul

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

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Saltsman</i>	<i>Drøgemüller</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Steen Møller</i>
		Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Dble	All Pass

According to the commentators, East doubled for a spade lead because that was the only suit bid naturally in the auction. Well, there must have been some reason. West, clearly not on the same wavelength, led the two of dia-

monds. On another day North would have had either the ace of hearts, or the queen of diamonds or any other extra value to give an easy nine or more tricks. Not this time and declarer could only arrive at eight winners, -100.

**Open Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Cilleborg</i>	<i>Reus</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gordon</i>
		2♠	3NT
All Pass			

West led a spade, and when East played the jack, South ducked. A heart switch from East would have given South a bloody nose, but there was no way East could know to do that. She played the queen of spades, and South had to take the king. There was nothing to do but run the clubs. West inexplicably released two diamonds, and although declarer had discarded a diamond from the dummy, she still had ten tricks and 11 IMPs.

**Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul**

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

**Closed Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Saltsman</i>	<i>Drøgemüller</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Steen Møller</i>
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

East led the six of hearts, and declarer, under no pressure, took eleven tricks, +650. There was much speculation that South should have gone on over Four Spades, as you can make a small slam in spades. On a heart or club lead, you go up with the ace, unblock the ace and king of diamonds, and cash the king of spades, followed by a spade to the ace. Now you play the queen of diamonds, getting rid of your loser in the suit that was led at trick one. The other ace remains in dummy as an entry to a winning diamond for a further discard.

**Open Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Cilleborg</i>	<i>Reus</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gordon</i>
		Pass	1♦
2♣	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Canada looked set for another big pick up when they reached the spade slam. East led the seven of clubs, and declarer put up dummy's ace. When the next card she played was the

ace of spades she no longer had a winning line, and the swing went the other way. 13 IMPs for Denmark.

**Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul**

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

**Closed Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Saltsman</i>	<i>Drøgemüller</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Steen Møller</i>
			Pass
1♥	2♥	3♥	3♠
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

North's bidding told West something about the distribution, but there was no reason to do anything other than win the opening club lead, cross to dummy with a diamond and take the losing heart finesse. It looks as if declarer can get out for one down, but declarer only made eight tricks, -100.

**Open Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Cilleborg</i>	<i>Reus</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gordon</i>
			Pass
1♥	1♠	2♦	3♠
4♥	4♠	5♥	All Pass

Barry Rigal described East's bid of Five Hearts as grotesque. On hearing, this one of his colleagues said, 'Say what you think Barry, don't hold back.' The play developed along similar lines to that at the other table, but declarer managed nine tricks, so it was a flat board.

**Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul**

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

**Closed Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Saltsman</i>	<i>Drøgemüller</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Steen Møller</i>
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
All Pass			



Barbara Saltsman, Canada

South backed her slightly surprising decision in the bidding by making exactly eight tricks, +120.

**Open Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Cilleborg</i>	<i>Reus</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gordon</i>
		Pass	2♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Once again South bid conservatively, but North went on to game. West led the five of clubs to the two, ten and king and South played back the nine of clubs that was allowed to hold. Her next move was to run the ten of hearts. When that held she played a heart to the jack and king. Things were going well, but communications are a problem. If declarer cashes the clubs she has to make two awkward discards from hand. Declarer decided she could afford to leave her tricks in dummy stranded for the moment and played a diamond to the ten. West won with the jack and played back a club. It would not have helped to cash the ace of spades first. Declarer won and played the queen of spades. West won and played back a spade, won by declarer's ten. When declarer laid down the ace of diamonds, the appearance of the king meant she had nine tricks and Canada had ten IMPs.

**Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul**

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

**Closed Room**

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Saltsman</i>	<i>Drøgemüller</i>	<i>Cimon</i>	<i>Steen Møller</i>
		Pass	1♦
2NT	3♠	5♣	All Pass

South led the nine of clubs, and declarer arrived at ten tricks. Should South have started with a top heart? Should someone have doubled?

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Cilleborg	Reus	Bilde	Gordon
		Pass	1♦
2♣	4♠	Dble	All Pass

East must have been tempted to lead her singleton diamond, but dutifully led her partner's suit. West won with the jack of clubs and switched to the six of hearts, which ran to dummy's jack. A spade to the ace was followed by a club ruff, and declarer cashed the top hearts to get rid of two diamonds. However, East's ♠KJ7 were still good for three tricks, and the contract was one down. -100 and 4 IMPs for Denmark

#### Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul

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

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Saltsman	Drøgemüller	Cimon	Steen Møller
Pass	Pass	1NT	2♥
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the good old days, West, facing a strong notrump, would have made a penalty double and collected around +800. Why South should want to bid facing a passed partner is a different question. Still, declarer was given a chance to show off.

South led the king of clubs, and declarer held off until the third round. She cashed the ace and king of diamonds and two top spades before exiting with her remaining club. That forced South to lead into the heart tenace, +600.

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Cilleborg	Reus	Bilde	Gordon
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♥
Dble	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The play was identical to that at the other table, so it was a flat board.

