



Daily Bulletin

WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
22nd OCTOBER - 5th NOVEMBER

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Issue No. 12

Thursday, 3 November 2005

HIGH NOON IN ESTORIL



Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, President Emeritus of the World Bridge Federation, is now among those enjoying the World Bridge Championships in Estoril. The President Emeritus was busy last weekend with a major tournament at his Valderrama Golf Club in Spain.

It's a rematch!
Like two gunfighters facing each other thinking "there's room for only one of us in this town," Italy and USA1 will replay their dramatic showdown in Monte Carlo, one of the most exciting matches in the history of the Bermuda Bowl.
USA1 had to fend off the determined Russ Ekeblad team, USA2, to reach the final. USA2 had pulled to within 18 IMPs with 16 boards to play, but USA1 took the final set 50-21 to win by 211-172.
Italy had a much easier time as Sweden withdrew after five sets with the Italians leading 205-131. In the final, the Americans will start with a 20-IMP carry-over.
In the Venice Cup, there were some nervous German supporters after the Netherlands had levelled their match with two sets to go, but Germany went up by 14 IMPs through five sets, and smashed the Dutch 71-8 over the final 16 boards to

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Venice Cup – Final – 11.00
France v Germany
Bermuda Bowl – Final – 14.00
Italy v USA1
Final – 17.00
To Be Decided

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earn a chance at the title.
Germany will face France – easy winners over USA1 – for the championship. Although the teams have different line-ups now, the match is a repeat of the Venice Cup final from Paris in 2001 (won by Germany).
The Seniors Bowl final will pit USA1 and Indonesia, who mounted a huge comeback to knock out Denmark. Indonesia trailed 81.5-120 with 32 deals to play but had a great fifth set, winning 57-9, to make it to the championship round.
With three qualifying round-robin matches still to play in the World Transnational Open Teams, the leaders are Team 777 (Russia) with 231 Victory Points, followed by Shugart and Hussein with 220.



PROGRAMME**Bermuda Bowl****Semi-finals**

Teams		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Total	
1	ITALY	SWEDEN	3 - 0	43 - 11	20 - 45	56 - 19	49 - 22	34 - 34	0 - 0	205 - 131
2	USA2	USA1	0 - 5	18 - 26	35 - 40	28 - 55	26 - 16	35 - 18	30 - 51	172 - 211

Venice Cup**Semi-finals**

Teams		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Total	
3	FRANCE	USA1	16 - 0	42 - 26	21 - 30	43 - 16	43 - 14	53 - 33	44 - 31	262 - 150
4	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS	0 - 16	25 - 22	68 - 22	35 - 38	11 - 41	31 - 17	71 - 8	241 - 164

Seniors Bowl**Semi-finals**

Teams		Carry-over	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Total	
5	INDONESIA	DENMARK	10.5 - 0	13 - 36	21 - 34	30 - 26	7 - 24	57 - 9	30 - 27	168.5 - 156
6	USA1	NETHERLANDS	11 - 0	45 - 22	48 - 22	55 - 39	38 - 33	26 - 11	0 - 0	223 - 117

Bermuda Bowl Final

Teams	Carry-over
1 ITALY	USA1
	0 - 20

Bermuda Bowl Playoff

Teams	Carry-over
4 USA2	SWEDEN
	12 - 0

Venice Cup Final

Teams	Carry-over
2 FRANCE	GERMANY
	16 - 0

Venice Cup Playoff

Teams	Carry-over
5 USA1	NETHERLANDS
	12 - 0

Seniors Bowl Final

Teams	Carry-over
3 USA1	INDONESIA
	1 - 0

Seniors Bowl Playoff

Teams	Carry-over
6 DENMARK	NETHERLANDS
	0 - 8

WBF Press Conference

The WBF is to hold a Press Conference on Friday November 4th at 11.30 a.m., followed by a light lunch, in Sala E on the first floor. Please register by Thursday in the Press Room for the lunch.

Quote of the Day

'Bridge is so inspiring that I do not believe a good player is capable of having an evil thought during the game.'
After Wilhelm Steinitz

Transnational Schedule

(Swiss Teams - 10-Board Matches)

Thursday 3 November

10.00 - 11.30 Match 13
11.50 - 13.20 Match 14
13.40 - 15.10 Match 15

Captain's Meetings for

Transnational Quarter-Finalists
17.00 - 19.20 Quarter-Final Session 1
21.00 - 23.20 Quarter-Final Session 2

RESULTS AFTER 12 MATCHES

Transnational Open Teams

Rank	Team	Total	Rank	Team	Total	Rank	Team	Total
1	777	231	43	GORACO	187	90	NADER	170
2	SHUGART	220		KATS	187	91	HANNA	167
	HUSSEIN	220		MARKEY	187		SOPHONPANICH	167
4	PONT	216	48	BUCKLEY	186		MAHAFFEY	167
	LANTARON	216		PASSARINHO	186		RODWELL	167
6	GOTARD	215		KVANGRAVEN	186	95	RICE	166.5
7	POPOVA	213	51	NIEDERMAN	185.5	96	HIRON	166
8	SHATO ROSENOVO	212	52	O'ROURKE	185		GOMEZ DE PABLOS	166
9	DHONDY	209		ORANGE A	185	98	STOIMIROV	165.5
	SOFIA PESSOA	209		KOKTEN	185	99	CARRASCO	165
11	SCHNEIDER	208		MILNER	185	100	ACHTERBERG	164.5
12	MANO	207	56	GILLIS	184	101	GALVAO	164
13	VENKATESH	206.5		NADAR	184		J OLIVEIRA	164
14	ORANGE 2	205	58	MORBAY	183	103	CDUP	163
15	HADI	204.4		DATA STEEL	183	104	NANIWADA	162
16	DE BOTTON	204		PACALT	183	105	SAVELLI	161
17	JACOBS	203	61	EINBERG	182.5	106	BE	160
18	CHINA OPEN	202	62	MIZEL	182		GUSSO	160
19	BARR	200		CHINA WOMEN	182	108	LEITAO	159
	ALIZEE	200		NAITO	182	109	HOLT	158.5
	AUBRY	200	65	CHIDIAC	181.5	110	N OLIVEIRA	158
22	SAKURA KRAKOW	199	66	LARA	180	110	GERMANY	158
23	WALEREK	198	66	M OLIVEIRA	180	112	PUIG-DORIA	157
	JULS	198		ROSSARD	180		REAL	157
	OTVOSI	198	69	TURNER	179	114	SINGAPORE	156
	CANADA	198	70	TO DEBONNAIRE	178	115	BOWLES	155
27	HACKETT	196		WIGNALL	178	116	MORGADO	154
	HENRIQUES	196	72	PALMA CARLOS	177		VIOLA	154
29	SPECTOR	195.6		TEIXEIRA	177		SAPORTA	154
30	ZIMMERMAN	195	74	GONCALVES	176.5	119	PHELAN	153.5
	PKO BP	195	75	MATOS	176	120	LOPES	153
32	NAGY	194	76	GISBOURNE	175.5	121	COMPTON	152
33	MALAFAYA	193	77	BUSQUIN	175	122	GALICIA	150.5
	QUERAN	193		ORANGE I	175	123	ROSEN'S ANGELS	150
	IRELAND	193	79	DEBUS	174		CRIADO DEL REY	150
36	BESSIS	192		ALLANA	174	125	ESCUDEIRO	148.5
	DAIGNEAULT	192		SCHIPPERS	174	126	HANRATTY	147
38	HALLEN	191		MIX	174	127	ROUSSEL	146
39	NARAN	190		PENDER	174	128	MEEHAN	145
40	KIRILENKO	188	84	HAMAQUI	173	129	PILARTE	143.5
	AUSTRIA I	188		MARKOWICZ	173	130	LOURO	143
	ZIA	188	86	SWELAT	171.5	131	DERI	141
43	KIRKHAM	187		HOLLAND	171.5	132	CASTANHO	131
	SISSELAAR	187	88	LACHAPELLE	171	133	ILLUSION TEAM	114
			89	FLEISHER	170.5	134	MACHADO	78

