



7th EUROPEAN  
BRIDGE MIXED  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

16th - 22nd  
MARCH 2002  
MEDIACENTER  
OOSTEND - BELGIUM

## DAILY BULLETIN

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Bulletin 8

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# Lavazza Brew Too Strong For Stoppa



All smiles from the newly crowned Champions



The Silver Medals go to France

It is Team **Lavazza**, predominantly Italian with a dash of Austrian, that is crowned as the new European Bridge Mixed Team Champions. Congratulations to **Maria Teresa Lavazza, Giorgio Duboin, Alfredo Versace, Monica Cuzzi, Guido Ferraro & Maria Erhart**. They breezed past the French squad **Stoppa, Danielle Avon, Marianne Serf, Jean-Louis Stoppa, François Stretz** by 81 IMPs.

Third place went to **Popova**, a tripartite alliance of Bulgaria, Israel & Turkey, **Dessy Popova, Rossen Gunev, Ahu Zobu, Ofer Hara-mati** (the latter playing in only his second ever tournament!). They overpowered **Mali's** Norwegian/Polish combination of **Artur Malinowski, Anna Sarniak, Siv Thoresen & Tomasz Winciorek** by 41 IMPs.

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## Farewell from the President



**Gianarrigo Rona**  
*European Bridge League President*

Dear friends,

As you already know, with the closing of this championship a new chapter in the history book of EBL Championships will begin.

Starting next year, 2003, a new event will be held: The European Open Championships, an event involving Mixed, Men's, Women's and Senior Pairs and Teams. "Open" because it will be open to all registered bridge players from every country, without restrictions. "Open" also because it will be open to all registered players from other Zones outside Europe. "Open", finally, because it will be completely trans-national.

The Championships will be held from Saturday 14th to Saturday 28th June 2003 in a venue to be announced shortly, but most likely they will be in France, in Cannes or Menton. We are sure the Championships will meet with favour among all bridge players and we hope they will be a great success. I can guarantee that for our part we will do our utmost on the 'technical-organisational-logistical' side to reach this objective.

Returning to Ostend, I have already thanked the Authorities and our sponsor friends for the fantastic support they have given us, allowing us to have organised this Championship and to have achieved this success. I again wish to thank them, all of them, and I again wish to thank our extraordinary staff. Our applause goes to all of them without distinction and, believe me, it would really be impossible to praise anyone of them more than another: all of them were outstanding.

I don't want to repeat what I already mentioned at the Prize-giving of the Pairs since I certainly don't want to bore you, but allow me just to repeat that we are proud of your participation, behaviour, fair play, sportsmanship; that we are proud of the friendly atmosphere you were able to create in this event following our best tradition.

I wish to thank and congratulate you again, hoping that all of you, winners or not, will be able to return home with great memories of your time in Ostend, enriched by meeting there your old friends and new ones and with hopes to see them all again soon. If so, our most important aim will have been achieved.

Thank you and safe home. Tot ziens.

## Bidding Challenge

These Championships have produced a huge number of deals to test to bidding skills of the competitors. If you want to compare your efforts with those of the contestants, why not try bidding these hands with your favourite partner?

You will find the East hands on page 7 of this bulletin.

### West

Dealer South N/S Vul

South Opens 2♥, North raises to 4♥

♠ A K 10 8

♥ A 4 2

♦ Q 8

♣ A 7 6 3

Dealer North N/S Vul

♠ J 9 2

♥ A K 5 4

♦ J 9 5 3

♣ K 6

Dealer West Love All

♠ Q 9 6

♥ A 7 3

♦ K Q 10 6 4

♣ A Q

Dealer West E/W Vul

♠ Q 10 7 2

♥ K Q 9 8

♦ A J 8

♣ A 9

Dealer East Love All

South overcalls 2♥, North raises to 4♥

♠ J 9 8 6 4

♥ 10 3

♦ 10 5 3 2

♣ K 9

Dealer West All Vul

♠ 7 4

♥ K Q 5 2

♦ A Q 6 3

♣ 10 3 2

Dealer South N/S Vul

South opens 3♣

♠ 8 4

♥ K 10 9 5

♦ A Q 5 3

♣ Q 6 4

# The Final

Two of the strongest pre-championship favourites had made it into the Finals: LAVAZZA, the six-player squad from Italy, aided by Austrian Maria Erhart, would play STOPPA, the very experienced French team. They would meet in a relatively short match of 32 boards only, and from the pace they ran through the first 16 of them, one might think there only were 24 boards to play. Looking at the halftime score, however, the conclusion could only be that the match already was all over...