Denmark had had just the better of things, winning 16-14VP.

As Eric Kokish was leaving the auditorium someone asked if he was coaching the Canadian team. When he replied in the affirmative, he was advised to work harder!

## Wild preempts are not always a good thing

### 15, the number of the day

One of the crucial matches of round 15 was when ninth-placed France faced tenth-placed Sweden. The match finished with one single IMP advantage for Sweden, a draw 15/15 in VP. The following hand produced a major swing

#### Round 15. Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul

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

As cards lie the winning contract for North South is Six Clubs, ruffing a spade in the dummy.

In the closed room the Swedes played a reasonable Six Hearts and went one down after losing two trump tricks.

In the open room South, Thierry de Sainte-Marie, opened a semi-forcing two clubs and West, non vulnerable against vulnerable, thought it was time to preempt with a wild Three Diamonds. South finished in Six No Trumps and received a diamond lead. He took in the dummy and played a heart to the nine and that was that a 15... no, 17 IMP swing.

Wild bidding sometimes pays but not all time.

## Transfers to the Airport

There will be a special transportation desk in the lobby located close to the elevators. Please make sure you arrange your transfer in good time.

## Meeting of IBPA Executive



The first meeting of the Executive Board of the International Bridge Press Association will take place this morning at 9:30 in the Boardroom, Lobby level.

## Sitting Duck

There is an old superstition that you should never shoot a sitting duck. It has obviously not been translated into Dutch, as witness this deal from Round 13 of the Orbis Venice Cup.

#### Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul

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

West	North	East	South
Van Zwol	Bilde	Verbeek	Cilleborg
Pass	1♣	1♠	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	6NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

North-South got their wires crossed and came to rest in a hopeless contract. East though she was on to a good thing and expressed her opinion, but she was quickly disavowed when South retreated to safer waters. East's rhythmic double converted -1440 into -1880.

In the other room the Dutch women played in Six Clubs for +1370. The actual loss was 11 IMPs, but the turnaround was 25 IMPs. The moral: leave those ducks alone!

## Bermuda Shorts

*There was a young man from Bermuda  
Who met a young lady and wooed her  
With his Bermuda shorts  
And facility at sports*

*You'd have thought this last line be ruder*

The above introduces the 'limerick' contest, though to give you all a chance of producing the best the first line must be:

*There was a young girl from Bermuda*

Please hand entries into the bulletin room. Those fit to print will be published in the bulletin.

# Orbis Venice Cup - Round 12

# Germany v Great Britain *By Tony Gordon (GB)*

Neither side had been impressive in their last four matches, but while Germany were well-placed in fifth position, Great Britain had seen the gap between themselves and the crucial eighth place widen to 28.5 VPs and needed some good results to keep their chances of qualifying alive. However, the match did not start well for Great Britain.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ J 10 5 2 ♥ 10 4 ♦ 10 8 5 ♣ A Q J 4 ♠ A K 6 4 3 ♥ 9 5 ♦ A K 7 4 ♣ 8 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		♠ 9 7 ♥ K J 7 6 3 ♦ 2 ♣ 10 9 7 6 3 ♠ Q 8 ♥ A Q 8 2 ♦ Q J 9 6 3 ♣ K 5
	N										
W		E									
	S										

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Smith	Nehmert	Davies
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	INT	All Pass	

Pony Nehmert lead the ♠7 against Nicola Smith's INT contract and Andrea Rauscheid let dummy's eight hold the first trick. If Rauscheid had used her diamond entries to establish and cash her long spade, declarer would have been held to eight tricks; however, she ducked the diamond continuation from dummy and Smith emerged with two overtricks.

The stakes were higher in the other room.

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	Auken	McGowan	v. Arnim
		2NT	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Liz McGowan's 2NT opening showed a weak hand with either clubs and hearts or diamonds and spades and Daniela von Arnim's 3♣ overall was a takeout of spades. Sabine Auken took a shot at 3NT and Heather Dhondy expressed her opinion about this contract in the usual way. As previously noted, a spade lead can hold declarer to eight tricks, however, McGowan led her diamond and that was +750 and 12 IMPs to Germany.

However, Great Britain recovered these IMPs when Pat Davies made 3♥ on an endplay on board 5 and Germany missed the non-vulnerable 5♦ on board 6, and three boards later they gained revenge for the events of board 2.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K Q ♥ Q J 8 4 3 2 ♦ - ♣ A Q 8 6 3 ♠ 10 9 7 5 ♥ A K 9 ♦ K 5 ♣ J 7 5 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		♠ 8 3 2 ♥ 10 7 5 ♦ A Q J 10 9 2 ♣ K ♠ A J 6 4 ♥ 6 ♦ 8 7 6 4 3 ♣ 10 9 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Smith	Nehmert	Davies
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	All Pass	

Nehmert's silence during the auction was puzzling and Smith was left to play in a comfortable contract that she duly made with two overtricks.

Once again the stakes were higher in the other room.

