

2nd EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

18 JUNE - 2 JULY 2005

DAILY BULLETIN



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FALL OF EAGLES



The Battleground

At the start of a major event theoretically every team has an equal chance of success, but of course realistically some chances are greater than others. However, surprises are always possible, especially in the early stages when the teams are still warming up.

Perhaps the biggest upset of the first days play was the elimination of the Lavazza team, who would have been on everyone's list as possible winners.

However they were not the only major casualties, as two more power packed squads crashed out of the tournament. It was only a few days ago that Fred Gitelman and Brad Moss were members of the team that won the US trials and the right to contest the next Bermuda Bowl, but this time they could not make the first cut.

You would not expect a team comprising only World and European Champions to fail to survive but that is what happened to team Armstrong. We are sure everyone will join us in sending best wishes to Bep Vriend who is recovering from medical treatment following a life threatening illness and who was with Anton Maas scheduled to be a member of the team. (You will recall they won the Mixed Pairs Championship in Menton.)

The good news for these teams - and the others who finished outside the top three in their groups, is that they can still make it back to the knockout stage by doing well in Swiss B.

Indeed, we are tempted to predict that at least one of them will be amongst the medals.

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Schedule of Play

Round 1	10.30 - 12.00
Round 2	12.20 - 13.50
Round 3	14.40 - 16.10
Round 4	16.30 - 18.00
Round 5	18.20 - 19.50
Side game	21.15

MIXED TEAMS

The second day we play the Swiss A and B, both 6 rounds of 8 boards. The Swiss A consists of the three highest ranked teams in yesterday's groups, 36 teams in total. The remaining 34 teams form the Swiss B.

At the end of the day the first 27 teams in Swiss A together with the top five teams in Swiss B will start play in the K.O-phase.

There will be a captains meeting to compose the matches, held in front of the Mirror room (Los Espejos). The highest ranked team in Swiss A chooses its opponent from the teams 9 to 32 (the teams from the Swiss B for this purpose being considered ranked 29 to 32). Then the second ranked team does the same and so on till all matches are decided, of course skipping teams already chosen. For the construction of the brackets the teams ranked 28 - 32, if not chosen by one of the first 13 teams, will be placed at position 9, 10 etc. But they will not remove a team ranked 9 to 13 if that plays one of the other teams 28 to 32. Other teams drop one or more places.

The teams ranked first in their group start with a carry over of 3VP's and the teams ranked second start with 1VP. The teams ranked 4 receive 2VP's to start with in the Swiss B. The seeding for the first round will be random among the teams with the same carry-over in VP's.

The teams loosing in the KO round of 32 teams have the right to enter the Swiss B for the last two rounds to be played Monday afternoon. Please notice that the first qualification round in the mixed pairs starts the same evening.

The teams loosing in the KO round of 16 teams do not have to play the qualification mixed pairs and may enter in the semi-finals. But only if they register normally for the mixed pairs Monday afternoon.

The Swiss Consolation consists of 5 rounds of 8 boards. All teams not playing the K.O round of 32 teams are entitled to play this event.

Ton Kooijman

PASMAN VS TOKCAN, AN AMUSING MATCH

In Round 4 of Saturday's qualification, The Dutch team Pasman, consisting of internationals only, among them a number of former World Champions, had to face a far less reputed team from Turkey. So many may have feared a one-sided, dull match, but this was not really the case at the two tables.

The Turks started off with a miserable misunderstanding on board 1 which cost them a non-vulnerable game swing straight away:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Bertens	Demirbas	Van Zwol	Tokcan
	INT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♥
Pass	5NT	All Pass	

4♣ was intended to show a weakish hand with both majors, but North was not on the same wavelength. He took it as Gerber and started showing his three aces. Over 5♣, again North was quite unsure what it might mean, as it took him a lot of time to produce 5♦. When Tokcan next bid 5♥, Demirbas was completely lost. After another very long thought, he gave up and signed off in 5NT, which Bertens was kind enough not to double. As it went down three this friendly gesture only cost his side 3 IMP's when his teammates duly reached game in the replay:

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Uysal	Verhees	Babac	Simons
	INT	Pass	2♣
2♦	Dble	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Babac led the ♣K rather than her blank ♦K



in partner's suit. Verhees won the ♣A and Wietske Van Zwol, The Netherlands

next played the ♠Q. When East followed suit low, seemingly showing no interest, he almost effortlessly called for dummy's ace and thus brought down the singleton ♠K to secure his contract. His next move was sort of an anticlimax, however: he led a low diamond to the queen, this time losing to yet another blank king. With a club and a heart as his other losers, ten tricks were his at the end for a score of 420 and a swing of 11 IMPs.