So below you will find a rather one-sided report of the one-way traffic that dominated the first half of the match.

On the first board, there was no swing, but it did not look a good omen for the French.



Alfredo Versace, Italy

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stretz	Versace	Serf	Cuzzi
	1♥	Pass	2♣
2♦	Pass	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Serf led the ♠2, so after cashing two tricks Stretz could switch to his singleton club, thus ensuring the ruff necessary to beat the contract. STOPPA +50.

At the other table, we saw a completely different picture:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Stoppa	Lavazza	Avon
	1♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Avon's practical bid of 3NT shut out West and also induced East to lead a spade, thus solving one of declarer's problems. Stoppa might have continued the ♥A and another, which would have been a successful line, but when he chose to cross to dummy's ♣A to take the heart finesse, not an irrational line at all, he was unlucky to go one down when Lavazza returned a club after winning her ♥K. LAVAZZA +50 and no swing.

On the next board, STOPPA opened his account when the hand distribution proved too much for the Italians at both tables.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stretz	Versace	Serf	Cuzzi
		Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	2♠
All Pass			

Though Monica Cuzzi did well to go only one down, she had not chosen the right moment to balance. STOPPA +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Stoppa	Lavazza	Avon
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	All Pass		



Maria Teresa Lavazza, Italy

Playing strong diamond, Duboin had to open 1♣ which could conceal a good diamond holding. When Lavazza enquired further with 2♣, there was no safe spot left. On a diamond lead to his jack, Duboin would easily have made his contract had he played spades first, as the ace comes down much more quickly than one would expect. As he could not see through the cards he finessed a club first, won the diamond return, took another club finesse and cashed the ♣A before tackling the spades. Now the defence had six tricks established. STOPPA another +50 and the first 4 IMPs of the match.

On board 4, both teams missed a chance, as both 6♥ and 6NT are cold (but 6♠ fails on the heart ruff).

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stretz	Versace	Serf	Cuzzi
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	All Pass

It looks as if West should have taken over the initiative at any time. All he needs is a reasonable heart suit and two aces. STOP-PA +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Stoppa	Lavazza	Avon
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Dble
3♠	Pass	4♣	All Pass

Duboin showed 16-18 hcp. with six spades and three hearts, but apparently this message did not reach his partner in time. LAVAZZA +680 when Stoppa led a club rather than a heart.

A routine play to trick 1 created a swing on board 6:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

At both tables, West was in 3♣ and North led a trump. Duboin played low from dummy and Avon inserted the queen. Now Giorgio could win and set up a complete cross-ruff to get to eight tricks. As the defence had to give one spade trick in the end, he just scrambled home.

Stretz inserted dummy's nine on the club lead, but Cuzzi rightly played low. Now she could overruff the third round of hearts and play a spade to partner who could then play ♣A and another. One down. +110 and +100 meant 5 IMPs to LAVAZZA to level the match at this stage.

Then, the Italians launched an offensive. Here is board 7:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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



M. Serf, France

At both tables East was in 4♠ and both Souths led a top club. When Stoppa gave count with the five, Avon switched to a diamond, so Lavazza's problems had disappeared. She lost two trumps and scored +620.

At the other table, Versace also gave count with the ♣5, but the Italian pair play reverse count. Holding four trumps, he wanted Cuzzi to continue clubs rather than give away the diamond position. So Cuzzi continued the ♣K ruffed by Serf. Dummy's hearts were unblocked and two top trumps followed, declarer discovering the bad break. Next came the ♥A for a club discard and the last heart, ruffed and overruffed. North cashed his winning trump and had a safe exit now with the ♣Q, ruffed by declarer who then proceeded to misguess the diamonds for one down. A surprise 12 IMPs to LAVAZZA.

Three boards later 3NT was reached at both tables, but the outcome was quite different.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stretz	Versace	Serf	Cuzzi
2NT	Pass	1♦	Pass
		3NT	All Pass

North led a straightforward low heart for two undertricks. LAVAZZA +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Stoppa	Lavazza	Avon
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass	INT	Pass

The strong diamond did the job for the Italians here. 1♠ showed two controls and the rest was natural. South led a straightforward low club for two overtricks. LAVAZZA +660 and 13 IMPs.