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	Auken	McGowan	v. Arnim
	1♥	2♦	Pass
2NT	3♣	Pass	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

At this table McGowan did overcall in diamonds and when Dhondy first bid 2NT and then tried 3NT over Auken's 3♣ it was Germany's turn to express their opinion about this contract. The right lead would have beaten this contract as well, but Auken led the ♣6 and this time it was Great Britain who scored +750 for a 13-IMP gain.

However, Britain's joy was short-lived.

Board 10. Dealer East. Game All.

♠ A Q 9 8 6 5 ♥ Q 8 ♦ K Q 8 7 ♣ A ♠ K 7 4 2 ♥ - ♦ J 6 5 3 ♣ 10 9 6 5 4	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		♠ J 3 ♥ A K 9 7 2 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ K Q 3 ♠ 10 ♥ J 10 6 5 4 3 ♦ 10 9 ♣ J 8 7 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Smith	Nehmert	Davies
		1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	All Pass

Smith had no convenient bid over Rauscheid's 1♠, so she passed and Nehmert became declarer in an ugly 2NT contract. Her cause was helped when Davies chose the ♥J as her opening lead, but she was still short of tricks and careful defending by Smith ensured that she went two down.

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	Auken	McGowan	v. Arnim
		1♥	Pass
1♠	2♣	Dble	All Pass

At this table Auken was able to bid a natural 2♣ over Dhondy's 1♠, McGowan showed her extra values by doubling and that ended the auction. Declarer can always make her contract if she holds her trump losers to one by pinning the ♠J, but that problem was solved for her when McGowan switched to the ♠J after starting with the ♥K. Less than optimum defence subsequently presented Auken with an overtrick for +870 and 12 IMPs to Germany.

Board 14. Dealer East. Love All.

♠ 9 6 4 3 ♥ 10 5 2 ♦ J 2 ♣ 9 7 4 2 ♠ A J 10 8 ♥ Q 9 ♦ K 7 6 5 4 3 ♣ A	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		♠ K Q 7 ♥ A K 8 7 ♦ Q 9 8 ♣ 8 6 3 ♠ 5 2 ♥ J 6 4 3 ♦ A 10 ♣ K Q J 10 5
	N										
W		E									
	S										

Neither East/West pair won any prizes for their bidding on this board as Germany reached 4♥ (!) and Great Britain finished in 3NT. However, with hearts 4-3 and diamonds 2-2 Nehmert had no problems in 4♥ and she made ten tricks on a club lead losing a diamond, a club and a trump. The cards were also well-placed for McGowan in her 3NT contract although it was not immediately obvious when she won the first trick with dummy's ♣A where her ninth trick was coming from. However, she followed the usual practice in these situations by running her long suit – and the last spade squeezed von Arnim in the other three suits. Unable to keep four winning clubs, a heart guard and the ♦A, she reluctantly released a club and McGowan now had time to establish a diamond trick for her ninth trick.

Board 20. Dealer West. Game All.

♠ Q 6 4 ♥ K Q J 8 ♦ K 5 ♣ J 10 9 5 ♠ J 9 8 ♥ 10 4 3 2 ♦ 10 6 3 ♣ A 8 4	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		♠ K 10 5 2 ♥ 9 ♦ J 9 8 7 4 2 ♣ K 7 ♠ A 7 3 ♥ A 7 6 5 ♦ A Q ♣ Q 6 3 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										

Both North/South pairs bid unopposed to 4♥ on this hand, Germany with North as the declarer and Great Britain with South as the declarer. The British South received the ominous lead of the 9♠ which she won in hand with the Ace. Two rounds of trumps revealed the 4-1 break and she had no way of avoiding two down at this point. If she drew all the trumps, she would lose three spades and two clubs, whereas if she left a trump outstanding, as she did, she would lose a club ruff instead of the long spade. +200 to Germany.

At the other table, McGowan led an aggressive low spade from the East hand and Auken was in with a chance of making her 4♥ contract when she successfully ran it round to her Queen. When the bad trump break was revealed, Auken drew all the trumps finishing in dummy and then led a low club. To beat the contract, Dhondy had to rise with the ♣A and continue spades thereby allowing McGowan to cash the long spade for the setting trick when she subsequently won her ♣K. However, this was far from obvious and when Dhondy ducked the club, the hand was over. +620 and 13 IMPs to Germany.

When the smoke had cleared, Germany had won by 49-31 IMPs (19-11 VPs), but dropped two places to seventh while Great Britain had fallen further behind the qualifying group.

## Orbis Venice Cup - Round 13

## Argentina v Brazil

Though neither Argentina nor Brazil looked likely to make the top eight in the Venice Cup round-robin, matches between these long-time South American rivals are always fiercely contested. Their Round 13 match started with a bang with 42 IMPs changing hands in the first four boards.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Tajtelbaum	Espinosa-Paz	Amaral	Safra
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
lacaprato	Gomes	Garateguy	Sampaio
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

For Brazil, Lia Tajtelbaum was prepared to leave the final decision about slam to her partner. She showed a good hand by bidding round the houses but Marina Amaral was not sufficiently excited to go past game; +480.