Six IMPs more went Dutch on the next board:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Bertens	Demirbas	Van Zwol	Tokcan
		1♦	Pass
3♦	3♠	All Pass	

The 7-9 hcp raise in diamonds worked well for EW. The contract will make, and NS cannot make more than 2♠ against accurate defence. When North overcalled, this defence was needed but it looked easy enough: ♥K and a club switch to the ace, followed by two more rounds of hearts. The ♠A then settled the issue. One down.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Uysal	Verhees	Babac	Simons
		INT	Pass
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

The 12-14 NT-opening did not work so well for EW, as the diamond fit got lost in the process. Who can blame West for not competing any further over 2♠? On the ♦K lead, North emerged with an overtrick for another +140 and 6 more IMPs to the Dutch.

The next board was mainly a matter of judgement.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Bertens	Demirbas	Van Zwol	Tokcan
			1♣
1♠	3♥	4♣	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	5♥
5♠	All Pass		

By overcalling 1♠ Huub Bertens made life easy for his partner. She could first make a fit-bid with 4♣ and next go on to 4♠ when given room to do so. As it happened, 4♣ had clarified the position for West so he at his turn was able to go on even to 5♠ which he duly made by finessing the ♣Q through South, the 1♣ opener. Pasman +650.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Uysal	Verhees	Babac	Simons
			1♣
2♦	2♥	4♠	5♥
All Pass			

Uysal, on the other hand, treated his hand as a twosuit. Babac could easily jump to 4♠ but was in trouble when 5♥ came back to her as the EW club fit had remained secret. She therefore had no reason to double and no reason to bid on, so she just passed, collecting a meagre 50 for a loss of another 12 IMPs.

The score stood at 29-0 now, but on the next board, the Tokcan team missed a very good chance to hit back:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Bertens	Demirbas	Van Zwol	Tokcan
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♦
2♠	4♦	4♠	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

Of course it's unlucky for EW that 4♠ goes down: hearts are 2-2 and the ♣A J x are over the ♣K Q x x. The Turkish NS found their proper save, however, as 5♦ will go down only one for 200 to Pasman.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Uysal	Verhees	Babac	Simons
Pass	Pass	1♠	Dble
2♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♥	Dble	All Pass

When Simons more logically in my opinion doubled 1♠ rather than overcall 2♦, Verhees took a delayed save in hearts against which

Babac led her singleton $\diamond J$. Uysal won the king with his ace but, instead of returning the $\diamond 9$ immediately and hoping for the best, he first cashed the $\spadesuit K$. When Babac followed with the queen, Uysal did return the $\diamond 9$ for his partner to ruff, but as he had no other entry the second diamond ruff never came. Flat board instead of a 7-IMP gain for Tokcan.

On the next board, for a change, we saw a Dutch misunderstanding:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Demirbas</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>	<i>Tokcan</i>
	Pass	$1\clubsuit$	Pass
$1\heartsuit$	Pass	$2\heartsuit$	All Pass

This was a decent enough contract, but the defence started off quite effectively. $\spadesuit J$ to the king and ace, $\diamond K$ and a diamond to the queen. $\diamond A$ on which South's remaining spade went away, and the last diamond which was ruffed by declarer with the $\heartsuit J$. The $\heartsuit A$ and another followed, so North was on lead again with the $\heartsuit K$. Whatever he played, declarer could sooner or later finesse the $\spadesuit 10$ for his contract. Pasman +110.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Uysal</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Babac</i>	<i>Simons</i>
	Pass	INT	$3\clubsuit$
Pass	$3NT$	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Undoubtedly, Verhees expected a much stronger hand when his partner made a vulnerable $3\clubsuit$ overcall after the weak NT opening bid. This time, it was Uysal who showed his disbelief in what was happening, and right he was. The lead was the $\spadesuit Q$ won by dummy's ace. A diamond went to the ace and a club was led to the king. After some thought, West took his ace but returned a spade rather than the $\heartsuit Q$ or $\heartsuit 10$. This way, an undertrick or two disappeared, but declarer still had only seven tricks and thus lost 500. Tokcan 9 IMPs.