World Championship Book 2005



The Official World Championship Book 2005, of these championships in Estoril, will be available next March. As always, we offer a substantial discount to anyone who would like to order and pay for their copy while at the championships.

On publication, the price will be US\$33 per copy plus postage. For the duration of these championships, you can order the book for US\$25 or Euros20, including postage (surface mail) to anywhere in the world. To order your copy, please see Jan Swaan in the Press Room on the ground floor of the building.



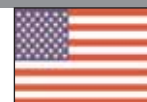
Principal analysts will be Eric Kokish, Barry Rigal and Brian Senior. There will be a complete listing of teams playing in all four championships, plus a full results listing and many photographs. Kokish will cover every board of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup finals and there will be substantial coverage of the earlier stages, plus enhanced coverage of the Seniors Bowl and the best of the action from the Transnational Teams.

SEMI FINAL 2

Bermuda Bowl



USA2 v USA1



That's Entertainment

If audiences and bridge journalists had one pair they could choose to watch on vugraph, there is no question there would be many votes for Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell. Not only are they fine players, they are highly entertaining.

In the set-two Bermuda Bowl semi-final match between USA1 and USA2, the pairs did not disappoint.

The action started early.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
INT	Pass	Pass	2♣
2♦	All Pass		

Geoff Hampson played in a calm 2♦ after Eric Greco opened a Precision 1♦ in fourth seat. Dick Freeman led the ♦10 to Nick Nickell's ace. Greco won the trump return in hand and advanced the ♥J. Freeman won the ace and exited with a club. Greco won the ♣A, played a club to the king and followed with the ♣Q. Nickell ruffed and got out with a heart, but Greco inserted the ten, then followed with the ♥K, pitch-

ing a spade from dummy. Another spade went on the ♥9. The defenders took four tricks; Plus 110 to USA2.

It was anything but calm at the other table.

West	North	East	South
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Ekeblad</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Rubin</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	INT	Dble	Dble
Pass	2♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	2♠	Dble	All Pass

Rodwell's 1♠ showed a balanced hand. Rubin's take-out double with 8 high-card points might have worked out on a different layout, but it was trouble this time. Russ Ekeblad had the dubious honour of playing in 2♠ doubled on a 4-3 fit with a trump lead. Ekeblad could take no more than five tricks for Minus 500 and 9 IMPs to USA1.

The next board also gave the USA2 crowd reason for anxiety, although all was well in the end.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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



USA1 v USA2 on the vugraph

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Nickell	Greco	Freeman
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	7♥
All Pass			

In the Closed Room, Nickell and Freeman did not break a sweat getting to the cold grand slam (5NT was a grand slam force – 6♦ showed one top honour).

In the Open Room, however, Ekeblad and Rubin had a protracted auction after Ekeblad opened the North hand INT. Rubin transferred to hearts and began a series of relays. At the end, Rubin seemed on the verge of passing 6♥, but he finally pulled the 7♥ card from the bidding box to earn a push.

There was a slam swing on the next deal, and it went to USA1.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Nickell	Greco	Freeman
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	1♠
2♠	3♠	4♥	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♥	All Pass

Hampson's 1♣ bid was Precision. His 5♣ bid was obviously a slam try, but Greco was too weak to go on. Twelve tricks were trivial; Plus 480 to USA2.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Ekeblad	Meckstroth	Rubin
	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♠	3♠	4♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Rodwell did not have the opportunity to open with a Precision 1♣, but he coped with the interference very well. In the Meckstroth/Rodwell methods, the 2♠ cuebid showed hearts and diamonds or a strong hand with hearts and clubs. Meckstroth is rarely shut out of any auction, and Rodwell was spurred on by his partner's free bid to force a slam; Plus 980 meant 11 IMPs to USA1.

The next swing went to USA2.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Nickell	Greco	Freeman
	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Greco started with the ♠Q, taken by Nickell with the ace. He played a club from hand at trick two, ducked by Greco. Nickell misguessed by playing the ♣J from dummy. Hampson won with the ♣Q, cashed the ♠K and exited with a club. From there, Nickell had only nine tricks, finishing one down.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Ekeblad	Meckstroth	Rubin
	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Ekeblad's 1♠ opener was part of their canapé system in which a shorter suit is opened first, so Meckstroth was less inclined to start the defense with a spade lead. Further, he knew from the relay bidding that Ekeblad had a singleton club, so when Ekeblad led the club, Meckstroth rose with the ace, providing declarer with his trick number ten, the same number of IMPs that went to USA2.

On the following deal, the play and the defense were very complex – and it was Meckstroth and Rodwell who prevailed in a taut battle between declarer and the defenders.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

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

West <i>Hampson</i>	North <i>Nickell</i>	East <i>Greco</i>	South <i>Freeman</i>
2♠	3♦	Pass	1♠
All Pass			

Hampson led the ♥A and continued with a heart to the king, and Freeman was soon claiming 10 tricks for Plus 170.

West <i>Rodwell</i>	North <i>Ekeblad</i>	East <i>Meckstroth</i>	South <i>Rubin</i>
2♥	Dble	Rdbl	2♣
3♦	4♠	All Pass	2♠

Rubin's 2♣ and subsequent rebid of spades described his hand to a tee (the system, as reported by the vugraph commentators, is the creation of Ekeblad). Rodwell got the defense off to the best start with the ♦10. Rubin won the ace perforce and played a spade, stopping for a long study when Rodwell discarded a heart. He eventually went up with the ♠A, ending his chances to make the contract as long as the defenders did not err.

Rubin played a club to the king and Rodwell's ace, ruffing the diamond return. He played a club to the queen in dummy and ruffed dummy's last diamond.

This was the position:

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

Now he played a heart to the king in dummy and another heart, covering the jack with the queen. Rodwell could have let the contract through if he had played a diamond – declarer ruffs, discards his club, then on the play of dummy's club, declarer discards the heart if East splits his spade honors, taking the final two tricks with the ♠K 10. Rodwell accurately continued with the ♥10, however, and now it was up to Meckstroth to do the right thing – discard his diamond instead of overruffing. Rubin was down to two trumps in each hand, and he had to lose two of the last three tricks for Minus 50.