In the other room, Malena lacaprato simply took control with RKCB and bid the slam on finding that her partner had one key card. On a club lead, Charo Garateguy could have played to ruff two clubs in dummy, but preferred to play on diamonds. The opening lead went to the jack, queen and king, and Garateguy played her diamond at trick two. Irene Gomes won the ace and returned a club to the ace. When declarer played the diamond queen, she covered and Garateguy could ruff, draw trumps and claim; +980 and 11 IMPs to Argentina.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
lacaprato	Gomes	Garateguy	Sampaio
		1♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Three Clubs was a forcing raise and Garateguy asked for key cards but then settled for game on finding that a key card was missing. The opening lead was a heart to dummy's king. Declarer drew three rounds of clubs, eliminated the hearts and took the spade finesse. Then she played a diamond to the king and lost three diamond tricks for down one; -50.

There is a small extra chance which comes in. After drawing trumps, take the spade finesse and eliminate the spades then hearts before leading a diamond towards the king. South can play the ten, which seems from declarer's point of view to be good enough to avoid the end-play. However, it costs nothing to duck the first diamond anyway and when North has her actual holding she has to overtake and is end-played to let the contract make.

In the other room, the Brazilians bid INT - 3NT. After a diamond lead and spade switch, declarer made an overtrick; +430 and 10 IMPs to Brazil.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
lacaprato	Gomes	Garateguy	Sampaio
			1♣
2♦	Dble	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
Tajtelbaum	Espinosa-Paz	Amaral	Safra
			1♣
2NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
3♥	Dble	All Pass	

Showing both majors via a 2♦ overcall proved to be much safer than showing them by bidding an unusual Two No Trump. Where lacaprato overcalled Two Diamonds, Gomes made a negative double and Marta Sampaio jumped to Three No Trump. She made that easily enough after a spade lead, but +430 was not enough to cover the action at the other table.

Tajtelbaum overcalled Two No Trump and Maria-Teresa Espinosa-Paz doubled then doubled again when Tajtelbaum removed herself to Three Hearts. Espinosa-Paz led a club and

Tajtelbaum ruffed and gave up a spade. Chantal Safra won the spade and switched to the jack of diamonds to the king and ace. Back came a second club. Again declarer ruffed and gave up a spade, won by South. A third club came through and she ruffed. North over-ruffed and returned a trump. Declarer won and took a spade ruff but had only one more trump trick to come; three down for -800 and 9 IMPs to Argentina.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
lacaprato	Gomes	Garateguy	Sampaio
	2♠	3♦	3♠
1♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Tajtelbaum	Espinosa-Paz	Amaral	Safra
	2♠	3♦	Pass
Pass	All Pass		
3NT			

lacaprato's thin One Club opening worked well as it helped her side to reach Five Clubs. A heart lead might have been more taxing, but on the actual spade lead declarer could throw a heart from dummy, win the heart switch and cross to hand with a trump to pitch the remaining heart on the king of spades. With diamonds 3-3 onside and trumps 3-2, there was nothing the defense could do; +600.

Tajtelbaum did not open the West hand. Espinosa-Paz opened a weak two as North and Amaral overcalled Three Diamonds. Tajtelbaum responded Three No Trump, as who would not, but her lack of a second diamond meant that she had no good source of tricks in that contract. She was one down for -100 and 12 IMPs to Argentina, ahead by 32-10.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
lacaprato	Gomes	Garateguy	Sampaio
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

If you do not open One No Trump on the North hand, the auction might get messy and I would guess that this was a popular auction around the room. The Brazilians had a standard Stayman auction to Four Hearts and Garateguy led the diamond jack, covered all round. Gomes played the king of clubs, a club to the ace and ruffed a club. Next she cashed the ace of hearts and made the key play of a heart to the king, dropping the queen. She just lost a diamond and two spades for +420.

West	North	East	South
Tajtelbaum	Espinosa-Paz	Amaral	Safra
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Espinosa-Paz also opened One No Trump. Something went wrong with the Puppet Stayman auction because the 4-4 heart fit was missed. Three No Trump is definitely inferior to Four Hearts and it duly failed; by two tricks when declarer was not up to dropping both the doubleton queens, which might have given her a chance. -100 meant 11 IMPs to Brazil, who closed to 21-32.

Argentina had a couple of useful gains to extend their lead to 45-21, then came something more substantial:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
lacaprato	Gomes	Garateguy	Sampaio
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	6♣	All Pass	5♥

West	North	East	South
Tajtelbaum	Espinosa-Paz	Amaral	Safra
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	5♣	All Pass	2♥

Is there no middle ground between launch- ing into Blackwood and effectively signing-off in



Charo Garateguy, Argentina

game? The defense to the slam started with two rounds of diamonds, giving declarer some hope. However, when the spades failed to divide evenly, Gomes had to go one down for -100 and 12 IMPs to Argentina for stopping safely in game in the other room. It seems that Argentina outbid their opponents on the board, but would South have gone on to Six Clubs if she had also held the ♠Q or ♥K? I think not.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
lacaprato	Gomes	Garateguy	Sampaio
1♣	Dble	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Tajtelbaum	Espinosa-Paz	Amaral	Safra
1♣	Dble	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Sampaio outbid Safra on this one. After an identical start to the auction, Sampaio put more trust in her partner's combination of double then bid her suit, by inviting game. Gomes quickly raised herself to game and that was +650 against +200 in the other room; 10 IMPs to Brazil.