On the next board, an instance of non-concentration by Demirbas hit the jackpot:



Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Demirbas</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>	<i>Tokcan</i>
		Pass	$1\clubsuit$
Pass	$1\diamond$	Pass	INT
All Pass			

During the play of this hand, Demirbas never stopped saying sorry to his opponents, but it was in fact his partner who exploited the situation. With not quite perfect defence Tokcan made nine tricks for +150 to her side

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Uysal</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Babac</i>	<i>Simons</i>
		Pass	$1\clubsuit$
Pass	$2\clubsuit$	Pass	$2NT$
Pass	$3NT$	All Pass	

On a diamond lead, declarer was never in with a serious chance to make her contract. It seems as if she would have needed to guess correctly in both majors. When she did not, one down was the result and Tokcan chalked up another 5 IMPs to halve the earlier deficit.

A defensive mistake of which Van Zwol took full advantage led to another swing to the Dutch:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Demirbas</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>	<i>Tokcan</i>
		$1\heartsuit$	Pass
Pass	Pass	$2\diamond$	Pass
INT	Pass	$5\diamond$	Pass
$3\diamond$	Pass		All Pass

As NS had not entered the auction, it was far more difficult for them to find the proper defence as they had no clues whatsoever. South started well by leading a trump which ran to declarer's queen. Next, Van Zwol presented the $\spadesuit J$ and put up dummy's king when South played low. Next, she played a heart from dummy. Now North has to rise with his king and play a club through to beat the contract. When he did not, South won her $\heartsuit A$, but could not effectively attack clubs. In the

end, dummy's clubs went on the two top hearts and that was a juicy 400 more for Pasman's team.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Uysal</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Babac</i>	<i>Simons</i>
	Pass	$1\heartsuit$	Pass
INT	Pass	$2\diamond$	Pass
Pass	$2\spadesuit$	$3\clubsuit$	$3\spadesuit$
$4\diamond$	All Pass		

When West showed less aggression here at his second turn, Verhees balanced with $2\spadesuit$ to liven things up. Simons raised to $3\spadesuit$ when East introduced her third suit. Finally, West came to life again and thus $4\diamond$ became the final contract. This looks like sort of absolute par, as $3\spadesuit$ is likely to make. The defence against $4\diamond$ was correct: South led a trump and next hopped up with her $\spadesuit A$, whereas North, realising the danger and helped by South's spade raise, could find the good play of jumping up with his $\heartsuit K$ to lead a club through. Well done, 50 more for Pasman and another 10 IMPs.

The final nail in the coffin for the Tokcan team was a co-production of both Dutch pairs:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Demirbas</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>	<i>Tokcan</i>
		$1\clubsuit$	Pass
$2\diamond$	$2\spadesuit$	$3\diamond$	Pass
$3\spadesuit$	Dble	$4\clubsuit$	Pass
$5\diamond$	All Pass		

Very nicely bid by the EW pair. During the play, West needed a little bit of luck as the spades were 6-2, but when South could not overruff dummy the contract was safe. Pasman +600.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Uysal</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Babac</i>	<i>Simons</i>
		INT	Pass
$3NT$	Dble	All Pass	

Once again, the weak NT was not the ideal way to tackle the problems of this hand. North's double was a sort of a gamble, of course, asking partner to find the doubler's solid or semi-solid suit. Simons simply led the $\spadesuit 8$ for a quick two down.

The strange thing is that the West hand looks quite unsuitable to run to $5\diamond$ after the double, but it would have been a nice climax to this amusing bridge match had West in fact run on the very last board. As it was, this board settled the blitz result. We may well hear more from the Pasman team as the event goes on.

