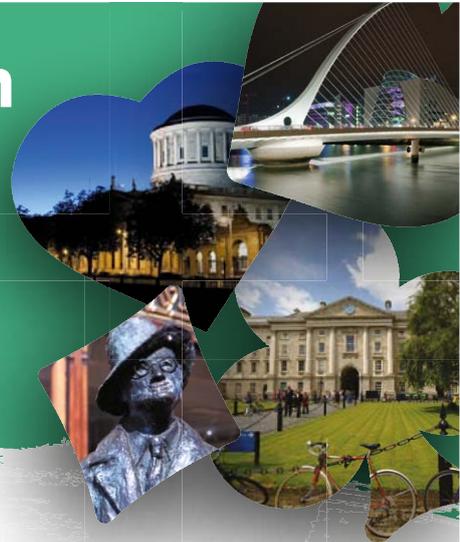




Editor:	Mark Horton.
Co-editors	Jos Jacobs; Patrick Jourdain; Micke Melander; Brian Senior; Ram Soffer; P.O. Sundelin.
Layout editor	Monika Kummel.
Photographer	Ron Tacchi.



RAINDROPS KEEP FALLIN' ON MY HEAD



Meet our duplication team: **John Murchan, Richard Boyd, Franco Crosta, H el ene Vivier, Jonathan Mathers, Monica Gorreri**

After a brief burst of sunshine it was business as usual on day 2 of the Championships.

Undefeated **Poland** head the Women's series ahead of **France** and **England** (the only other undefeated team). Meanwhile the chasing pack is headed by **Netherlands, Sweden** and **Bulgaria**.

In Group A of the Open series, the leaders, **Israel**, and third placed **Italy** are the only undefeated teams and they are separated by Sweden. The nearest pursuivants are **Germany, Turkey** and **Bulgaria**. In Group B **Monaco** lead from **France** and **Iceland**. Russia, Denmark and Netherlands are hot on their heels.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sunday 17th June - 10:00 AM - Silken Thomas Suite



To all NBOs delegates or attendees who have not yet pre-registered with the EBL Secretariat, please come for registration to the EBL Secretariat: Convention Centre, 1st Floor, Avoca Suite

ROUND 4

Sweden - Ireland	BBO 1*
Bulgaria - Israel	BBO 2
Poland - France	BBO 3
Monaco - Denmark	BBO 4
France - Turkey (W)	BBO 5

ROUND 5

Estonia - Russia	BBO 1*
Norway - Latvia	BBO 2
Iceland - Finland	BBO 3
Poland - Bulgaria	BBO 4
Belgium - Neth. (W)	BBO 5

ROUND 6

Italy - Germany	BBO 1*
Hungary - Sweden	BBO 2
Monaco - Switzerland	BBO 3
Netherlands - Russia	BBO 4
France - Norway	BBO 5

*BBO 1 = Vugraph

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

GROUP A

ROUND 7 10.00

1	BULGARIA	ISRAEL
2	NORWAY	TURKEY
3	GREECE	LITHUANIA
4	ITALY	LATVIA
5	SCOTLAND	SPAIN
6	HUNGARY	BELGIUM
7	SWEDEN	IRELAND
8	PORTUGAL	GERMANY
9	UKRAINE	BYE

ROUND 8 13.30

1	UKRAINE	TURKEY
2	BULGARIA	LITHUANIA
3	NORWAY	LATVIA
4	GREECE	SPAIN
5	ITALY	BELGIUM
6	SCOTLAND	IRELAND
7	HUNGARY	GERMANY
8	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL
9	ISRAEL	BYE

ROUND 9 16.40

1	ISRAEL	LITHUANIA
2	UKRAINE	LATVIA
3	BULGARIA	SPAIN
4	NORWAY	BELGIUM
5	GREECE	IRELAND
6	ITALY	GERMANY
7	SCOTLAND	PORTUGAL
8	HUNGARY	SWEDEN
9	TURKEY	BYE

GROUP B

ROUND 7 10.00

11	POLAND	FRANCE
12	MONACO	DENMARK
13	WALES	LUXEMBOURG
14	NETHERLANDS	AUSTRIA
15	ROMANIA	CROATIA
16	ESTONIA	SWITZERLAND
17	ICELAND	ENGLAND
18	FINLAND	RUSSIA
19	CYPRUS	BYE

ROUND 8 13.30

11	CYPRUS	DENMARK
12	POLAND	LUXEMBOURG
13	MONACO	AUSTRIA
14	WALES	CROATIA
15	NETHERLANDS	SWITZERLAND
16	ROMANIA	ENGLAND
17	ESTONIA	RUSSIA
18	ICELAND	FINLAND
19	FRANCE	BYE

ROUND 9 16.40

11	FRANCE	LUXEMBOURG
12	CYPRUS	AUSTRIA
13	POLAND	CROATIA
14	MONACO	SWITZERLAND
15	WALES	ENGLAND
16	NETHERLANDS	RUSSIA
17	ROMANIA	FINLAND
18	ESTONIA	ICELAND
19	DENMARK	BYE



Duplimate Discounts

The Duplimate dealing machines used at these championships will be sold at the end of the event with a 20% discount. Visit the Jannersten Bookshop on the first floor.

OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

GROUP A

ROUND 4

	Match		IMP's	VP's
1	ITALY	NORWAY	34 - 17	19 - 11
2	SCOTLAND	BULGARIA	8 - 30	10 - 20
3	HUNGARY	UKRAINE	6 - 16	13 - 17
4	SWEDEN	ISRAEL	15 - 41	10 - 20
5	PORTUGAL	TURKEY	35 - 58	10 - 20
6	GERMANY	LITHUANIA	34 - 53	11 - 19
7	IRELAND	LATVIA	23 - 20	16 - 14
8	BELGIUM	SPAIN	31 - 49	11 - 19
9	GREECE	BYE	0 - 0	18 - 0

ROUND 5

	Match		IMP's	VP's
1	GREECE	BULGARIA	28 - 27	15 - 15
2	ITALY	UKRAINE	52 - 34	19 - 11
3	SCOTLAND	ISRAEL	30 - 39	13 - 17
4	HUNGARY	TURKEY	24 - 36	13 - 17
5	SWEDEN	LITHUANIA	45 - 26	19 - 11
6	PORTUGAL	LATVIA	33 - 16	19 - 11
7	GERMANY	SPAIN	79 - 3	25 - 1
8	IRELAND	BELGIUM	33 - 43	13 - 17
9	NORWAY	BYE	0 - 0	18 - 0

ROUND 6

	Match		IMP's	VP's
1	NORWAY	UKRAINE	23 - 41	11 - 19
2	GREECE	ISRAEL	26 - 33	14 - 16
3	ITALY	TURKEY	24 - 19	16 - 14
4	SCOTLAND	LITHUANIA	16 - 26	13 - 17
5	HUNGARY	LATVIA	28 - 20	16 - 14
6	SWEDEN	SPAIN	65 - 23	24 - 6
7	PORTUGAL	BELGIUM	45 - 23	20 - 10
8	GERMANY	IRELAND	48 - 27	19 - 11
9	BULGARIA	BYE	0 - 0	18 - 0

GROUP B

ROUND 4

	Match		IMP's	VP's
11	NETH.	MONACO	14 - 20	14 - 16
12	ROMANIA	POLAND	49 - 27	20 - 10
13	ESTONIA	CYPRUS	52 - 17	22 - 8
14	ICELAND	FRANCE	31 - 53	10 - 20
15	FINLAND	DENMARK	43 - 40	16 - 14
16	RUSSIA	LUXEMBOURG	50 - 26	20 - 10
17	ENGLAND	AUSTRIA	56 - 29	21 - 9
18	SWI.	CROATIA	29 - 8	19 - 11
19	WALES	BYE	0 - 0	18 - 0

ROUND 5

	Match		IMP's	VP's
11	WALES	POLAND	48 - 47	15 - 15
12	NETH.	CYPRUS	93 - 10	25 - 0
13	ROMANIA	FRANCE	7 - 39	8 - 22
14	ESTONIA	DENMARK	44 - 22	20 - 10
15	ICELAND	LUXEMBOURG	68 - 25	24 - 6
16	FINLAND	AUSTRIA	27 - 47	11 - 19
17	RUSSIA	CROATIA	65 - 38	21 - 9
18	ENGLAND	SWITZERLAND	30 - 28	15 - 15
19	MONACO	BYE	0 - 0	18 - 0

ROUND 6

	Match		IMP's	VP's
11	MONACO	CYPRUS	63 - 8	25 - 4
12	WALES	FRANCE	60 - 12	25 - 5
13	NETH.	DENMARK	17 - 21	14 - 16
14	ROMANIA	LUXEMBOURG	61 - 23	23 - 7
15	ESTONIA	AUSTRIA	9 - 41	8 - 22
16	ICELAND	CROATIA	77 - 27	25 - 5
17	FINLAND	SWITZERLAND	24 - 51	9 - 21
18	RUSSIA	ENGLAND	20 - 30	13 - 17
19	POLAND	BYE	0 - 0	18 - 0

Results are subject to official confirmation

OPEN TEAMS RANKING

GROUP A

GROUP B

after 6 rounds

1 ISRAEL	117
2 SWEDEN	116
3 ITALY	112
4 GERMANY	107
5 TURKEY	104
6 BULGARIA	103
7 HUNGARY	100
8 LATVIA	94
9 IRELAND	92
10 UKRAINE	86
11 NORWAY	82
12 LITHUANIA	77
13 GREECE	74
14 SCOTLAND	69
SPAIN	69
16 BELGIUM	64
17 PORTUGAL	60

1 MONACO	113
2 FRANCE	111
3 ICELAND	108
4 RUSSIA	103
5 DENMARK	102
NETHERLANDS	102
7 WALES	100
8 ENGLAND	98
9 ESTONIA	96
10 ROMANIA	94
11 AUSTRIA	89
12 FINLAND	87
13 SWITZERLAND	86
14 POLAND	83
15 LUXEMBOURG	77
16 CROATIA	57
17 CYPRUS	27

WOMEN'S TEAMS RANKING

after 4 rounds

1 POLAND	83
2 FRANCE	82
3 ENGLAND	80
4 NETHERLANDS	77
5 SWEDEN	73
6 BULGARIA	72
7 BELGIUM	69
8 SCOTLAND	68
9 TURKEY	67
10 NORWAY	62

11 AUSTRIA	58
12 DENMARK	55
13 ESTONIA	51
GERMANY	51
15 IRELAND	45
16 GREECE	40
17 ISRAEL	37
18 SPAIN	36
19 ITALY	32

Results are subject to official confirmation

WOMEN'S TEAMS PROGRAM

ROUND 5 10.00

21	SPAIN	ITALY
22	ISRAEL	ESTONIA
23	FRANCE	TURKEY
24	POLAND	AUSTRIA
25	ENGLAND	GREECE
26	DENMARK	BULGARIA
27	SWEDEN	NORWAY
28	BELGIUM	GERMANY
29	NETHERLANDS	IRELAND
30	SCOTLAND	BYE

ROUND 6 13.30

21	SCOTLAND	ESTONIA
22	SPAIN	TURKEY
23	ISRAEL	AUSTRIA
24	FRANCE	GREECE
25	POLAND	BULGARIA
26	ENGLAND	NORWAY
27	DENMARK	GERMANY
28	SWEDEN	IRELAND
29	BELGIUM	NETHERLANDS
30	ITALY	BYE

ROUND 7 16.40

21	ITALY	TURKEY
22	SCOTLAND	AUSTRIA
23	SPAIN	GREECE
24	ISRAEL	BULGARIA
25	FRANCE	NORWAY
26	POLAND	GERMANY
27	ENGLAND	IRELAND
28	DENMARK	NETHERLANDS
29	SWEDEN	BELGIUM
30	ESTONIA	BYE

Free Shuttle Bus Service

Green Isle Hotel ↔ Citywest Hotel (Main Door)

Green Isle ⇨ Citywest Mo-Sa 9.15 a.m.
Citywest ⇨ Green Isle Mo-Sa 7.30 p.m.