Lost Package

Hansa Narasimhan of the USA has lost a yellow plastic bag with ice trays and coasters. If you find it, please turn it in at the Hospitality Desk.

The following board was unlucky for USA1.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West <i>Hampson</i>	North <i>Nickell</i>	East <i>Greco</i>	South <i>Freeman</i>
		INT	2♠

All Pass

Hampson started with a low heart to the queen and king. Freeman ducked the spade continuation to West's queen. The ♦A was cashed and a diamond continued. Freeman won, played a spade to dummy's jack, followed by a low club. Greco split his club honours, and Freeman won with the ace. He pulled trumps with two more rounds then, relying on his club spots, played the ♣J from hand. Greco won, cashed the ♥A and exited with the ♦Q. Freeman ruffed with his last trump but he could play the ♣9 to Greco's ten and win the last trick with the ♠8.

West <i>Rodwell</i>	North <i>Ekeblad</i>	East <i>Meckstroth</i>	South <i>Rubin</i>
		INT	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♣	All Pass

Rubin's 2♠ bid was explained as containing a second suit, which Meckstroth bid. Rubin started with the top two spades, continuing the suit. Meckstroth pitched his losing heart when Ekeblad ruffed with the ♣7. The ♥Q went to Meckstroth's ace, and Rubin took the ♣Q with the ace. A fourth round of spades was ruffed by Ekeblad and overruffed by Meckstroth. Declarer then cashed the ♥K and played a diamond to the jack and ace, followed by a diamond to the nine and king. Rubin had the choice of letting Meckstroth ruff a spade low or leading into the club tenace. He chose the latter, getting one more trick but still Plus 200 for a 7-IMP gain.

USA2 trailed 71-36 with three boards to go, but they gained 4 IMPs on Board 14, going plus at both tables for 3♥ down one by Nickell and 4♠ down one by Rodwell.

Another 13 IMPs went to USA2 on the penultimate board when Nickell and Freeman missed a good slam that was bid and made by Rubin and Ekeblad after another one of their exhaustive relay auctions.

The final board was a push as West opened 3♥, North at both tables bid a normal 3NT, three down when East cashed the first seven club tricks.

It was a good, close set, USA1 prevailing 40-35.

THREE TIMES A REDOUBLE

by Phillip Alder

How often is the final contract redoubled? Obviously, very rarely indeed. That is what makes Board 10 from the fifth session of the quarter-finals a major news item. At three tables in the Venice Cup, the final contract was redoubled. And each time it was a different contract.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

<p>♠ 3 ♥ A K Q 8 6 ♦ 10 7 2 ♣ 10 6 4 2</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>♠ A K Q 8 ♥ 9 7 ♦ Q 8 4 ♣ K Q J 7</p>	<p>♠ 9 7 4 ♥ J 10 5 4 3 2 ♦ J 5 3 ♣ 8</p>
N						
W E						
S						

Taking them in alphabetical order, we start with the match between China and the Netherlands. This was the auction in the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Liu</i>	<i>Pasman</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Simons</i>
1♥	1♠	1♣	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	Dble	Pass
		All Pass	

One Club was Precision, One Heart a natural game-forcing positive, and the double for penalties because a pass would have been forcing. Redouble was for rescue, just in case partner hated spades and had length in one of the minors, but South, Anneke Simons, had nowhere to run.

East, Ping Wang, led the king of clubs, when a top trump would have been a much better choice. After a merry cross-ruff declarer, Jet Pasman came home with an overtrick for Plus 1120. (Double-dummy, declarer can collect a second overtrick by eventually endplaying East to lead away from the queen of diamonds, but who would find that?)

In the other room, the Dutch East, Carla Arnolds, made three no trump with two overtricks, giving the Netherlands 18 IMPs.

Now England against Germany.

West	North	East	South
<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Goldenfield</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
		1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdbl	All Pass		

Knowing that all the suits were breaking badly, Sabine Auken gambled a double, but Michelle Brunner, thinking that a heart lead would hardly be lethal, sent it back, as they say Down Under.

Daniela von Arnim, aware that her partner could not be asking for a heart lead, tried her singleton club. North won with the ace, declarer dropping the king. Now the only chance for the defense is a low-diamond shift, but North returned a club. This left Rhona Goldenfield with nine top tricks and Plus 1000.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
<i>Stawowy-Hackett</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Nehmert</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
		INT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

After a transfer sequence, East was also in three no trump, but North retained a tactful silence.

South, Heather Dhondy, led the three of diamonds. If North, Nicola Smith, had won this and returned a low diamond, she might have defeated the contract. But there was much too big a risk that East had only a doubleton diamond. So North won with her king of diamonds, cashed the ace, and played a third round. Declarer, Pony Nehmert, drove out the ace of clubs and claimed after North took her last diamond; Plus 600 to Germany but nine imps to England.

Finally, USA1 against U.A2

West	North	East	South
<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Sprung</i>	<i>Stansby</i>	<i>Sulgrove</i>
		INT	Pass
2♦	2♠	Dble	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	All Pass	

Again, when spades were doubled for penalties, North with both minors thought that there might be a safer harbor. But South, Kathy Sulgrove, had nowhere to go.

East, JoAnna Stansby, led the king of clubs, and declarer JoAnn Sprung cruised to eight tricks for plus 840.

This was the auction in the other room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Wittes</i>	<i>Picus</i>	<i>Mancuso</i>	<i>Levin</i>
		INT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South, Jill Levin, led the nine of spades. Declarer Renee Mancuso won with her queen and continued with the jack of clubs, which North, Sue Picus, ducked. The queen of clubs came next, South pitching a heart and North playing low again. The nine of hearts to dummy's ace saw North discard the six of diamonds. Declarer played a third club and ended with nine tricks. Another 600 points gave USA2 16 IMPs.

Three different redoubled contracts on the one deal. That is surely a record ... unless you know differently, of course.

SEMI-FINAL 3

Bermuda Bowl



Italy v Sweden

Sweden Get That Sinking Feeling

by Mark Horton

Bridge is close to being unique in so far as at any given moment you have no idea of the score in your match. Of course, you may get a feel for the way things are going depending on the results at your table.

In the third session of the Bermuda Bowl semi-final between Sweden and Italy, the Swedish pair in the Closed Room must have thought they were scoring heavily, but in the other room their compatriots undoubtedly had a different view.

The first board showed the aggressive style of both teams.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 7 6 ♥ A Q J 6 5 ♦ 9 ♣ K Q 7 6 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q 9 3 2 ♥ K ♦ Q 10 8 ♣ 10 8 4 3	♠ 10 8 5 ♥ 10 8 2 ♦ A 7 6 4 2 ♣ A 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
	1♥	1♠	2♥
Dble	4♥	All Pass	

East led the king of spades and West overtook it and played back the jack of spades. When that held he switched to a heart and declarer played low. East won and played the queen of spades. Declarer ruffed, played a club to the ace, a club to the king, ruffed a club with the ten of hearts and claimed +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
	1♥	1♠	2♥
2♠	3♣	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

This time the defenders started with a more challenging three rounds of spades and declarer ruffed. He played a club to the ace, a club to the king and ruffed a club with the ten of hearts. Of course, it was entirely possible that West had refused to overruff with ♥K9xx, but after due consideration declarer played a heart to the ace to flatten the board.