THE BEST FORM OF DEFENCE

The Welland team is here to defend its title from two years ago in Menton. It is probably a commentary on man's inhumanity to man (or more specifically to wife) that the team has continued to line up in the partnerships it employed in Menton, namely the Rosenbergs in tandem, but Roy Welland with Jill Levin and Crystal Henner-Welland.

This group of six promised to be a tough one. A Czech and Italian team might be less formidable than some, but the other three teams were clearly going to be a challenge. Zimmermann was packed with French internationals, as was a team including Mmes Cronier and Lustin with Paul Hackett as well.

Michael and Debbie Rosenberg lined up against Ilan Herbst and Roni Barr of Israel with Jan van Cleeff at the other table.

The first five deals produced little in the way of IMPs one way or the other. Then came:

Dealer East, E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Michael	Herbst	Ilan	Barr
1♥	4♣	1♦	Pass
Dble	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Ilan had no reason to find the spade lead here. His choice of a diamond ran round to Michael Rosenberg's ace, and a heart to the queen for a club to the ace and a second heart up saw the cards lying as well as could possibly have been hoped for. The defence took their spade winners at the end, for +420 to E/W.

Side Games

If you would like to take part in the side games (they start at 21.15 from today) there is no need to pre-register, simply make your way to the Minerva room (opposite the Information Centre at the Cleopatra hotel) and take a seat. There are eleven events in total and in principle each will comprise 24 boards. The entry fee is Euro 25 per pair and there will be prizes and EBL Masterpoints for each session. There will be an overall prize based on an individual players best five results.

There will be no side game on 20,24 June and 1 & 2 July.

In the other room East opened a nebulous Dutch club, and Crystal overcalled one spade. Now when E/W reached 4♥ the spade lead saw South overtake to lead three more rounds of the suit and promote the ♥K into the setting trick.

Three boards later Ilan was in the hot seat again.

Dealer North, E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
All Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT

A Puppet Stayman auction had suggested dummy would put down both majors. Even so, I'm not sure many players would have duplicated Debbie Rosenberg's lead of the ♦5. Herbst put on dummy's eight, and when it held the trick he thought long and hard about what to do next. From my seat on the sidelines I was sure the right line was to overtake and lead a diamond to the nine. Perhaps Ilan was not prepared to assume Rosenberg could not have ducked smoothly from 1043 (notice how effective that play is whether declarer has Kx or Ax!).

Anyway, he let the diamond eight hold, and let a diamond to the king, which also held. Now he was in the wrong hand to establish diamonds, so he ducked a club to West as east followed with the ten, and back came a low spade. He won the queen and now had reached the crossroads. He could succeed by ducking another club, thereby getting to test both black suits. Instead he chose to lead three rounds of hearts. East won and played back the spade jack, and declarer was dead now.

In the other room Bobby Levin as North got a low heart lead to the queen, which he won in hand with the ace to play a diamond to the queen and a diamond to the king and ace. When east returned the heart jack Levin could build an extra heart trick easily enough for his ninth trick.

In another match Alain Levy played 3NT on a low heart lead. He won to advance the ♦K, ducked, followed by another diamond to the ♦Q. now he led a low heart from dummy, and ducked the ♥8. East failed to overtake, so West won the eight, and continued with the ♠10 - another subtle error. Levy needed no more help: he won in hand and ducked a club to the jack and queen, then ducked the club return round to East.

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

In this ending, back came the ♥J, which had the effect of squeezing West out of his remaining diamond. Levy won and cashed the spade queen and the club ace then exited with his fourth club, endplaying West to lead diamonds into the tenace.

When I returned to watch the Welland team, they had achieved a little better than average in their second and third matches, leaving them at the top of their group, but with a host of followers just behind. With the two less-fancied teams in the group still to play, they would fancy their chances, but it is one thing to be the favorite and quite another to convert that into a victory.

As it happened, the match against the Czech squad turned out to be relatively flat in the eight middle boards of the set, Welland picking up two small swings and losing one. But the first and last deal produced excitement.

Dealer North, Love all.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	3♣	Pass
Pass	Dble.	Pass	3♠
	4♣	All Pass	

Before the first trick had been completed, the Tournament Director was at the table.