Argentina led by 62-40 with three boards to go.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
lacaprato	Gomes	Garateguy	Sampaio
3♠	4♠	5♥	5♠
Pass	Pass	6♥	6♠
All Pass			

Three Spades was a splinter in support of hearts and Gomes did well to raise to Four Spades on the North cards given the vulnerability. That enabled Sampaio to compete with Five Spades over Five Hearts. Garateguy went on to Six Hearts, which is only one off and could even make on the lead of the ace of spades. With a shrug of her shoulders, Sampaio went on to Six Spades, ending the auction.

Six Spades can be made double dummy, but is unlikely to be made in practice as declarer must take a first round club finesse to get to dummy to pick up the spade. Sampaio ruffed the heart lead and played a diamond to the queen and ace. She ruffed the heart return and tried to get to dummy by ruffing the third diamond. When lacaprato could ruff in with the eight in front of dummy, the contract had to fail. lacaprato returned a club, run to declarer's ten. Disappointed to have gone down, Sampaio had taken her eye off the ball and now played a second club in an attempt to get to dummy, so suffered a second ruff for down two; -200.

West	North	East	South
Tajtelbaum	Espinosa-Paz	Amaral	Safra
4♥	4♠	5♥	All Pass

But -200 proved to be enough to win the board for Brazil. In the other room, Tajtelbaum made a straightforward raise to Four Hearts and again North, Espinosa-Paz, did well to compete with Four Spades. When Amaral bid on to Five Hearts, Safra passed! That is a surprising decision – perhaps she assumed that her pass was forcing, though there seems no reason why it should be. The lead of the ace of spades meant that dummy's diamond loser could be discarded and Amaral came home with 11 tricks for +450 and 6 IMPs to Brazil.

The final score was 62-48 to Argentina, converting to 18-12 VPs.

## Airline Reconfirmation

You must make your own arrangements about reconfirming flights – please don't ask the hospitality desk to do it for you!

## Orbis Bermuda Bowl - Round 1

## USA 2 v Bulgaria

## Bul (garian) Market

The match between USA 2 and Bulgaria in Round 13 of the Orbis Bermuda Bowl was a wild affair, won by Bulgaria 60-55. On the following deals, reported by Barry Rigal, Bulgaria earned 34 IMPs by right-siding one contract and with daring play on two others.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Karaivanov	Martel	Trendafilov	Stansby
Pass	1♣	Pass	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Kalin Karaivanov led a low spade. Rumen Trendafilov took the ♠J and ♣A before switching to the ♦J. Stansby had no reason not to play trumps in the normal way, so West won the ♥Q to defeat the contract one trick. In the other room:

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Zia	Nanev	Rosenberg	Mihov
Pass	2NT <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass	3♣ <sup>(1)</sup>
Pass	3♦ <sup>(3)</sup>	Pass	3♠ <sup>(4)</sup>
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

(1) 9-12 HCP.

(2) Transfer to clubs.

(3) Stayman.

(4) Hearts.

Rosenberg led the ♦J, ducked all around. Rosenberg played another diamond to Nanev's ace and the Bulgarian followed with a club to dummy's king and a club to the ace. When the ♣Q dropped, Nanev cashed the top two hearts, and when the queen dropped, he pulled trumps and claimed, recording plus 420. Even if

the ♥Q had not dropped, Nanev would have had great chances for his contract.

After playing two top hearts, ending in hand, Nanev could have ruffed a club low, ruffed a diamond, felling the king, and played winning clubs. If East held the ♥Q, Nanev could ruff his last club and pitch a losing spade on the good diamond queen. Of course, if East ruffed in at any point, he would be endplayed, faced with the choice of leading a spade from his ace or playing a diamond to dummy's queen. Plus 420 was good for 10 IMPs to Bulgaria.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul

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

In one room, Karaivanov and Trendafilov stopped in 4♥ making five for plus 450. In the open room:

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Zia	Nanev	Rosenberg	Mihov
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣ <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦ <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass
4♠ <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

(1) Checkback Stayman.

(2) Cuebid.

If anyone could appreciate Nanev's opening lead, it would be Zia, who has conjured up some corksers himself over the years. Nanev, perhaps asking himself what Zia would have led, put the ♦7 on the track.

Zia played low, winning the 9 with the queen. He followed with the ♥K and ♥Q, then the top spades in his hand. In dummy with the ♥A, Zia cashed the ♠Q. At this point, if he had cashed the ♦A, he would have brought home the slam. Once Zia got over the shock of see-

ing Nanev's king fall under the ace, he could have ruffed a spade in his hand, establishing the suit, pitched a club on the good diamond in his hand and claimed, giving up a club.