To my simplistic way of thinking, after ruffing the spade declarer should cross to dummy with a club and take the heart finesse.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ Q J 8 4 ♥ Q ♦ Q 10 3 2 ♣ 9 6 5 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 9 7 ♥ 8 6 4 3 ♦ K 8 6 ♣ A K 3 2	♠ A 6 5 ♥ J 10 9 5 ♦ A ♣ Q J 10 8 7
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
			1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

You can contrast Fredin's *Gung Ho* rebid with that of his counterpart in the other room.

Tacchi remarked that in Vaupillon East would risk a double. After East had led the queen of clubs it seemed to the vugraph audience that a bemused declarer was wondering where the rest of his partner's hand was.

He discarded a spade from dummy and won in hand, playing a heart to the ace and a diamond to the king and ace. East switched to the jack of hearts and drew trumps when he got in with the ace of spades, holding declarer to five tricks; -250.



Giorgio Duboin, Italy

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Bocchi	Bertheau	Duboin
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	Pass	3♣	2♥
All Pass			3♥

Declarer was a level lower and when East led the nine of hearts he was a little better placed. He won and played a diamond to the king and ace. East returned a cunning five of hearts and declarer put up the king. Now he was booked for down four, East drawing trumps when he got in with the ace of spades. Still, that gave Italy 2 IMPs.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Lindkvist	Lauria	Fredin
Pass	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass

South led the ace of spades and continued with the jack, ruffed by North who returned a club. Declarer won in hand and played a heart. When the king came up declarer could claim +620.



Magnus Lindkvist, Sweden

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Bocchi	Bertheau	Duboin
Pass	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

West led the ace of hearts and continued the suit, declarer ruffing and playing the queen of clubs. East won, cashed a second club and played a heart. Declarer ruffed and played the ace of diamonds and a diamond. West put up the queen and East had to win with the king. He tried a club, but declarer simply discarded the nine of diamonds. He was one down for -100, but Italy gained 11 IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Lindkvist	Lauria	Fredin
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
Dble	Pass	2♥	Dble
All Pass			

This was a disastrous board for Sweden.

South cashed the ace of hearts and after long thought switched to a low diamond. Declarer won in hand with the king, played a club to the queen, cashed the ace of clubs discarding a spade, ruffed a club, played a spade to the ace, and a spade. North won and played a diamond, ruffed in dummy by declarer who then ruffed a spade, ruffed a diamond and played a spade to ensure two overtricks; +1070.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nystrom	Bocchi	Bertheau	Duboin
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♣
Dble	5♣	Pass	3♦
Dble	All Pass	Pass	Pass

North's 1♠ denied a major and showed 4+ diamonds and 4+ HCP. It's hard to see why North jumped to Five Clubs - West must have thought Xmas had arrived (it had, but at the other table.)

West led his singleton diamond and declarer won with the six. That was just about the only piece of good news for

declarer who played a spade to the jack and a spade to the king, taken by the ace. West switched to the nine of hearts and declarer won with the ace and played the king of clubs. West won and played the ten of spades and declarer ruffed and tried the queen of diamonds. West ruffed and the contract was three down; -500 – a terrific result for Sweden that cost them only 11 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A K 7 4 ♥ 8 3 ♦ K J 2 ♣ Q J 7 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 3 2 ♥ A J 10 9 7 2 ♦ 9 5 4 ♣ A 10	♠ Q 10 9 6 ♥ 6 5 ♦ A 10 6 3 ♣ K 9 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
Pass	INT	2♦*	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♠

The Two Diamond bid showed hearts or spades plus one or both minors.

West led the king of hearts followed by the queen, and East overtook and cashed the ace of clubs then exited with the ten of clubs. Declarer won, played the six of spades to the ace and a spade to the queen. At this stage he was probably rea-



Fredrik Nystrom, Sweden

sonably confident that East was 2-6-3-2, but that didn't help with the vital question of who had the queen of diamonds.

Declarer drew the last trump and cashed two clubs, discarding a diamond from hand.

Only 16 IMPs rested on declarer's decision. Given the aggressive style of the Italians it was surely even money as to who had the queen. Eventually declarer called for a diamond from dummy. It was the ... king. One down and Fredin could not conceal his disappointment.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
Pass	1♣	1♥	Pass
2♥	2♠	3♥	Dble
Pass	3♠	All Pass	Pass

When it didn't matter declarer not only got the diamond right, he was allowed to discard a losing heart on the clubs, so he made eleven tricks, +200 and 7 IMPs.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ J 9 3 ♥ 10 9 7 ♦ 9 4 2 ♣ Q 9 3 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q 8 4 2 ♥ A Q 8 5 ♦ 10 5 3 ♣ 7	♠ 10 ♥ K 2 ♦ K Q J 7 6 ♣ K J 10 8 4
	N											
W		E										
	S											

♠ A 7 6 5
♥ J 6 4 3
♦ A 8
♣ A 6 5

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Three Diamonds was a comfortable spot and declarer was not hard pressed to record ten tricks for +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
2NT*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

When West showed 12-15 with the minors, East took a pot at game. North led the ten of hearts and declarer won with dummy's ace and knocked out the ace of diamonds, South winning the second round of the suit. Declarer won the heart continuation in hand (it was impossible for South to find the spade switch that is required to defeat 3NT) and played the ten of spades to the three, king and ace. South switched to a club and declarer put up the king and cashed his diamonds before exiting in clubs. One way or another the defenders had to give declarer a ninth trick; +400 and 7 IMPs for Sweden.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
2♣	2♠	Dble	1♠
Pass	4♠	5♣	3♣
All Pass			Dble

Italy took a phantom against Four Spades. The defenders made no mistake in the heart suit so the contract was two down; -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
2♣	2♠	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♣	All Pass

Four Clubs was one down, but it was worth 6 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
1♦	Dble	3♦	4♦*
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

South clearly expected more from his partner and he drove

to the hopeless slam. East led his heart and declarer won in dummy and played a spade. West went in and gave his partner a heart ruff for a swift one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
2♦	Pass	5♦	Dble
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

East again led his heart and declarer won in dummy and played a spade. Once again West went in with the ace, but he knew a ruff would not be enough to defeat the contract and he switched to a club to flatten the board.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Lindkvist</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
3♣	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♥

All Pass

The Swedes reached another slam that could only be made if East was obliging enough to lead a diamond. Of course he led a club and the contract drifted two down; -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nystrom</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
Dble	1♥	Pass	2NT*
	4♥	All Pass	

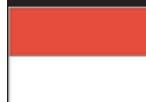
This contract was not in danger and Italy had been gifted another 13 IMPs, putting them firmly on the road to the final.