Sunday shuttle time arrangements to follow

WOMEN'S TEAMS RESULTS

ROUND 3

Match	IMP's	VP's
21 FRANCE SPAIN	71 - 22	25 - 5
22 POLAND SCOTLAND	53 - 33	19 - 11
23 ENGLAND ITALY	36 - 0	22 - 8
24 DENMARK ESTONIA	32 - 23	17 - 13
25 SWEDEN TURKEY	30 - 45	12 - 18
26 BELGIUM AUSTRIA	29 - 55	10 - 20
27 NETH. GREECE	89 - 2	25 - 0
28 IRELAND BULGARIA	38 - 60	10 - 20
29 GERMANY NORWAY	15 - 55	7 - 23
30 ISRAEL BYE	0 - 0	18 - 0

ROUND 4

Match	IMP's	VP's
21 ISRAEL SCOTLAND	8 - 61	5 - 25
22 FRANCE ITALY	76 - 6	25 - 2
23 POLAND ESTONIA	50 - 23	21 - 9
24 ENGLAND TURKEY	38 - 22	18 - 12
25 DENMARK AUSTRIA	39 - 36	16 - 14
26 SWEDEN GREECE	62 - 26	22 - 8
27 BELGIUM BULGARIA	19 - 31	13 - 17
28 NETH. NORWAY	42 - 21	19 - 11
29 IRELAND GERMANY	31 - 46	12 - 18
30 SPAIN BYE	0 - 0	18 - 0

Results are subject to official confirmation

A Danish Grand

by Charles, Denmark

The Danish team made a good start on day one lying second after 3 Rounds. In this deal from their round 2 match against Croatia the contract at the other table was 3NT, but the Danish pair at this table had higher ambitions. Martin Schaltz, a former World Junior Champion and Lars Blakset, a strong international for decades are a new pair. They might be our two best individual players, and this is their first international performance together.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Schaltz</i>		<i>Blakset</i>
2♥*	2♠	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	5NT*
Pass	7♣!	Pass	7♠
All Pass			

- 2♥ weak two
- 3♥ good spade raise
- 4♥ I like my hand
- 4NT = RKCB (1430)
- 5♠ = 2 Aces and ♠Q
- 5NT = Grand?

The lead was a trump, and when West showed three spades and three clubs, Schaltz knew that he was 3-6-1-3. He was happy to see the ♦Q when he tabled the ♦K, and then he finessed the ♦J.

13 tricks (+1510) and 14 IMPs for Denmark who won the match 25-4 VP.

100 Years Young

Barry Rigal

Board 2

South Dealer

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 6 4 3
 ♥ 7 2
 ♦ J 6 4 2
 ♣ K 10 9 7

South	West	North	East
INT [^]	2♦!	3♦ [^]	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

- ! Astro
- [^] Hearts, invitation or better

Against 6♥ by South West leads ♦K. Declarer wins in hand and draw trump in two rounds (West following) then plays ace, queen of spades, overtaking with the king and cashing the jack to pitch a diamond from dummy. Plan the defence.

Solution on page 18



Martin Schaltz, Denmark

51st EUROPEAN BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



TOURS:

Please Register for Tours at Hospitality day before.

RED BUS DEPARTS CITYWEST 9.20AM

ANY DAY

- Red Bus to Citywest departs from Citywest Hotel at 9.20am to join Dualway tours from O'Connell Street in Centre City. (Brochure in Championship Bag and at desk. www.dualway.com/)
- Walking Tour of Dublin City Pat Liddy's Walking Tours. Pat is a widely acclaimed artist, writer and historian. Walk starts at 11am each day from Dublin Bus Office 59 O'Connell Street, and daily except Sunday at 2.30pm from outside the Tourism Office, 37 Suffolk Street (close to Trinity College). Brochure in Bags and at Hospitality Desk. Charges from €8 - €12 depending on tour and concession. www.walkingtours.ie/
- Johnnie Fox's www.jfp.ie/ Traditional Irish music and "Hooley" dinner and dance show - shuttle bus being made available

ANY DAY UPON REQUEST

- Kildare Village Outlet Centre bus departs at 9.30am and is free if 20 or more decide to go. Kildare offers a further 10% off for our group. **Please consider this option.** Kildare is 40km away and the bus journey time is 30 minutes. www.kildarevillage.com/
- Newbridge Silverware & Style Icon Museum bus departs at 10.00am. **Highly recommended.** The bus is free if 20 or more travel the 30km which takes approx 25 minutes. www.newbridgesilverware.com/

SUGGESTED TOURS

Wednesday, June 13th

- Newbridge Silverware & Museum (25 minutes from Citywest). Free entry to Museum and 10% discount on any items purchased that are not on sale, and then a visit to the world famous racing yard of Dermot Weld. Morning Coffee and lunch can be purchased in venue. Depart Citywest at 12.30pm for Newbridge. Meet Dermot Weld at 3.00pm. No Charge.

Thursday, June 14th

- Evening Race in Leopardstown and view European Soccer Ireland -v- Spain at 7.45pm
Bus leaves at 4.00pm (package available to include dinner/supper, entry, tips, prosecco reception and music entertainment) www.leopardstown.com/Leopardstown/.../14-June-2012/ **Consider taking a taxi later. Advise Hospitality if interested**

Friday June 15th

- Kildare Village, Japanese Gardens and National Stud depart 9.30am. Reception in Kildare Outlet Village and 10% off purchases. From Kildare you will be brought to the National Stud which the Queen Elizabeth II visited on her first state visit to Ireland last year. Also Japanese Gardens. Charge €10. **Advise Hospitality if interested**
- Usual Any Day and Any Day Upon Request.