Debbie Rosenberg, USA

South's action over the double had been decidedly slow, and the question was raised as to whether that had conveyed Unauthorised Information to North, thus preventing a raise to 4♠.

This seems a legitimate point; it turned out to be moot though, since declarer won the club lead and passed the ♠10, then ruffed the third club high and drew a second trump to find the bad news. Now ♥A and another heart put West on play with the ♥J for a low diamond through dummy.

At this point in the hand declarer had to take the diamond finesse. There were no longer enough entries to the South hand to take advantage of the 3-3 heart break. It was a little unlucky that the 7-1 diamond break produced the one lie of the cards that meant that taking the diamond finesse would lead to defeat.

But in a sense it was not THAT unlucky. Debbie Rosenberg also played 4♠ (after a 2♣ overcall by East she doubled and North drove to game). On a club lead she won the ♣A and played ♥A and another heart. She ruffed the third club with the ♠J, overruffed with the ♠K, then won the diamond shift with the ♦A. when the ♦K fell she could lead out the ♦Q and claim ten tricks, being able to overruff East and set up hearts comfortably enough.

The final deal exemplified the benefit of the slow approach over the fast.

Dealer East, All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Roy Welland		Jill Levin	
		1♣	Pass
1♦	1♠	Dble.(1)	Pass
2♠	Dble.	Pass	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♦	All Pass

(1) 4 hearts

Welland drove to game at his second turn and found out immediately that his partner had a balanced hand, probably with no spade



Roy Welland, USA

stop. When Levin bid 3♥ at her third turn she could not even have half a spade stop, so 5♦ became the obvious contract. Again, although this was clearly the best game, three rounds of spades required North to hold the ♦J, rather less than a 50-50 chance, but the cards cooperated.

In any event, Welland was going to gain on the hand even if 5♦ had gone down; since in the other room E/W bid 1♣-3NT; North was not tested on opening lead, so 3NT was down two. (as matter of general strategy once South passes over 1♣ you are unlikely to gain by jumping to 3NT on unsuitable hands -since North is far more likely now to be the player with the long suit on lead.) The two game swings on these two boards gave Welland close to the maximum, and left them in excellent shape with one match to go.

Going into the final match of the day the defenders, Welland, were well placed, needing only to avoid a blitz to ensure qualification. In fact they administered one, with Bobby Levin and Crystal Henner-Welland having a very nice card.

This was a decision that Bobby Levin faced. He held:

♠	J 10 8 6
♥	A 10 7
♦	A 9 8 5
♣	J 10

And heard his partner open 1♥ in third seat. After a 1♠ overcall he bid 2♥, passed round to his RHO, who bid 3♦. He doubled for penalties, but his partner ran to 3♥, passed round to his LHO, who balanced with 3♠. What should he do now?

Levin correctly realized that the combination of his RHO passing 3♦x and then balancing with 3♠ suggested he had 2-3 in spades and diamonds. Since his partner had run from 3♦x she had to be short in diamonds. So he doubled and led the ♦A and followed up with the ♦9. This was the full story:

Dealer North, N/S Vul.

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

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

The defence took the first four tricks via two diamond ruffs and still had a club and a spade to come for +300. While 4♥ cannot be defeated thanks to the fact that West has a singleton heart and doubleton club rather than the other way round, this was still a decent result and was actually a partscore pick-up at the table.

WELL BID!

by Jos Jacobs

On the first day of these Championships, my attention was twice drawn to good and successful bidding sequences. This was the first:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Duboin	Goldenfield	Lavazza	Goldenfield
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

The bidding was mostly natural, with 2NT being a game-forcing relay. When the spade fit came into the picture, Duboin knew what to do. He checked key-cards with 4♣, Lavazza showing two of them, and then kings with 4NT, Lavazza this time showing one. The final contract was very good of course: once the hearts behave better than K10xx behind the AJ, all is well.

At the other table, it came to an end in 4♥...

The other one occurred in Round 3:

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Cima	Arnolds	Gianardi
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

When the trumps behaved, this contract could not be beaten.

At the other table, Armstrong and Smith ended up in the more normal 3NT which had no play on the marked diamond lead. This board thus cost them 10 IMPs, which was about the whole margin of their defeat by the Italians (team Palma).