SEMI-FINAL 4

Seniors Bowl

Indonesia v Denmark



At the midpoint in their Seniors Bowl semi-final, Denmark led Indonesia by 96-74.5 IMPs. The Wednesday morning set was one of the quietest of the championships, with not a single double-figure swing in this match.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Moller</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
			1♠
Dble	2♥(i)	Dble	2♠
Pass	3♣	3♥	3♠
All Pass			

(i) Sound spade raise

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>S-Moller</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Auken</i>
			1♠
2♥	2♠	3♥	Pass
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

As the cards lie, 3♥ is cold for E/W, so both N/S pairs did their job when they competed to 3♠. Both Wests led a top diamond and both Easts followed with the four. Steen Moller continued with two more rounds, so Eddy Manoppo won, crossed to a top club and took the spade finesse. The favourable spade position gave him nine tricks for +140. Not a good deal for reverse signals, as East had a choice of losing options at trick one, an encouraging four, or the jack which would cost a trick by force.

Denny Sacul switched to the king of hearts at trick two and Munawar Sawiruddin overtook to revert to diamonds from the right side. The defenders took two more diamonds and the later trump trick meant down one for -50 and 5 IMPs to Indonesia.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Moller</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>S-Moller</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Auken</i>
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

These days, nobody downgrades a hand any more, and so both Wests opened the 12-count including a doubleton queen-jack. Peter Lund gave his partner plenty of leeway in case he had stretched to open the bidding, and passed the 2♠ rebid. At the other table, Sawiruddin drove to game, which appears to be very aggressive. Perhaps a raise to 3♠ is best if East judges to go on?

Even on a good day, 4♠ should always be defeated. Kirsten Steen-Moller led ace and another diamond. Jens Auken won with the ♦K and switched to a heart to the ace and a heart back. Sacul won with the jack with the queen and played three rounds of trumps. His club loser went away on the long heart, but that was still down one for -100.

Against 2♠, Henky Lasut led his singleton club. Moller won with dummy's ace and played a diamond. The defence took its



Denmark v Indonesia on the vugraph

two winners there then switched to a trump, ducked, and a second trump. Moller drew the remaining trumps, then took a club finesse. When that lost he just had to concede a heart; +110 and 5 IMPs to Denmark.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ K 9 8 6 4 ♥ Q 9 6 ♦ A 6 5 ♣ 10 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A 10 5 ♥ K J 7 4 2 ♦ Q 8 4 ♣ J 9
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ Q 2 ♥ A 8 5 ♦ 10 3 2 ♣ 8 7 6 5 2		♠ J 7 3 ♥ 10 3 ♦ K J 9 7 ♣ A K Q 4									

West	North	East	South
<i>Moller</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>S-Moller</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Auken</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	All Pass	

It says something about modern opening-bid style that Auken was willing to pass the 1♠ response with a sound 14-count. Sawiruddin led a low heart to the ace and won the heart return, switching to a club. Steen-Moller won in dummy and played a spade to the eight and ten. Sawiruddin switched



Kirsten Steen-Moller, Denmark

to a diamond to the ten and ace. Declarer ruffed a heart with the jack then played a spade to the queen, king and ace. She ruffed the heart return, drew trumps and had the remainder for +140.

We can all see that Manoppo could have made his INT contract at the other table, courtesy of the kindly diamond layout. But is it correct to bank everything on diamonds? Moller led a high club spot to the ten, jack and king. Manoppo did not want to commit himself to diamonds so tried a spade to the eight and ten. Lund returned a club. Manoppo won and played a second spade to the queen, king and ace, and now Lund found the heart switch. Five heart tricks put the contract down one for -100 and 6 IMPs to Denmark.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ J 7 2 ♥ J 6 ♦ A 10 9 8 6 4 2 ♣ A	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 6 5 4 ♥ Q 9 ♦ 7 5 ♣ Q J 7 5 3
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ 9 ♥ A 8 7 5 4 3 2 ♦ K J 3 ♣ 8 4									

West	North	East	South
<i>Moller</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
2♦	2♠	3♥	1♠
4♥	4♠	5♥	3♠
All Pass			Dble

West	North	East	South
<i>Sacul</i>	<i>S-Moller</i>	<i>Sawiruddin</i>	<i>Auken</i>
3♦	3♠	5♦	1♠
			All Pass

This was the big potential swing deal of the set. In another match, 5♦ for +600 by East/West gained no less than 16 IMPs as it was compared with 4♠ doubled at the other table and the defence did not find its club ruff. Here, +600 proved to mean a loss of 6 IMPs.

The Indonesian E/W pair bid quickly to 5♦ and were left to play there. There was nothing to be done against that contract, a painless +600. The Danes bid more slowly and found the inferior heart fit – imagine that 5♦ might well have been making when there were two trump losers in 5♥ on a different layout. Manoppo had quite a bit of potential defence to 5♥ so doubled, but then found that he could do nothing to defeat the contract. He actually cashed a top spade then switched to his singleton diamond. Lund won in hand, cashed the ace of clubs, and used the two spade ruffs to hand to firstly ruff his club loser then play two rounds of trumps; +850 and 6 IMPs to Denmark.

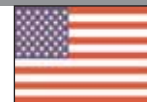
And that was it for the set; Denmark won it by 24-7 and had increased their lead to 120-81.5 with 32 deals to play.

SEMI FINAL 5

Bermuda Bowl



USA2 v USA1



Closing The Gap

When their semi-final match got underway on Wednesday, USA1 had a useful but in no way impregnable 45-IMP lead over their American rivals, USA2.

USA2 cut the lead by 10 IMPs in the fourth set, putting themselves in position for a run at the final.

The boards in the fifth set were more or less flat, but USA2 got the job done anyway. USA2 struck first, on the second board.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West <i>Rodwell</i>	North <i>Ekeblad</i>	East <i>Meckstroth</i>	South <i>Rubin</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Eric Rodwell's 1♣ was Precision, 1♦ negative. Jeff Meckstroth's 2NT bid wrong-sided the contract – on the actual layout, anyway. Ron Rubin started with a low club, taken perforce in dummy. Meckstroth played a heart to his queen and took the losing spade finesse. Russ Ekeblad cashed the ♣K and played a spade to dummy's bare ace. The hearts ran, but Ekeblad and Rubin held onto their diamonds, so when Meckstroth played a diamond to his queen, Rubin won and pushed another diamond through the jack, with Ekeblad holding the A 10; Plus 50 for USA2.

West <i>Gitelman</i>	North <i>Nickell</i>	East <i>Moss</i>	South <i>Freeman</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Fred Gitelman's 2NT showed the power of his hand, likely with a long heart suit, and Brad Moss was happy to raise to game. Nick Nickell didn't have much to go on, so he started with his best suit. That provided Gitelman with his ninth trick, and he landed an overtrick for plus 430 and 10 IMPs to USA2, now trailing by 25.