Saturday, June 16th

- Red Bus departs at 9.20am. Citywest.
- Blooms Day with a visit to Joyce, Garden of Remembrance & Hugh Lane Gallery. Free Time.
- The Church, Mary Street, Interesting Place with Food & Bar.
- Usual Any Day and Any Day upon request

Sunday, June 17th

- Cathedral Mass Mary Street at 11am with the Palestrina Choir.
- Pat Liddy's Walking Tours from outside Dublin Bus Office, 59 Upper O'Connell Street at 11.00am.
- Russborough House, the dual in the crown of Richard Castle's stately homes, where the renowned Alfred Beit Paintings can be seen. Lunch with Bar Menu will follow close by in the Avon Ri, Restaurant overlooking the lakes at Blessington. Coach departs at 11am. **Please advise Hospitality if interested.**
- Afternoon Concert in Castletown House Celbridge)Pre-Concert Lunch €20. Pre book at +353 1 279498 3pm - 5pm. Elias Quartet and Yang Xuefi (guitar) Must be booked www.NCH.ie/ Taxis can be booked for those interested.

WOMEN

Round 2

Poland v Israel

by Jos Jacobs

In the opening match of the championship, Israel conceded a marginal defeat at the hands of Denmark (16-14) whereas the new-look Polish team, mostly consisting of players who are also due to go to next month's European Junior Pairs Championships in Denmark, had an even quieter start, scoring 18 V.P. for a bye. The afternoon match proved to be a different story, however. The boards proved lively but the big swings all went Poland's way. It was quite remarkable to see that even the slightest lack of pure aggression immediately led to a severe loss. Later in this report, you will find a few examples but the first board on which we saw a sizeable swing was a matter of play:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Both Easts were in the obvious 3NT and both Souths led an equally obvious top spade which was ducked all round. A second spade went to declarer's king and a heart was led. From there, the paths diverged.

Sakowska, for Poland, finessed the nine when Saada played low, so North won the ten and returned a club. Declarer went up with her queen but she ducked South's king. South then cleared the suit, dummy's ace winning, of course. From here, declarer has no legitimate chance any more but you never know...Diamonds were finessed on which South had to find three discards. She had to hold on to two spades and thus decided to discard both her remaining hearts, including the queen. When East next cashed the ♠A, it was North's turn to find a discard from her ♥K7 and ♣J8. When she let go a low club, Sakowska led a club herself and North, in with the ♣J, had to give dummy two heart tricks...Poland +600.

When Noga Tal, sitting East for Israel, led her low heart, Taczewska jumped in with the queen. This was allowed to hold and South next cleared the spades. Declarer won, cashed the ♦A and led her last heart to dummy's jack but North won the king and returned a cunning ♦7. When declarer fell for it and refrained from finessing, fearing no

doubt that she might go down a lot, she actually was one down, losing a spade, a diamond, two hearts and, of course, a club in the end. Poland +100 and 12 IMPs.

The next board was merely a matter of bold bidding.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>D Tal</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>N Tal</i>	<i>Taczewska</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

In the Open Room, Taczewska directly raised INT to 3NT. This very much looks like an overbid but even the lead of the ♣J does not defeat it, provided declarer goes up with the ace to play on hearts – an unlikely lead and line. With the ♦AK well placed for declarer, what else can the defenders possibly do? Poland +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kazmucha</i>	<i>Nosatzki</i>	<i>Sakowska</i>	<i>Saada</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

For Israel, Saada rebid a more normal 2♥, a slight underbid, and quietly played there. Israel +140 but 10 more IMPs to Poland.

And then:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 10 3 ♥ K 10 9 2 ♦ J 10 9 3 2 ♣ A 5	♠ Q 8 ♥ Q 4 ♦ A Q 8 7 4 ♣ 10 7 6 3 <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 9 7 5 4 ♥ J 8 7 6 5 3 ♦ — ♣ J 8	♠ K J 6 2 ♥ A ♦ K 6 5 ♣ K Q 9 4 2
---	--	--	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>D Tal</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>N Tal</i>	<i>Taczewska</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
Pass	INT	2♥	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

In the Open Room, the Israeli pair found a natural road to 4♥ which looks a good contract. The only trap is an overruff in spades by North so a logical line seems to be to win the ♣K lead with dummy's ace, ruff a diamond in hand and lead a trump up. However, when you do so, South will win her ace and start forcing you by leading a diamond. As the spades are 4-2 you will then not be able to ruff two spades, draw the last trump and enjoy the 13th spade as well.

So declarer did well to go after the spades immediately. She led dummy's ten and when North played the queen, she allowed it to hold, thus gaining a vital tempo. A club now went to South's queen and a forcing diamond came back, ruffed by declarer who cashed the ♠A and only then led a trump, thus making it easy for South to win the ♥A and return a spade to promote North's queen for one down. Poland +100.

Had declarer not cashed the ♠A first, the result would have been quite different. A trump goes to South's ace and the diamond return is ruffed. (A spade into the tenace does not help the defence either). Now the last trump is drawn but the ♠A is still there as an entry back to hand. As declarer now holds two trumps in each hand, she can proceed to ruff a spade, ruff a diamond, ruff the last spade and ruff herself back to her hand with the last trump to cash the 13th spade for her contract.

In the Closed Room, the Poles did not take that much action:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kazmucha</i>	<i>Nosatzki</i>	<i>Sakowska</i>	<i>Saada</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	3♦	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3♦ showed majors so one might have expected some more action by West with her good heart fit. As it turned out, it did not matter that much what Kazmucha did, in view of the result in the Open Room. On a normal heart lead by East, declarer could not avoid the loss of five heart tricks and two aces. Down three for another +300 and 9 more IMPs to Poland.