PRIMER DIA DEL CAMPEONATO

En el primer día de los Campeonatos, un total de 70 equipos participan en el Torneo Mixto, encuadrados en 10 grupos de 6 equipos y 2 grupos de 5 equipos. Los 3 primeros de cada grupo se clasifican para la siguiente ronda, suizo A.

Curiosamente, los 2 equipos españoles que seguimos quedan encuadrados en los grupos de 5 equipos: el equipo Ventín (Ventín, Gaviard, Von Arnim, Lambardi, Pont) en el grupo E y el equipo Passarinho (Passarinho, Panadero, Penev, Nehmert) en el grupo H. Ambos sólo tendrán 2 equipos a eliminar (en lugar de 3) y un BYE para descansar.

Póngase, en Sur, en la situación de María Panadero y Daniele Gaviard para la salida, después de la siguiente subasta:

Dador Oeste. Todos vulnerables.

Oeste	Norte	Este	Sur
1♣	Paso	1♠	Paso
2♣	Paso	2♦ (!)	Paso
3♣	Paso	3♠	Paso
4♠	Todos pasan		

La voz de 2♦ es artificial y sus cartas son las siguientes:

♠ 5 4 2
♥ A Q 10 5
♦ A 4 2
♣ 6 5 4

La salida a triunfo y a trébol parecen descartarse, por lo que hay que salir a un palo rojo, aunque no nos guste hacerlo bajo As. María acertó a la primera saliendo bajo el ♦A, ya que la mano completa era la siguiente:

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

El declarante no había venido a Tenerife para que le salieran el primer día bajo As, y



Juan Pont, Spain

pasó pequeña del muerto. Joao Passarinho ganó con la ♦Q, adelantó el ♥K y jugó ♦. Una multa y 13 IMPS para Passarinho.

En cambio, Gaviard salió del ♥A y cuando vió la señal positiva del compañero, adelantó la ♥Q y jugó el ♦2. La presión al declarante era máxima, pero no salió bien. El jugador en Este razonó que Sur no hubiera salido de un palo encabezado de AQ sino era porque en el otro también tenía problemas y llamó al ♦K del muerto.

Otro mano que ha dado de hablar fue jugada por Juan Pont, en la posición de Norte, aunque rotamos la mano para comodidad del lector.

Dador Sur. Este-Oeste vulnerables.

Oeste	Norte	Este	Sur
Paso	3♣	Paso	2ST
Paso	3ST	Todos pasan	3♦

Después de negar algún mayor cuarto, Juanito recibe la salida del ♥5 (cuartas) para la ♥Q de Este y su ♥A. Las cartas eran las siguientes:

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

El ♦K gana baza y jugamos ♦ a la Dama (el impasse al ♦10 es peligroso, al no haber 2 entradas en el muerto), que también hace baza. Tenemos 8 bazas y hay que intentar la novena. Juanito juega el ♦J (es más probable un ♦10 tercero que un ♦A tercero, ya que en este último caso el jugador con el As no hubiera cedido 2 veces), pero no hay suerte y Este adelanta sus bazas a ♦, donde Oeste y Sur descarta tréboles.

Oeste, leyendo la posición, no vuelve a ♥ (sólo es bueno si Sur tiene AK secos, improbable que ya supondría una mano con 6 tréboles) y juega el ♣7, para el J, Q y pequeño. Corazón cedido al 10 y corazón obliga a Este a un descarte vital. La posición, desde el punto de vista de Este:

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

Sobre el ♥6, para el ♥7 del muerto, Este debe descartar. Está claro que si su com-

pañero tiene la ♠Q puede descartar un ♠ tranquilamente, ya que el palo está bloqueado. Sin embargo, si el compañero tiene el ♣10, hay que descartar trébol. ¿Y bien?

Este descartó pic y Juanito cumplió su mano. Grave error, porque hasta el momento Sur sólo había mostrado 18 puntos de honor y era favorito a tener la ♠Q.