As it was, Zia ruffed a spade low and played a diamond from hand to the king (!!!) and ace. Zia now had a good diamond in his hand but no way to get to it. His only choice then was to hope that South had the ♣A. Not this time, as Bulgaria put 11 more IMPs in the bank.

Finally:

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul

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

In one room, Stansby and Martel stopped in a sensible 6♣, making six, for 1370. In the other room:

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Zia	Nanev	Rosenberg	Mihov
Pass	2♣ <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	2♦ <sup>(2)</sup>
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥ <sup>(3)</sup>	Pass	3♠ <sup>(4)</sup>
Pass	4♦ <sup>(4)</sup>	Pass	4NT <sup>(5)</sup>
Pass	5NT <sup>(6)</sup>	Pass	7♣
All Pass			

(1) Precision style.

(2) Forcing relay.

(3) Confirming 4-6 in hearts and clubs.

(4) Cuebid.

(5) Cuebid.

(6) Roman Keycard Blackwood.

(7) Two keycards and a void.

Rosenberg led the ♦K, ruffed in hand by Nanev, who immediately swung the ♣J through East. When that card held and trumps proved to be 3-2, the Bulgarians happily scored up plus 2140, good for 13 IMPs and a narrow win in a wild match.

## Bridge commands Patino's attention

By Henry Francis

Bridge and golf perpetually vie for the attention of Jaime Ortiz-Patino, President Emeritus of the World Bridge Federation.

He is here in Bermuda, working with the WBF Executive Council to prepare for bridge's entry into the Olympics. Chances are excellent that bridge will be a demonstration sport at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. But he will take some time off this weekend to go to Florida to take care of the financial details concerning the multi-million-dollar tournament

held recently at Valderrama, his world-famous course in Spain.

He plans to attend the World Team Olympiad in Maastricht, the Netherlands, this summer to help with the revisions in the WBF constitution and bylaws - changes made necessary by the WBF's affiliation with the International Olympic Committee. He also will go to Buenos Aires, Argentina, for the World Junior Championships next year, and to the 2001 Bermuda Bowl.

One other bridge tournament also is on his schedule - the

IOC tournament at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland. He plans to talk with Juan Antonio Samaranch, IOC President, about bridge and its entry into the Olympic fold.

We asked Jimmy about his golf course. "The course has been ranked #1 on the continent of Europe for the past 10 years. And three of the holes have been listed among the top 500 holes in the world - and three is the maximum allowed for any course. The par 3 15th, the par 4 18th and the par 5 4th were the holes selected.

## Bermuda Open Team

**Charles W. Hall**, originally from the United Kingdom, is an accountant for a local retail company. He began playing cards as a child, graduating to bridge at the Olicania Bridge Club in North England. He became an ACBL Life Master in the early Nineties. He and partner Joe Taussig play Precision, but they are equally at home with other, natural systems. Has won several events at regional tournaments and has attended several of ACBL's North American Bridge Championships. His other interests are sailing, cultivating orchids and riding motor bikes (he fantasizes about riding Harley Davidsons). He is married to Lee, who is very supportive of his bridge playing.

**Bill Souster** was born in England and has been in Bermuda since 1987. A former mathematics teacher, for the past six years he has worked as an actuary in the reinsurance business in Bermuda. He has represented Bermuda in five Bermuda Bowl qualifying events and in one Olympiad.

**David Sykes** is a chartered accountant working for one of the leading insurance management companies in Bermuda. He is making his debut in international competition.

**Joe Taussig** is president of First International Capital Ltd., an investment banking firm that raises capital for insurance companies, hedge funds and securities trading firms. He is playing in international competition for the first time.

**Charles Vaucrosson** is the only native Bermudian on the open team, although he lived abroad (Canada and England) for about 18 years. He has played bridge for 50 years (duplicate for about 25). He helped organize the Tri-Country Trials (a playoff among Bermuda, Canada and Mexico) in the late Seventies and has played in all but a couple of them since. Charles has played in the World Team Olympiad and the Olympiad Pairs.

**Joe Wakefield** is a former teacher turned attorney. He is married with one daughter and two grandchildren. Has won six regional championships, all in Bermuda. He has played in most of the World Bridge Team Olympiads since Monte Carlo in 1976. He is former president of the Bermuda Bridge Club and of Unit 198. His other hobby is golf.

**Kevin Comeau** (non-playing captain) is former director and general counsel of Orbis Investment Management. He is now retired to spend more time playing golf, bridge and tennis. A native of Canada, Kevin has lived in Bermuda since 1989. 'As with my golf and tennis games,' Kevin says, 'I am working hard to raise my bridge game to an expected level of mediocrity.'

## Bermuda Ladies Team

**Judy Bussell** is a financial controller for a large Bermuda security firm. She has played bridge since she was eight years old but took up duplicate only eight years ago. She became an ACBL Life Master in February of 1999. She was chairman of the Bermuda Regional last year and will take on the duties again this year. She is a former field hockey player and caddy for the regional tournament. Her view of the game: 'I would rather play bridge than eat!'