A few boards later, it was slam time.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ J 5 3 ♥ K 10 7 4 3 2 ♦ Q ♣ 9 7 2	♠ A Q 10 6 4 ♥ 9 ♦ K 5 3 ♣ A K J 8 <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 9 2 ♥ Q 8 5 ♦ J 9 7 4 ♣ 6 5 4 3	♠ K 8 7 ♥ A J 6 ♦ A 10 8 6 2 ♣ Q 10
---	--	--	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>D Tal</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>N Tal</i>	<i>Taczewska</i>
2♥	Dble	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

After the preempt, the Poles had a simple auction to the good slam. A decent spade break gives you 12 top tricks. With the lucky diamond break, there even was an easy overtrick. Poland +1020.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kazmucha</i>	<i>Nosatzki</i>	<i>Sakowska</i>	<i>Saada</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Dbl	Pass	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Sakowska did not worry about her diamond stopper and simply responded a game-forcing 2♣ over 1♠. She already knew what to bid next...One overtrick, Poland another +430 and 11 more IMPs.

On the next board, Taczewska again hit the jackpot:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 10 5 ♥ K Q 9 7 ♦ 8 6 3 ♣ J 10 7 4	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 8 7 2 ♥ 10 8 6 3 ♦ 9 7 5 ♣ 9 2	♠ K J 9 6 4 3 ♥ J 4 ♦ J ♣ K Q 8 6
		♠ Q ♥ A 5 2 ♦ A K Q 10 4 2 ♣ A 5 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>D Tal</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>N Tal</i>	<i>Taczewska</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Once South rebid 2♠ instead of showing her strong hand with diamonds, the Poles were in game once North promised a spade stopper. Well done for a fine +600 to Poland.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kazmucha</i>	<i>Nosatzki</i>	<i>Sakowska</i>	<i>Saada</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	2♥	2♠	3♦
All Pass			

By rebidding 2♠ herself, Sakowska took away South's chance to bid 2♠. Could North reasonably have judged to bid on over South's strong 3♦-rebid? Maybe yes, maybe no. Anyway, ten tricks but only +130 to Israel and another 10 IMPs to Poland.

On the last board of the match, we saw yet another difference in judgement work out well for the Poles.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A Q J 9 8 ♥ 9 3 ♦ J 3 ♣ J 8 3 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 4 ♥ K Q 7 ♦ 9 6 5 2 ♣ A K 9 5 4	♠ K 10 7 3 ♥ J 5 2 ♦ A 8 7 ♣ Q 10 7
		♠ 6 5 2 ♥ A 10 8 6 4 ♦ K Q 10 4 ♣ 6	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>D Tal</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>N Tal</i>	<i>Taczewska</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	Dble	2♣	2♥
Pass 4♥	All Pass		

After North's support double over 1♠, this auction looks straightforward enough, North using her judgement to go straight to game. West led a trump, which declarer won in hand. Declarer led a spade to East who persisted with trumps. Dummy won this and now, declarer called for a diamond. East went up with the ace to play her last trump but declarer had 11 tricks. Poland +650. Not that there was any defence to beat this contract...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kazmucha</i>	<i>Nosatzki</i>	<i>Sakowska</i>	<i>Saada</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	Dble	2♠	3♥
All Pass			

West led the ♠A and continued a club to dummy's ace. When declarer immediately led a diamond, East jumped in with her ace, which meant that here too, declarer had an easy 11 tricks. To Israel, these were worth only +200 so Poland registered another 10 IMPs to win the match 96-13 or 25-0 V.P.

OPEN	<h1 style="margin: 0;">Sweden v Bulgaria</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">by Micke Melander</p>
Round 3	

Important Win For Bulgaria

In Round 3, Sweden played Bulgaria in the Open series. Both were serious contenders to not only qualify for the last part of the championship but also try to snatch Bermuda Bowl places for Indonesia next year.

Fallenius had a several options about what to bid, and in the end he opted for Four Clubs, asking partner to pick a game, when that was doubled by West, pass, pass came back to Fallenius and he simply went on to a game in Four Spades.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

Board 2. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ 9 8 ♥ A 10 9 7 2 ♦ K 9 5 ♣ Q 6 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ 10 6 4 ♥ K Q J 8 ♦ Q 10 8 ♣ 7 5 2	♠ A Q J 5 3 2 ♥ 5 4 ♦ 6 ♣ K J 10 8
N							
W							
E							
S							

♠ 7 2 ♥ J 7 5 4 2 ♦ J 7 6 ♣ K 8 7	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ 10 9 8 5 ♥ 10 ♦ Q 10 2 ♣ A Q 4 3 2	♠ K Q 6 4 3 ♥ A Q ♦ 9 4 ♣ J 9 6 5
N							
W							
E							
S							

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Fredin	Stefanov	Fallenius
	1♦*	1♥	1♠*
2NT*	Pass	3♥	Dble*
Pass	5♦!	Pass	Pass
Pass			

In the Open Room, Aronov/Stefanov started in a very aggressive style that paid off. Both Fallenius and Fredin could have done a lot better trying to get to game in spades rather than ending up in Five Diamonds. Mihov at the other table became declarer in a cold Four Spades, ending up scoring all the tricks when the Swedes didn't cash their two heart tricks. Five Diamonds was completely dead when the Bulgarians cashed two rounds of hearts. Fredin still had to lose two diamond tricks, going two off for 12 IMPs to Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian pair continued to make life difficult for the Swedes. On the next board Fallenius had:

♠ A J
♥ K 9 8 6 3
♦ A K 8 5 3
♣ 10

being vulnerable against not.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Fredin	Stefanov	Fallenius
		Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	2♣	2♦
3♣	Dble*	Pass	?

Fredin had no problem in making his contract. Stefanov led the ten of spades, won in dummy with the ace. Fredin then played the jack of trumps, a heart to the ace and pulled two more rounds of trumps. When unblocking the queen of hearts he also discovered the 5-1 break in hearts and simply entered dummy in diamonds to ruff the heart suit good for eleven tricks.



Bjorn Fallenius, Sweden

That was 13 IMPs to Sweden, when Karakolev didn't manage to make Four Hearts in the Closed Room with the evil 5-1 trump break. The Bulgarian declarer got the seven of clubs lead, won by East's ace. Another club came back,

ruffed in hand. Karakolev had problems reading the lead and had to decide how to ruff and finally decided that clubs probably were 4-4. Therefore he took one club ruff too many and got over-ruffed which brought the contract down.