Another 7 IMPs went to USA2 on deal 4 when USA1 went minus at both tables, in part thanks to clever defense by

Rubin.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West <i>Gitelman</i>	North <i>Nickell</i>	East <i>Moss</i>	South <i>Freeman</i>
INT	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

Freeman's 2♣ showed one suit, which he revealed over the automatic 2♦. Nickell's 2NT got the partnership too high. Gitelman started with the ♣10, ducked to East's king. The ♦10 came back to Gitelman's ace. Dick Freeman won Gitelman's ♦Q with the king and took a spade finesse. Gitelman won and played a club to the jack and queen. Freeman pulled trumps and played another couple of rounds, but the defenders were not discomfited, and Freeman had to settle for eight



Dick Freeman, USA1

tricks.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Ekeblad	Meckstroth	Rubin
INT	All Pass		

Dummy's $\spadesuit 9$ held the trick on the opening lead, and Rodwell continued with the $\spadesuit 10$ to his queen, ducked. Ekeblad won the $\spadesuit J$ with the king and exited with the $\clubsuit J$. Rodwell went up with the king and played a heart to the king. Ekeblad won with the $\heartsuit A$, then played the $\clubsuit A$ and a club to Rubin's queen. Rubin then put the $\spadesuit Q$ on the table, ducked all around. When Rubin followed with the $\spadesuit J$, Rodwell thought about his play for a long time before ducking again. That was enough for Rubin, who cashed the $\spadesuit A$ and two more tricks in the suit for Plus 200. USA2 had trimmed the deficit to 20 IMPs.

More IMPs went to USA2 when aggressive bidding by Ekeblad and Rubin at one table and skilful play by Moss at the other table paid off handsomely.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

	$\spadesuit 9$		
	$\heartsuit K 10 7 2$		
	$\diamond J 10 6 2$		
	$\clubsuit J 10 5 3$		
$\spadesuit Q 10 5 4$		$\spadesuit A K 7 3 2$	
$\heartsuit Q J 9 6 4 3$		$\heartsuit 8 5$	
$\diamond 5 4$		$\diamond K 7 3$	
$\clubsuit 9$		$\clubsuit A K 4$	
	$\spadesuit J 8 6$		
	$\heartsuit A$		
	$\diamond A Q 9 8$		
	$\clubsuit Q 8 7 6 2$		

West	North	East	South
Gitelman	Nickell	Moss	Freeman
			$1 \diamond$
Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	$1 \spadesuit$	Pass
$3 \spadesuit$	Pass	$4 \clubsuit$	All Pass

Moss didn't care that his partner's jump raise was weak fish – he had the goods, and he used them well.

Freeman started with the $\heartsuit A$, switching to a low spade. Moss took Nickell's nine with the king, cashed the top clubs from hand to discard a diamond from dummy, then played a low heart to dummy's queen. Nickell won the $\heartsuit K$ and played the $\diamond J$. Freeman took Moss's $\diamond K$ with the ace and played the $\clubsuit Q$, ruffed in dummy. Moss now ruffed a heart with the $\spadesuit A$ and played a low spade to the ten, claiming his vulnerable game for Plus 620.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Ekeblad	Meckstroth	Rubin
			$1 \diamond$
$1 \heartsuit$	$2 \diamond$	Dble	$3 \clubsuit$
Pass	$5 \clubsuit$	Dble	All Pass

There were only three tricks available to East/West. USA2 gained another 9 IMPs, and the deficit was in single digits at 135-144.

When Moss made an overtrick in $4 \heartsuit$ on Board 13, it was a 1-IMP gain and the USA1 lead had shrunk to 3 IMPs. USA1

was reeling, but they recovered over the final three boards of the set to regain some momentum.

Board 14 was a 2-IMP gain for USA1 - Freeman went down one in $3 \clubsuit$, while Rubin went two off in the same contract.

The next deal was good news for USA1 partisans.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	$\spadesuit 9 8 4$		
	$\heartsuit A K 10$		
	$\diamond A K 5$		
	$\clubsuit K J 10 5$		
$\spadesuit Q 7 6 3$		$\spadesuit A J 5$	
$\heartsuit 9 8 7 5 2$		$\heartsuit Q 6 3$	
$\diamond 10 6$		$\diamond J 9 8 4$	
$\clubsuit A Q$		$\clubsuit 9 8 3$	
	$\spadesuit K 10 2$		
	$\heartsuit J 4$		
	$\diamond Q 7 3 2$		
	$\clubsuit 7 6 4 2$		

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Ekeblad	Meckstroth	Rubin
			Pass
Pass	$1 \clubsuit$	Pass	$1 \diamond$
Pass	INT	All Pass	

Ekeblad's INT rebid showed 16-18. Rubin did not fancy a raise considering the lower end of the range. Meckstroth led a heart, which resulted in Plus 180 for USA2.

West	North	East	South
Gitelman	Nickell	Moss	Freeman
			Pass
Pass	$1 \clubsuit$	Pass	$1 \diamond$
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Freeman was more optimistic, and the cards lay very well for Nickell. He took the opening diamond lead in dummy with the queen then called for a low club. Gitelman rose with the ace, and Nickell considered unblocking one of his honours. He finally played low, won the diamond return with the ace and cashed the $\clubsuit K$, getting the good news. He cashed two more club winners, giving Moss a problem. On the fourth club, Moss discarded a spade, making Nickell's task much easier. When Nickell played the $\spadesuit 9$ from hand, Moss rose with the ace. Declarer had his nine tricks for a 9-IMP gain.

This was the final deal.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

	$\spadesuit 4$		
	$\heartsuit A 9 8 4$		
	$\diamond A K 9 6 5 2$		
	$\clubsuit 8 2$		
$\spadesuit J 9 5$		$\spadesuit A K 10 2$	
$\heartsuit Q 6 5 3$		$\heartsuit K J 7 2$	
$\diamond 10 7 4 3$		$\diamond Q 8$	
$\clubsuit 10 6$		$\clubsuit A 7 3$	
	$\spadesuit Q 8 7 6 3$		
	$\heartsuit 10$		

♦ J
♣ K Q J 9 5 4

West	North	East	South
<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
Pass	1♦	Dble	2♣
All Pass			

Nickell thought a long time about taking another bid, but he finally passed his partner's non-forcing bid. Gitelman started with a low heart to dummy's ace. Freeman played a low spade, taken by Moss with the ace (Gitelman played the ♠9). Moss continued with the ♣A and another club. Freeman won, pulled the last trump and got out of his hand with the ♠6, which went to Moss's ten. Freeman ruffed the heart return, played a diamond to the ace, pitching a spade on the ♦K, then ruffed a diamond to hand. He could have made an overtrick by playing the ♠Q at that point, but he led another low spade and the defenders had five tricks. Still, Freeman was Plus 90.

West	North	East	South
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Ekeblad</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Rubin</i>
Pass	1♥	INT	3♣
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

Ekeblad's 1♥ was canapé, and he was forced to bid his long suit at the three level when the bidding got back to him. Meckstroth started with the ♠A, switching accurately to the ♦Q at trick two. Ekeblad played a club from hand, taken by Meckstroth with the ace. Another club went to dummy's king. When Ekeblad played the ♣Q, Rodwell ruffed with the ♦10, Ekeblad discarding a heart. There were still two hearts to lose, so Ekeblad was one down for a loss of another 4 IMPs.

USA2 had won the set 35-18 to get to within 18 IMPs with

Championship Diary

After some unforeseen interruptions for work, we are back with all the latest stories.

With so many new arrivals for the Transnationals its high time we recommended another restaurant. So if you like curry try out Shalimar, Beco Esconso 7, Cascais. It's behind the Baia Hotel and as you walk through the square by the Chequers pub you turn left up a short hill and will see it on your left. (It's next door to a Thai – but we haven't tried that yet.)