**Diana Diel** is married to Coles Diel, Q.C., barrister. They have two sons and three grandchildren. A keen golfer, Diana has been ladies amateur champion three times and stroke-play champion twice. She has played for Bermuda in the World Cup (golf) in Venezuela. She is Lady Captain of Riddells Bay and Mid Ocean Golf clubs. She is also an associate of the Royal College of Music in piano. Her principal hobby is gardening. She and partner Audrey Smith won the Bermuda Bridge Club ladies championship two years ago. They qualified for the Orbis Venice Cup team last April.

**Jean Johnson** has played in four world championships, twice on open teams and once in the Tri-Country Trials. She is past president of the Bermuda Bridge Club and past chairman of the Bermuda Regional. She has won the ladies pairs in Bermuda five times, the open pairs twice and is a past winner of the Norman Bach Trophy (most masterpoints at the Bermuda Regional).

**Stephanie Kyme** began playing bridge when she arrived in Bermuda 20 years ago. She became an ACBL Life Master four years ago. She is now a Bronze Life Master (500 masterpoints). She is secretary of the Bermuda Unit. She is employed at Mutual Risk Management in Bermuda as personal assistant to the chairman of the captive group. Stephanie plays golf as well as bridge, and enjoys playing the piano in her spare time.

**Audrey Smith** is a wife and mother of three children – two boys and a girl. Her husband is a retired ophthalmologist. The two of them were born and reared in Scotland, where they graduated from Glasgow University. They moved to Bermuda 43 years ago, and for nearly 40 years he was the only eye specialist on the island. Audrey was taught bridge by her husband when they first married. They are regulars at the Bermuda Bridge Club. She and partner Diana Diel have been practicing for their appearance in the Orbis Venice Cup for three months and have been coached by Eric Kokish. 'Eric came to Bermuda for a few days in November,' Smith says, 'to try to make bridge players out of us. So, here we are, surprised and very nervous.'

**Margie Way** has played in three world championships and two Tri-Country Trials. She is past president of the Bermuda Bridge Club and has won the Ladies Pairs in Bermuda four times. She is a keen tennis player and chairman of the tennis tournament committee. She is the mother of seven children and grandmother of nine. She also teaches bridge.

**David Schroeder** (non-playing captain) moved to Bermuda 20 months ago from Chicago. He works for Marsh Global Broking (Bermuda) Ltd. as coverage and claims advisor. He is an attorney, graduating from the University of Chicago Law School in 1984. David learned to play bridge at age 13 (his parents remain avid players) and enjoys twice-weekly games with regular partner John Hoskins at the Bermuda Bridge Club. David's other interests include stamp and coin collection, naval history, ship model building and the stock market. 'I was extremely honoured,' David says, 'to be asked to be non-playing captain of Bermuda's Orbis Venice Cup team.'

## Bermuda on the run

Onno Eskes, The Netherlands

Mutual disbelief will be seen, when on Sunday the island will be flooded with marathon-runners for the annual Bermuda Marathon. If you can't understand that some people actually get some form of satisfaction from running 42 kilometers in a few hours, then try to explain that you are throwing around pieces of cardboard for nine hours a day, fourteen days in a row, and that you really like it!

The Bermuda men's team showed that they are in excellent form for the running contest, as witness this deal from their match against Canada. Joe Wakefield held ♠KQ7 ♥AK87 ♦Q98 ♣863. He opened 1♣ and after his partnership bid undisturbed to game (1♣-1♦-1♥-1♠-INT-3NT) his left hand opponent suddenly doubled!

Wakefield realized that this must have been based on a nasty club surprise and took the excellent view to run to 5♦. David Sykes had no trouble heading this ball into the goal: he raised to 6♦!

Dealer East. None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sykes</i>	<i>Maksymetz</i>	<i>Wakefield</i>	<i>Graves</i>
1♦	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	INT	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Dble
6♦	All Pass	5♦	Pass

6♦ was of course no problem with the diamonds 2-2. More interesting was the play in 3NT, which was bid (and left alone) at the other table. After a club lead declarer cashed three spade tricks before switching his attention to the red suits and going down. That was exactly one spade trick too little. Had he cashed his fourth spade too, South would have been squeezed in three suits!

The Canadians turned out to be quick learners. The next match, Fred Gitelman held ♠K5 ♥8752 ♦832 ♣KQJ6 and heard his Taiwanese opponents bid to 5♣. Once bitten, twice shy; Fred passed and noticed happily that 5♣ went down while the opponents were again cold for 6♦.

# A modest proposal

David Burn, Great Britain

*Alan Truscott's article has provoked a swift response from one of our Internet readers. We certainly enjoyed reading it.*

Some of you will have noticed that Abbey Walker, the European champion, is carrying around a couple of sheets of paper. She is doing so under protest. They were prepared by her partner, and contain among other things the counter-measures she uses when her opponents open the bidding.