After getting a club lead to the ace and a second round of clubs fired back, you may win two rounds of spades, two round of hearts, and taking another club ruff on the way back will leave you in the following position:

♠ – ♥ J 7 5 4 2 ♦ – ♣ –	♠ K Q 6 ♥ A ♦ – ♣ J	♠ 10 9 ♥ 10 ♦ – ♣ 4 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 100px; height: 100px; 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> ♠ – ♥ K 9 8 ♦ 8 5 ♣ –		N		W		E		S	
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Declarer, who already has seven tricks in the bag, now cashes the ace of trumps and West will be forced to ruff the next trick and lead into the heart tenace.

The biggest swing of the match came on Board 9.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ Q J 8 3 2 ♥ – ♦ J 9 6 4 3 ♣ A Q 9	♠ A 4 ♥ 10 8 4 ♦ K 8 7 ♣ J 10 8 5 2	♠ 10 9 6 5 ♥ A J 9 6 5 2 ♦ 5 2 ♣ K	<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 100px; height: 100px; 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> ♠ K 7 ♥ K Q 7 3 ♦ A Q 10 ♣ 7 6 4 3		N		W		E		S	
	N											
W		E										
	S											

In the Closed Room, Mihov and Karakolev started with the ace of diamonds against 4♠ and judged to continue with diamonds to cash out their tricks, taking the contract one off. At the same time in the Open Room the bidding went:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Fredin	Stefanov	Fallenius
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
2♠*	Dble	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Fredin started with the ace of spades but when he continued with the two of clubs the contract was safe. Aronov went for a cross-ruff and managed to score seven trumps, one heart and three club tricks. That meant +990 for the Bulgarians. The question remains – you know that declarer has spades and a minor, is there any logical reason to play on diamonds rather than clubs?

Fredin knew that declarer had a two suiter with most probably diamonds as the second suit, therefore he judged that it was probably more reasonable that he had ace-queen of diamonds rather than clubs, even though it was against the odds.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ A 10 8 ♥ A K 7 6 3 ♦ K 8 3 ♣ 9 6	♠ J 9 3 2 ♥ Q ♦ A 9 7 5 ♣ K 8 5 3	♠ K Q 7 4 ♥ 8 4 ♦ Q 6 ♣ J 10 7 4 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 100px; height: 100px; 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> ♠ 6 5 ♥ J 10 9 5 2 ♦ J 10 4 2 ♣ A Q		N		W		E		S	
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Fredin	Stefanov	Fallenius
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

In the Open Room, Stefanov became declarer in Three Clubs in a Stayman sequence where he decided that it probably would be better to play in clubs rather than in no trump. Two No Trump was a transfer for clubs.

Fallenius led the four of diamonds and the Swedes made no mistakes in the defence. The four of diamonds, ducked by Fredin, was won by the queen. Declarer then played a heart to the king, and noted the queen from North. He then played a club won by Fallenius's queen, who continued with the jack of diamonds and a third round, ruffed in dummy. Declarer still had to lose three more trump tricks and either a heart or a spade when the suits were distributed as they were. That meant two down after a nice defense.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Karakolev	Upmark	Mihov
INT	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the Closed Room, Nyström declared Three No Trump.

With only five tricks in the bag, a lot of work had to be done. He managed to get his tricks thanks to a small mistake when Mihov at trick two returned a small heart to the king from declarer and queen from North. Reading the layout correctly, Nyström now advanced the nine of clubs, won by South with the queen. Another heart came back, declarer rose with his ace to get the confirmation that hearts were 5-1, North discarding a diamond. Nyström then continued with a diamond to the queen, and which held the trick, and continued with the jack of clubs. When that held the trick declarer simply played a fourth round. Now North had to win with his king, but was helplessly endplayed!



Vladimir Mihov, Bulgaria

♠ A 10 8	♠ J 9 3 2	♠ K Q 7 4			
♥ 7	♥ -	♥ -			
♦ K 8	♦ A 9	♦ 6			
♣ -	♣ -	♣ 10			
<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 100px; height: 60px; margin: 0 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
N					
W E					
S					
♠ -	♠ -	♠ -			
♥ J 9 2	♥ J 9 2	♥ -			
♦ J 10 4	♦ J 10 4	♦ 6			
♣ -	♣ -	♣ 10			

Karakolev tried to cash the ace of diamonds and then continued the suit but Nyström could claim his nine tricks. It was 11 IMPs to Sweden for that play. Mihov had to return a diamond at trick two to defeat the contract. Sometimes a small error can have such big effects... Bulgaria was in the lead almost all the way but the Swedes picked up 12 IMPs on the last hand of the match to lose by only 46-55. The match ended 17-13 VPs to Bulgaria, which should be a good score for them if they both, as expected, qualify to the second stage of the competition.

In the Spotlight

Find out a little bit more about your fellow bridge player



Marion Michielsen

How did you take up bridge?

My parents play bridge and taught my brother to play. It is very painful if you are 14 and your brother can do something you can't, so I had to learn as well.

Bridge Club?

De Lombard (Rotterdam) and Witte Huis (Amsterdam).

First Bridge Book?

Don't remember the title, but it was about Crazy Diamond and Blue Club (except the 'learn to play bridge lesson' etc.

Favourite Music?

All kinds, pop, jazz, rock.

Favourite drink?

White Wine.

Favourite TV Show?

Goede tyden slechte tyden (Good times bad times, a long running Dutch soap.)

Least favourite opponent?

Don't care.

Biggest failing at the table?

Losing the semifinal of the World Youth Congress by IIMP after going down in a slam on a 3-3 fit on the last board.

Most important attribute in a partner?

Respect and understanding.

Your favourite tournament?

World Championships.

Other interests?

Fitness, reading, music, going out, nice food.

OPEN

Round 2

Russia v Poland

by Ram Soffer

Bridge is extremely popular in Poland, and their open team is always a candidate for one of the top places. This time it is led by the famous pair Balicki-Zmudzinski.

Russia have much less of a bridge tradition, but they do have a very good team, capable of beating anyone on their day. The two teams met in Round 2 of the Open Series. On paper Poland were the slight favourites. Let's see how things developed at the table.