Then, a serious error at both tables.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stretz	Versace	Serf	Cuzzi
Pass	1♠	2NT	Pass
3♦	3♥	3♣	4♥
4♠	5♥	6♣	All Pass

This looks an easy enough contract. You win the spade lead, draw TWO rounds of trumps and check the diamonds. Maybe, the hand with the last trump also holds four diamonds. This routine play cannot cost when diamonds are 3-2, and wins the contract for you if they are 4-1 with the last trump in the same hand as the long diamonds. As this was the case, the contract was cold, but the French declarer still managed to go down as she drew three rounds of trumps...LAVAZZA +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Stoppa	Lavazza	Avon
Pass	1♠	2NT	Pass
3♦	3♥	5♣	All Pass

Far less bidding than at the other table. In fact, Duboin considered bidding the slam on the basis of his ♠A, but he eventually passed. Lavazza, in 5♣, did not bother to make the routine play

of checking the diamonds after two rounds of trumps, but the difference was that she could not go down. LAVAZZA another +400 or 10 IMPs, instead of an 11-imp loss...

And on the very next board, once again an advantage gained and thrown away:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Both teams in a stretched 3NT. Duboin had overcalled in diamonds as west, Stretz had not. The difference this time was that Duboin (West) decided to lead his own suit, diamonds, after which declarer made her contract by first knocking out the ♥A and then taking the club finesse. Serf (East), on the other hand, led a spade as once again the contract was played from the other side of the table. Now declarer should go down if the defenders establish their spades as quickly as possible, but Stretz won the first spade with the queen and returned...a diamond. Curtains.

### Lightning Leitner

One of the Austrian players rejoices in the name of Leitner. He made a spectacularly unsuccessful double of his screen mates Four Spade contract. After the play was over his opponent inspected his name badge. 'Ah', she said, 'It was a Lightning double'.

*(We bet it has never happened to him before!)*

The score stood at 40-9 to LAVAZZA now, but worse was to happen when Stoppa forgot about a convention on the last board of the set.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Stretz	Versace	Serf	Cuzzi
INT	Pass	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

2♦ showed one major only, so Versace corrected to 2♥ as he had no preference. Cuzzi thus had to recorrect, but there were no further problems and one overtrick. LAVAZZA +140.

Closed Room

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Duboin	Stoppa	Lavazza	Avon
INT	Pass	Pass	2♥
All Pass (!?)			

Here, 2♥ was clearly meant as a transfer to spades, but Stoppa was not connected. The contract went down three for another 7-imp gain to LAVAZZA. At halftime, the score stood at 51-9. It looked all over, and so it turned out.

### Board - Appeal - Ratio

During the championships of the past few years, AC Scribe Herman De Wael has been calculating the Board-Appeal-Ratio (BAR). The relative number of Appeals is expressed in Appeals per 1000 boards played. The number has been as follows:

year	championship	venue	boards	appeals	BAR
1999	EC Open & Senior Pairs	Warszawa	49,840	29	0.58
1999	EC Teams	Malta	54,396	38	0.70
2000	Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup	Bermuda	39,528	13	0.33
2000	EC Mixed Pairs & Teams	Bellaria	45,096	10	0.22
2000	Olympiad	Maastricht	66,692	21	0.31
2001	EC Open & Senior Pairs	Sorrento	47,328	10	0.21
2001	EC Teams	Tenerife	50,820	41	0.81
2001	Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup	Paris	29,592	2	0.07
2002	EC Mixed Pairs & Teams	Oostende	45,292	23	0.51

Of the 23 Appeals, the AC changed the decision of the Director in 8 cases, and the deposit was forfeited on 4 occasions.

## Bidding Challenge

You will find the West hands on page 2 of this bulletin.

### East

Dealer South N/S Vul

South Opens 2♥, North raises to 4♥

♠ 9 5 3  
♥ –  
♦ A K J 9 6  
♣ K Q J 9 8

Dealer North N/S Vul

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

Dealer West Love All

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

Dealer West E/W Vul

♠ K J 6 5  
♥ –  
♦ 10 9  
♣ K Q J 10 8 7 6

Dealer East Love All

South overcalls 2♥, North raises to 4♥

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

Dealer West All Vul

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

Dealer South N/S Vul

South opens 3♣

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



The "Dream Team" took the Bronze medals

## 42<sup>th</sup> International Bridge Baltic Congress



**Sopot**  
**11<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> July 2002**

including:

- International Senior Championship of Poland
- Open Teams for The Baltic Bowl
- International Team Championship of Poland (Patton score)