She cites an opponent who used a bid of one club to show spades, or hearts, or diamonds, or clubs, or any of the six combinations of two of those suits, the four three-suited possibilities and even a balanced hand. The system card gave only a vague indication of the point count, but the style was described as 'strong'. This requires advance preparation by the defending side, since you may want to play in clubs, diamonds, hearts, spades, or conceivably nothing at all.

Like all of the players in the event, Abbey was prepared for this to some extent. Since she is not allowed to have prepared defences at the table, she has been forced to rely on a complex procedure involving looking at her hand and bidding according to its contents. This wastes up to half a second on any given deal, and she was still at some disadvantage, because she was in a position that could never have occurred if players were forced to bid only suits in which they had length, provided that they also held good hands.

The World Bridge Federation has consistently refused to espouse the obvious notion that bids that do not show strength or specified suits should be placed in the same category as coffee and other dangerous drugs. I shared that opinion, but Truscott has changed my mind. I believe that no call should be permitted unless there is a possibility that it could terminate the auction. Eliminating the Precision Club is only a partial solution.

Unlike almost all readers, I have read thousands of convention cards over a period of twelve years as coach to international teams. There are, in truth, very few problems that cannot be solved by the application of a few general principles and some basic common sense. But that is not the point - as bridge becomes an Olympic sport, as the march of time carries us inexorably towards a new millennium, it is more important than ever that the game remains firmly rooted in the 1930s, where everybody knew what was happening.

This will occur only if the following regulation is adopted as a matter of urgency:

Any action by anyone must not be forcing.

Of course, there will be die-hards who persist in the foolish belief that the object of bidding is either: to reach the optimum contract, or to prevent the opponents from doing likewise. I trust that these practitioners of chemical warfare will be given the short shrift they deserve by the governing bodies. The effect of my proposal would be to eliminate the strong 1♣, the strong 2♣, the take-out double, Blackwood, Stayman, cue-bids, asking bids and all manner of pernicious devices which place the opponents in the invidious position of having to defend against the right contract.

An additional advantage would be that the game becomes a great deal faster. Since the chances of getting a plus score by bidding under the new regime would be minimal, hardly anyone would bother to bid at all. Even when an auction did start, it would not last very long. With no need for alerts and explanations, matches which currently take two hours would be over in a matter of minutes, and we could all spend most of our day at the beach instead of having to put some effort into exploring the unnecessary complexities of what ought to be a simple game. Instead of the Olympic motto - "faster, higher, stronger" - let us adopt for our sport a new watchword: "Reddemus in lectum et stragulum super capitem trahemus", which being roughly translated means: "Let us go back to bed and pull the covers over our heads".

David Burn  
13th January 2000

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## INVESTING IS OUR STRONG SUIT

*A daily column on investing by Orbis Investment Management Limited*

*You may meet a senior representative from Orbis Investment Management Limited at the hotel. To make an appointment please contact the hospitality desk or call the Churchill Suite, room phone: 7554.*

### Risks of passive investing

Earlier this week when we wrote about the various styles of investing we categorised the styles into Active and Passive. The Active manager attempts to outperform a benchmark index. The differences between the active portfolio and the benchmark also expose the portfolio to the risk of under performing. In contrast, the Passive manager sits on her hands and tries only to match the performance of the portfolio's benchmark while sometimes keeping expenses low.

During periods when active management styles generate returns that are lower than the market averages, just matching the index becomes more popular. We are in such a period now. In fact, over the last decade indexing has become very popular. The unprecedented bull market in the US has helped to convince investors that they need not pay a manager for active management.

While a passive approach has benefits, there is, however, a significant risk in taking the passive indexing approach. The old adage "Buy Low, Sell High" is not followed by index funds. Just the opposite, as some stocks increase while others decrease over time the index fund matches these changes and ends up holding a larger proportion of the stocks that have done the best and a smaller proportion of those that have under performed. While the trend continues, this works well but when the trend reverses you have a problem.

Consider, for example, what has happened to the weighting of major countries in a worldwide index of equities. In December 1989, Japan had just experienced the most fabulous period of stockmarket gains.

In the late 1980s, Japan was considered to be the powerhouse of future global growth. The rest of the world was trying to re-engineer itself in the Japanese style. General Motors was considered to be a dinosaur. At this most optimistic moment, the Japanese stockmarket represented 42% of the value of investable equities worldwide. This was its highest weighting ever. And it was its most vulnerable moment.

At the beginning of 1990, the Japanese stockmarket bubble burst. The average Japanese share subsequently declined 67% over the following eight and a half years. In August 1998, after this protracted bear market, the value of the Japanese stockmarket constituted only 9% of equities worldwide. It was difficult to find an investor who liked Japan's prospects. Yet this may well mark the bottom of the bear market and is probably the beginning of a new more positive phase for Japan compared to other stockmarkets. Placing 42% of your global portfolio in Japan at the top of the market and only holding 9% at what may well turn out to be its bottom is not Buying Low and Selling High.