Russia jumped to an early lead on Board 2, when both declarers were playing 4♥, and in order to make it they had to play a club suit of J 8 6 5 2 opposite A 10 4 for one loser. With sufficient entries to both hands, declarer had to guess which defender held a doubleton honour, and Russia got it right.

Then came another setback for Poland.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Dubinin</i>
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

South led the ♠J against the normal contact of 3NT, and declarer ducked North's ♠Q. At trick 2 North continued spades, declarer won and South signalled suit-preference with the ♠3. A heart was played to the 9 and 10, and North duly found the strong switch of the ♣J. Declarer could still have made it by winning the ♣A and cashing the ♥A and four diamonds, finishing in hand, when South is strip-squeezed in spades and clubs. However he played a diamond to the 10 and cashed the ♦A and the ♥A. Now there was no way to make the contract and declarer ended up down two.

At the other table the Polish North switched to a diamond after winning the ♥10. Now declarer didn't even

need the diamond finesse, as he had time to establish the hearts with the ♣A serving as a late entry.

Russia struck another blow on the very next hand.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Dubinin</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Playing strong club it was easy for South to jump to 3♥, but I think the South hand is worth the jump even if playing a natural system. North bid the obvious 3NT and an excellent game was reached with 23 HCP.

A spade was led. Declarer won in hand, played a heart to the K and cashed the spade ace before continuing hearts. Now he had eight cashing tricks and the defenders had to give him the ninth.

West	North	East	South
<i>Khiuppennen</i>	<i>Narkiewicz</i>	<i>Kholomeev</i>	<i>Buras</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Dbl	Rdbl	2♠	3♥
All Pass			

At the other table West chose to double 1♥, as a passed hand. East jumped aggressively to 2♠, and it worked. Usually pass is forcing after the responder redoubles, but some experts claim it is no longer so when the doubler's partner jumps.

In the case that pass is forcing, 3♥ shows a weak hand, and pass followed by 3♥ shows a better hand. On the other hand, if pass is not forcing, then 3♥ shows a good hand, especially if the partnership uses Good-Bad 2NT. Obviously

the Polish North didn't think 3♥ was strong. He passed and his partner made an overtrick, losing 10 further IMPs in the process.

In my opinion, the lesson from this hand is that aggressive interference usually makes it harder for the opponents to find the best contract.

After 4 boards Russia already had a big lead: 33 - 5. Poland lost more IMPs, trying to get even.

Both Norths opened light in the 3rd seat, and both West used INT to show the minors.

Kholomeev made the value bid of 3♣, which bought the contract, making exactly.

Zmudzinski had bigger things in mind, bidding 3NT. Dubinin would have done best to pass, probably collecting +300 after a spade lead. Instead he doubled greedily, and East changed his mind, bidding 4♣, which South failed to double.

Nevertheless the damage was already done, as 4♣ was one trick too high, and Poland conceded five more IMPs.

Russia came close to another big swing in the next deal.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Balicki	Gromov	Zmudzinski	Dubinin
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
INT	Pass	3NT	Dbl
Pass	Pass	4♣	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Khiuppennen	Narkiewicz	Kholomeev	Buras
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
INT	Pass	3♣	All Pass

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Balicki	Gromov	Zmudzinski	Dubinin
Pass	1♣	Pass	INT
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Dbl	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Khiuppennen	Narkiewicz	Kholomeev	Buras
2♥	Dbl	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

Once Balicki passed as dealer and North opened a strong club, followed by finding the spade fit at the two level, there was no doubt that Russia was going to bid a slam, and they duly reached the best contract of 6♠.

At the other table, after Khiuppennen's "old-fashioned" weak two opening, North doubled, and after South's 3NT response the spade fit was lost. Nevertheless the Poles landed on their feet: North raised to 4NT, showing extras, and South accepted the invitation, bidding 6♦, which happened to make with an overtrick after declarer dropped West's singleton Q of trump and took a deep finesse through East.



Adam Zmudzinski, Poland

On this board Poland limited their loss to 1 IMP, but the worst was still to come.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Dubinina</i>
		1♥	2NT
3♣	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Khiuppenen</i>	<i>Narkiewicz</i>	<i>Kholomeev</i>	<i>Buras</i>
		1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass



Yuri Khiuppenen, Russia

This time the Polish N/S kept quiet during the bidding, leaving Russia a pleasant choice between 4♥ and 4♠, both games making easily. Eventually they preferred the 4-4 fit. North led the ♦A and continued a diamond to his partner's K. Declarer ruffed the third round with the ♠8, and North could overruff, but at the expense of his natural trump trick. He chose to discard, but it changed nothing. +620 to Russia.

At the other table Dubinin intervened with 6-5 in the minors, and Gromov made an advance sacrifice at 5♣. Poland did well to double this instead of going one down at the five-level, but the defense could make only their three aces, declarer establishing the diamond suit with one ruff. +200 to Poland and 9 more IMPs to Russia.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Balicki</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Zmudzinski</i>	<i>Dubinina</i>
Pass	Pass	1NT	Dbl
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Zmudzinski continued his desperate tries to get IMPs back, semi-psyching 1NT after two passes. Afterwards he could pass 2♣ - the easy way out - but he decided to bid on, knowing that 3NT may be makeable. Balicki bid 3♦, asking to pick a major, and trusted his partner's 3NT response.

The natural lead of a small heart could have set this, but Dubinin was afraid to lose a cheap trick, and led the ace, crushing his partner's queen. Now 3NT was a make, and it was +400 to Poland. Apparently Zmudzinski's tactics did work.