Bridge is a game of tempo – and some players are faster than others. In the first session of the Bermuda Bowl quarter-finals one table was still playing Board 1 as another started Board 8!

There is such a fantastic entry for the Transnationals that every available space is being used for tables. When I mentioned there would be two in the Bulletin Room I was quickly disavowed – 'No, they told us three.'

A Follow-Up Discussion

by Phillip Alder

In Tuesday's bulletin, I discussed the play in 3NT on this deal:

Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K Q 9 8
♥ 10 5 2
♦ A 6 2
♣ 10 9 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 7 5
♥ A 9 6
♦ Q 3
♣ A Q 8 5 2

When Geoffrey Foster-Taylor read my article, he shot off an e-mail. He argued that, after South wins the second heart trick and plays a spade to dummy's queen, he should play the nine or ten of clubs and, assuming East does not contribute the king, go up with the ace, to avoid the chance that West might get in with a singleton king to run his hearts.

When only low clubs appear, South plays a spade to the king and calls for the nine of clubs. If East plays low or the jack, declarer puts up his queen.

That is the best line. Even when East has king-jack-fourth of clubs, the contract is safe if declarer works out who holds the king of diamonds. But note that if West has five hearts and the king of diamonds, declarer must be careful to unblock dummy's clubs. If he calls for the four of clubs at trick four, then, when South is next back in the dummy and leads the ten of clubs, East can defeat the contract by winning with his king and returning his last spade, West throwing a diamond. The clubs are blocked and declarer cannot untangle his nine tricks.

Special Prize For Venice Cup Winners

The Venice Cup winners will be invited to participate in the 2006 NEC Cup, an Open Championship to be held from 6 – 12 February 2006 in Yokohama, Japan

The terms of the invitation are:

- A travel/subsistence allowance of US \$2,400 for the team.
- Accommodation for four players in two twin rooms for 7 nights at the venue, the Yokohama Grand Intercontinental Hotel.
- Money prizes: \$12,000 for the winners; \$6,000 for the runners-up and \$3,000 for the third placed team

The WBF and NEC will be very happy to welcome the winners of the Venice Cup to Yokohama.

The Only Way

by Mark Horton

The way in which Bulletins are put together is changing. In times past, journalists from around the world would rush in to the Bulletin room with articles and we would be able to feature players from all over the world. Nowadays, that happens infrequently at best, and even with three editors it is simply impossible to report on every fine piece of play – there are only so many places you can be at one time.

Still, every once in a while we manage to locate a little gem, for example this deal from Round 8 of the Bermuda Bowl.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>El Ahmady</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Sadek</i>
Pass	1♠	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When East decided to start with the ace of diamonds the appearance of East's queen was all the good news declarer needed. He won the heart switch with dummy's queen and played a diamond to his ten. He forced out the ace of diamonds and when East cashed the ace of hearts he claimed ten tricks and +630.

Checking the results in other matches I discovered that 3NT had been made every time it had been bid – except one.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dagher</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>El Kourdy</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
Pass	1♠	Dble	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the two of clubs and declarer played low from dummy, West winning with the queen. At this point there is only one card that will defeat the contract and Hani Dagher found it – the queen of diamonds!

With the diamonds unblocked, East could cash out for one down when he gained the lead with the ace of hearts.

Count Your Way Through a Minefield

by Phillip Alder

Round 18 saw the first meeting between France and USA1 in the Venice Cup. The French won the match by 68-31 in IMPs, or 24-6 in VPs. But Sue Picus gained 12 of those 31 IMPs by finding a safe way through the minefield on this deal.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>d'Ovidio</i>	<i>Picus</i>	<i>Gaviard</i>
Pass	1♠	2♣	4♠
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

Daniele Gaviard led the ace of spades. Declarer ruffed and played a trump to dummy's ten. After winning with her jack, Catherine d'Ovidio returned the king of spades, ruffed by East. A diamond to the jack was followed by the queen of clubs, which was run when North played low. (Although North's double was revealing, she was marked with the king of clubs for her opening bid.) A club to the king and ace, the king of diamonds, and a diamond to the ace came next. When North followed throughout, her 5-2-3-3 (or perhaps 6-1-3-3) distribution became known. A low heart off the dummy to declarer's ace did not pick up an honor card, so East passed the ten of hearts. When that brought down the king, Picus claimed for Plus 550.

In the other room, Benedicte Cronier ruffed the ace of spades, then played the ace and another club, going one down and giving USA1 12 IMPs.

The only other declarer in the Venice Cup to win eleven tricks with clubs as trumps was Catharina Midskog from Sweden, but she was in Six Clubs!

In each of the Seniors and Bermuda Bowls, three Easts made Five Clubs on the lead of the ace of spades: Pierre Adad (France), Masayuki Ino (Japan) and Zia (USA2); Eric Greco (USA2), Patrick Huang (Chinese Taipei) and Tom Jacob (New Zealand).

A WINNING PLAY IN A LOSING CAUSE

by Phillip Alder

The USAI Venice Cup team won easily against their compatriots in the quarter-final. But the losers combined well to gain 10 IMPs on this deal from the second session.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Sulgrove</i>	<i>Picus</i>	<i>Sprung</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♥
1♠	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

At the other table, Peggy Sutherlin, West, found the killing spade start.

In this room, Jill Levin, West, led the two of clubs. Declarer took the trick in hand with her king and played a diamond, West rising with her ace and leading a second club to South's queen. Another diamond went to the jack, queen and king, and Sue Picus, East, shifted to a spade, ducked to West's ten. A spade came back to the king and ace, and declarer led a heart to dummy's jack, which East had to duck. Now came the ace of clubs to give this end-position:

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

South needed four more tricks, and the last club squeezed East. A diamond discard was obviously fatal. If she had thrown her spade, declarer would have crossed to the queen of spades and led the king of hearts. East would have to give the necessary tricks to either dummy or declarer. And when East

actually pitched the ten of hearts, Sprung played a spade to her queen and exited with a high heart. East had to lead from the nine-six of diamonds into dummy's ten-eight.

That was nicely played, but did you notice the errors? When South ducked the first round of spades, West could have defeated the contract by returning a club, which would have destroyed declarer's timing. So, South should have put in the queen of spades – or gone up with the ace!

Sports News

Horse Racing

Makybe Diva made horse racing history as she won the Melbourne Cup for a record third consecutive time at Flemington on Tuesday. The seven-year-old pulled clear in the closing stages to take an emphatic win ahead of On A Jeune and Xcellent. This is the first time in the 145-year history of the race that it has been won by the same horse in three consecutive years.

Ice Hockey - NHL



New York Rangers 1-4 Montreal Canadiens; Toronto Maple Leafs 2-1 Florida Panthers; New York Islanders 4-3 Boston Bruins; Detroit Red Wings 4-1 Chicago Blackhawks; Montreal Canadiens 5-4 Florida Panthers; New Jersey Devils 3-4 Pittsburgh Penguins; Tampa Bay Lightning 4-6 Atlanta Thrashers; Calgary Flames 3-0 Minnesota Wild; Edmonton Oilers 5-1 Columbus Blue Jackets; Anaheim Mighty Ducks 4-1 Nashville Predators.