Hala 100-lecia Sopotu  
Sopot, Goyki/Haffnera str



**Congress Organizer:**

Polish Bridge Union  
[www.polbridge.pl](http://www.polbridge.pl)  
Gdańsk Bridge Association  
Pomorski Wojewódzki Związek Brydża Sportowego  
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phone/fax: ++48 58 341 91 92  
e-mail: [ozbs\\_gda@wp.pl](mailto:ozbs_gda@wp.pl)  
<http://www.ozbsgdansk.prv.pl>



## The Tipster

If you recall the efforts of our tipster, you may be interested to see where his selections were placed before the start of play on the final day:

Lavazza	Final
Stoppa	Final
Auken	5
Willard	6
Zimmererman	8
Burgay	16
Damiani	18
Mavromichalis	31
Volina	Withdraw

## MIXED TEAMS

### Final Results

5 Auken	287.0	49 Porteous	237.0
6 Zimmermann	275.0	50 Russo	237.0
7 Vives	275.0	51 Garthwaite	237.0
8 Fornaciari	274.0	52 FIGB 2	235.0
9 Willard	273.0	53 Sagiv	234.0
10 Uisk	269.0	54 Dehayé	233.0
11 Labaere	266.0	55 Kondoch	233.0
12 Miszewska	266.0	56 Marsal	232.0
13 Mavromichalis	263.0	57 Sin Deut	231.0
14 Van der Neut	262.0	58 McGowan	231.0
15 Blouquit	261.0	59 Tobias	231.0
16 Damiani	261.0	60 Kostur	230.0
17 Grenthe	259.0	61 Chodorowska	230.0
18 Beccuti	258.0	62 Barr	230.0
19 FIGB I	255.0	63 Churlin	228.0
20 Riberol	255.0	64 Kaplan	226.0
21 Huijben	253.0	65 Meyer	226.0
22 Allix	253.0	66 Henri	225.0
23 Eginton	253.0	67 Thordarson	225.0
24 Vriend	252.0	68 Budd	222.0
25 Hochecker	252.0	69 Johnson	221.0
26 Ulla Koch	252.0	70 Smykalla	220.0
27 Bruchhauser	251.0	71 Weir	219.0
28 Ivarsdottir	251.0	72 Resta	216.0
29 Bonori	251.0	73 Meehan	213.0
30 Farholt	250.0	74 Leitner	211.0
31 Tisserand	250.0	75 Toffier	210.0
32 De Botton	248.0	76 Xtrouble	210.0
33 Burgay	248.0	77 Van Woerden	209.0
34 Kitabgi	247.0	78 McGloughlin	209.0
35 Falay	247.0	79 Alberti	208.0
36 Renoux	247.0	80 Harris	208.0
37 Ditetova	245.0	81 De Graeve	207.0
38 Bamberger	245.0	82 Samy	206.0
39 Blondal	243.0	83 Hardeman	206.0
40 Juuri-Oja	243.0	84 Brekiesz	204.0
41 Sterkin	242.0	85 Budzik	201.0
42 Senior	241.0	86 Mayda	198.0
43 Maybach	240.0	87 Jonsson	195.0
44 Al-Shati	240.0	88 Sigurjonsd	188.0
45 Vechiatto	239.0	89 Langston	185.0
46 Gotard	239.0	90 Backstrom	155.0
47 Alla	238.0	91 Volina	155.0
48 Juhas	237.0	92 Sanglier	116.0

## MIXED TEAMS

### Final

	1-16	17-32	Total
Lavazza - Stoppa	51 - 9	47 - 8	98 - 17

### 3rd Place

	1-16	17-32	Total
Popova - Mali	52 - 4	22 - 29	74 - 33

## PATRICK GRENTHE SHINES

Patrick Grenthe is not only a player in the highest ranking in France - première série nationale- but Chairman of the International trials committee.

### Some communications problems

It should be no surprise that Grenthe's team from France is doing well when you see him as declarer on round seven of the Mixed Teams event.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

The contract was 3 NT by West, on the queen of spades lead. Apparently easy with two spade tricks, three club tricks, and five diamond available. But not quite, look at the communication problems.

Patrick took the first spade in hand played a club to the dummy and a diamond to his hand but South, wide awake, played brilliantly the ace, making things awkward for the declarer. West threw his king under the ace and South played back a spade taken in the dummy. Now five high diamonds were cashed leaving a four card ending.

North had an inescapable choice:

He could bare the queen of hearts in which case, the king is played from the dummy, or keep two spades and two hearts, as was the case. A spade was played and now North must lead away from the queen of hearts at trick 12.

They are many other ways to win the contract but that was a spectacular choice.