West	North	East	South
<i>Khiuppenen</i>	<i>Narkiewicz</i>	<i>Kholomeev</i>	<i>Buras</i>
Pass	Pass	3NT	Dbl
4♣	Dbl	Pass	4♥
Dbl	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

The Russian East opened a normal gambling 3NT, but his

partner couldn't risk playing 3NT doubled with Qx in diamonds. 4♣ should have been the final contract, but for some inexplicable reason North decided to double. South thought his partner was showing points, and bid 4♥. West doubled joyfully, and the escape attempt at 4♠ was no better. The details of the play may be spared. The final score was +1100 to Russia, and Poland lost 12 IMPs where they could have gained 10.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 10 5 ♥ K Q 9 7 ♦ 8 6 3 ♣ J 10 7 4	♠ A 8 7 2 ♥ 10 8 6 3 ♦ 9 7 5 ♣ 9 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 5px auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ K J 9 6 4 3 ♥ J 4 ♦ J ♣ K Q 8 6
--	---

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

West Balicki Pass Pass	North Gromov Pass 2♥ 3NT	East Zmudzinski 1♠ Pass All Pass	South Dubinin Dbl 3♦
--	---	---	--------------------------------------

South used a double followed by a new suit to describe a strong hand with long diamonds, and North showed great faith by bidding 3NT with 4 HCP. Of course 9 tricks were easy.

At the other table the Polish South made a heavy 2♦ overcall, and ended up short of game in 3♦. Another 10 IMPs for Russia. It had become a rout: 70 - 12.

Nothing dramatic happened in the remaining boards. The final score was 81:24 to Russia, whose bridge team did much better than the soccer team, which drew with Poland just the day before.

To sum it up: Russia displayed very good bridge, aided by some luck. Their aggressive bidding netted them a lot of IMPs. Poland played indifferently, but there is still a long way to go in this championship.



Umbrellas
High Quality EBL umbrellas are for sale at the book desk on the first floor for €12.

100 Years Young

Solution 2

The full deal:

♠ 10 9 7 5 2 ♥ 6 3 ♦ K Q 9 8 5 ♣ Q	♠ A Q ♥ A K J 10 4 ♦ 10 7 ♣ 8 5 4 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 5px auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ K J 8 ♥ Q 9 8 5 ♦ A 3 ♣ A J 6 3	♠ 6 4 3 ♥ 7 2 ♦ J 6 4 2 ♣ K 10 9 7
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East should be wide awake as declarer leads a club from dummy. The defence needs two tricks in clubs to defeat the slam. This can be done if West holds a singleton jack or queen. South has the ace and will probably try to duck the first club round to West in order to get a ruff and discard. So go up immediately with your king, East!

Championship Diary

When the Netherlands met Monaco on BBO in Round 4 the unsuspecting VuGraph operator typed in the following comment:

Board 1, trick 2, Muller thinking

As you will know, a number of partnerships are known by their portmanteau names:

Meckwell	(Meckstroth & Rodwell)
Fantunes	(Fantoni & Nunes)
Wijsmuller	(de Wijs & Muller)

We think it is high time some new examples were created - for example England's Patterson & Crouch might be *Pouch*, while a partnership between David Price and Johan Upmark (England & Sweden) would be *Primark*.

We understand *English Bridge* refused to publish the suggested portmanteau for Bakhshi and Townsend! We invite you to deliver your suggestions to the Daily Bulletin, either in person or via email to: markhor-ton007@hotmail.com

Kinder Bueno

Enda Murphy

Ireland's Tom Hanlon, aka 'Kinder', needs little introduction. A member of the team which historically took silver at these championships in 2006. Tom in partnership with Hugh McGann has represented Europe on the Buffet Cup team twice, and they have been selected again this year.

In 2006, Tom became a poker and bridge professional, and detailed his first year's experiences in his 2007 book 'A Bridge Too Far?' We caught up with him at the end of the opening day's play.

Firstly, how have the poker fortunes gone in the last few years? "Pretty good, really. In 2008 I made the final Omaha table at the World Series of Poker, finishing 7th. In 2010 I finished 14th in a field of 700 in the Irish Poker Open (Hold 'em). And earlier this year I won the Irish Omaha tournament. But my main activity is Omaha online, and I'm very happy with my results".

What about playing in front of your home supporters in these championships? "It's a real privilege, without doubt. The team is very conscious of all the goodwill and support, it certainly gives you a lift. We'll do our best to give them something to cheer about!"

A return of 52 VPs on the first day is regarded as a decent start. "We played Norway and Turkey, both strong teams, and took 30 VPs there, plus 22 against Ukraine. We'll take that".

Kinder was particularly pleased with one defence and one bidding sequence from Round 1. "On Board 3, Hugh led his second highest spade against 3NT by East. I played small. Declarer lost a heart finesse to Hugh's king, and on that trick I was able to give a Smith Peter for another spade, on which I again played low. Now we had three spades and two diamonds".

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

"On Board 12 the holdings were:

North (me)	South (Hugh)
♠ K J 7	♠ A 6 5 4 2
♥ Q J 5 4	♥ A 10 9 8
♦ A 9 7 4	♦ K 2
♣ 9 7	♣ 8 6

We were vulnerable and the bidding went:

1♣	1♠
INT	2♣
2♦	2♥
4♥	Pass

1♣ is balanced 11-13 or any 17+. INT is 11-13 and 2♣ a transfer to 2♦. 2♥ is 5-4 and 11-12 points, and with the double fit I can go to game. Bidding tight vulnerable games is important, and with 11 opposite 11 here it's on one of two finesses, which thankfully came home".

So the Irish team is off and running, and Kinder is feeling bueno!

"A Bridge Too Far?" can be purchased in the cafeteria / lounge, as can 'Silver for Ireland', the story of Ireland's historic performance in the 2006 Euros, each for €10, €15 the pair.



Tom Hanlon, Ireland aka "Kinder"

18th RED SEA INTERNATIONAL

Bridge FESTIVAL

EILAT - ISRAEL

NOVEMBER 15-25, 2♥12



Tournament Program

Mixed Pairs	November 15-16
T.B. Pairs	November 17
National Simultaneous	November 18
IMP Pairs	November 19-20
Open Pairs	November 21-23
Teams	November 24

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Tel.: 972-3-6058355, Fax: 972-3-5465582, Email: birmand@inter.net.il
www.bridgeredsea.com