American Football

Baltimore Ravens 19-20 Pittsburgh Steelers.

Soccer - Champions League

Liverpool 3-0 Anderlecht; Real Betis 1-0 Chelsea; Schalke 2-0 Fenerbahce; PSV 2-1 AC Milan; Artmedia 2-2 Rangers; Inter Milan 2-1 Porto; Olympiakos 1-4 Lyon; Rosenborg 0-2 Real Madrid.



Boxing



WBA heavyweight champion John Ruiz has filed a lawsuit against James Toney, the fighter who won the title in April before testing positive for steroids. The lawsuit alleges Ruiz, who lost on points to Toney, suffered financially despite being restored as champion after Toney's positive test. "The problem of steroids in boxing must be addressed – this is an effort to push this process forward," said Ruiz.

Make no Mistake

by Mark Horton

I am currently working on a book that reveals the difference between the bridge master and the bridge amateur. Nothing fancy you understand, just simple points that the expert never misses.

Take a look at this deal from the fifth session of the Venice Cup Quarter-finals:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Goldenfield</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
2♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the other room, Germany had recorded +140 in Two Hearts, so England would be off to a good start in their attempt to get back into the match if they could bring home 3NT.

North led the six of clubs and West took the jack with the ace and played a top diamond. North won and played a second club and declarer played low from dummy.

Our amateur South, knowing that North had started with only three clubs, would almost certainly duck, ensuring two more tricks in the suit. Our expert – at least this one – looked further and took the trick with the king and returned a club. That put declarer in dummy and she was a vital entry short to establish and enjoy the diamonds.

Of course, this deal may well feature in the defensive section of the book, but perhaps it should also be in the one about declarer play! If declarer simply puts up the queen of clubs at trick one the contract can never be defeated.

Transnational Endplay

Our first exhibit from the Transnational Teams sees a nice endplay from Ireland's Hugh McGann to bring home his game contract against a top Dutch team.

Round 6. Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>McGann</i>
2♦(i)	Pass	1♣	Pass
All Pass		2♥(ii)	5♣

- (i) Multi-response
- (ii) Pass or correct

McGann passed over the 1♣ opening but jumped to 5♣ at his next turn, giving up on an unlikely slam. Jan Jansma led ace and another heart, and McGann ruffed then drew a few rounds of trumps. Jansma pitched a diamond to help his partner with his discards, but this gave McGann the final clue to confirm that the distribution was as he already expected (East seemed to have a weak no trump with two hearts and three clubs, so should be 4-2-4-3). He cashed two top diamonds, seeing Jansma show out, then cashed the rest of the trumps. Louk Verhees had to keep two diamonds so was forced to come down to just one spade.

McGann exited with his spade at trick eleven and Verhees had to win and lead into the ♦Q10 to give the contract. Had Verhees come down to a singleton low spade, Jansma would have been able to win the spade trick with his queen, but would then have had to give dummy the last two tricks with the ♠J and ♥Q. There was no escape after trick two.

In the other room, East again opened 1♣ but South overcalled 5♣ immediately. The diamond lead did not challenge declarer, so McGann's good play was necessary just to flatten the board.



Swan Games Internet Broadcast



Bermuda Bowl	Italy v USA1	11.00
Bermuda Bowl	Sweden v USA2	14.00
Seniors Bowl	Denmark v Netherlands	17.00

The Pakistan Earthquake

by Zia Mahmood

The other night a group of us were having dinner in one of the many great restaurants in Estoril. And as usual we were moaning about our bad plays, worse ones by partners, and hopeless team-mates. All in all, a typical bridge scene.

Then the news came on the TV. The mood changed as we watched once more the horrors caused by the Pakistan earthquake.

Who could watch the sad stories of the deaths of so many children and the obliteration of whole villages without crying in their hearts?

All the participants from Asia who are here have asked me to entreat the bridge players of the world to help us now – so many of you, too, approach me with a desire to contribute.

Now as a bridge community we can help ...

1. The WBF is holding a World Wide Pairs in January – PLEASE PLAY. Full details of this event will be on www.ecatsbridge.com very shortly.

2. Each member of a team can give his or her captain 10 Euros – if the captains of 100+ teams give 50–100 Euros to the fund it could build two schools in areas where they are desperately needed.

3. When you return home, prevail on your federations and clubs to organise fund-raising events or to join in the World Wide Pairs in January

I hope you will all help and show that great bridge players are, first of all, great human beings.

The Pakistan Bridge Federation has also sent us an appeal as follows:

By now, the entire world is aware of the massive aid required to avert further human tragedy following the trail of destruction and devastation by the earthquakes that shook Northern Pakistan on 8th October '05.

The relief effort mounted by Pakistanis and the international community needs your personal assistance, without which it is likely that hundreds of thousands will suffer and die in the harsh winter months for want of shelters.

The time to help is to act IMMEDIATELY, before snow blocks access and renders helicopters useless.

You can take your donations in cash (we can manage any currency, but would prefer Euros or Dollars!) to the WBF Secretariat on the 2nd floor, or you can donate by credit card or Pay Pal – just go to www.ecatsbridge.com. The link is on the front page. Also, there is a link to the Sears web site with instructions as to how you can buy blankets and tents which will be shipped free of charge by Pakistan International Airlines directly to Islamabad.

Transport options to Lisbon airport

By Train

From Estoril or Cascais train station to Cais do Sodre train station (terminal) and from there by bus or by taxi. Outside the train station at Cais Sodre there is taxi service, or take Bus 44 or Bus 45, both with stops at the Lisbon airport.



By Bus



Departing from the bus stops by the Estoril train station, using Scott Urb bus direct to the Lisbon airport. This bus operates daily from 6.13 a.m. and every hour until 7:13 p.m. After the departure at 7:13 p.m., there are another two at 8:58 p.m. and

9:55 p.m. The price of the ticket is 8 Euros.

By Taxi

Order at hotel reception. From Estoril to the Lisbon airport can cost between 30 Euros and 45 Euros.

Note that you should leave enough time for the journey, which can take more than an hour in congested traffic.

Delegations preferring private transport should contact Top Atlantico in the lobby of the convention centre. Please do so well in advance.

Canada's Ambassador To Visit

Patrick Parisot, Canada's ambassador to Portugal, will visit Estoril on Friday to meet with the Canadian delegation. Canadian players are invited to the meeting room near the Hospitality Desk at 1.30 p.m. on Friday.

Victory Banquet

It is regretted that on this occasion, for reasons beyond our control, it is not possible to hold a Victory Banquet to which all teams can be invited. The semi-finalists and finalists from each event – Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Seniors Bowl and the Transnationals – will receive invitations to the Victory Banquet which will take place at the Casino Estoril on Saturday, 5th November 2005 at 7:30 pm. These teams should let Hospitality know how many tickets they require, on Friday morning at the latest. Any remaining invitations will be allocated on a 'first-come-first-served' basis from 12 noon on Thursday, 3rd November 2005.