Finalmente, el equipo Ventín finalizó segundo de su grupo E con 79 puntos, mientras que el equipo Passarinho alcanzó idéntica posición en el H, con 88 puntos. Ambos están clasificados para el suizo A que se celebra mañana, antes de entrar en los dieciseisavos de final.

Championship Diary

Yesterday's edition formed part of the local newspaper *La Opinion*, which featured the Championships on the front page as well as reporting in detail on the opening ceremony.

The high quality buffet meant that plans to visit the local Indian were rapidly shelved.

One of our reporters took breakfast with the wife of an antipodean tournament director. (No names, no pack drill). She noticed that various members of staff were around and were wearing different coloured shirts. 'I see', she said, 'the workers wear yellow shirts and the tournament directors wear blue.' (Le mot juste as our Co-Ordinator might say!)

The lifts contain a pointer that can be set in one of three positions. The first is A - no idea what it means - the second P - still no idea what it means - the third is Bomberos - we hope we don't know what that means.

Barry Rigal, our distinguished American Editor, collected the first BMA (Bulletin Merit Award) of the Championship by providing a fine lunch of bread, cheese, ham & wine. It went down especially well with Tacchi who was having a bad hair day.

We went in search of Championship General Manager Ton Kooijman. Our requirements involved him restarting his computer. 'Have you saved your file?' we enquired. 'I saved it when I heard you in the corridor.'

MIXED TEAMS ROSTERS

Group	Team Name	Surname	Surname	Surname	Surname	Surname	Surname
A	Brigada	KHAZANOV	LEBEDEVA	ROMANOVSKA	RUBINS		
A	Gitelman	CRONIER	GITELMAN	MOSS	MOSS	OVIDIO	WINESTOCK
A	Harazimovicz	HARASIMOWICZ	LESNIEWSKI	PEYROT	VOLDOIRE		
A	Hirst	HIRST	HIRST	LUCK	NELSON		
A	Magyar	CSIPKA	HONTI	MAGYAR	MEZEI		
A	Priday	GORDON	HIRON	PRIDAY	PRIDAY		
B	Armstrong	ARMSTRONG	ARNOLDS	JANSMA	SMITH		
B	Palma	ARRIGONI	CIMA	GIANARDI	PALMA	PRADOS	RESTA
B	Perry	KRANYAK	MOLSON	MOLSON	PERRY	ROBISON	SOKOLOW
B	Praha	HNATOVA	KURKA	POKORNA	SVOBODA		
B	Salliere	ELBEE	LASSERRE	LEENHARDT	LEENHARDT	SALLIERE	SALLIERE
B	Uzumcu	SAYER	SEMERCI	UZUMCU	ZAHARIEV		
C	Colamartino	BASTARDINI	BENASSI	BERSANI	COLAMARTINO	MARTELLINI	VINCENZO
C	Harper	CRONIER	HACKETT	HARPER	LUSTIN		
C	Herbst	BARR	CLEEFF	ETTINGER	HERBST		
C	Pbw	DITETOVA	FLADR	FORT	PAVLIK	SVOBODOVA	ZOUCHOVA
C	Welland	HENNER-WELLAND	LEVIN	LEVIN	ROSENBERG	ROSENBERG	WELLAND
C	Zimmermann	BESSIS	BESSIS	HUGON	MORETTI	SAPORTA	ZIMMERMANN
D	Birman	BIRMAN	BIRMAN	SMEDEREVAC	WERNLE		
D	Callaghan	CALLAGHAN	DUCKWORTH	JAMES - COURTNEYSKOV			
D	Kirstan	JACOBUS	KIRSTAN	MARQUARDSEN	TORNQVIST		
D	Levy	LEVY	LEVY	MOUIEL	WILLARD		
D	Multimaki	BACKSTROM	BACKSTROM	KOISTINEN	MULTIMAKI		
D	Walsh	KEMPLE	MCDONAGH	TAAFFE	WALSH		
E	Allegra	BOCCHI	BURATTI	CALANDRA	GOLIN	LANZAROTTI	PAOLUZI
E	Allix	ALLIX	FREY	MAUBERQUEZ	REESS		
E	De Botton	DE BOTTON	DHONDY	HALLBERG	SANDQVIST		
E	Naveh	GRAIZER	HORVITZ	MERMELSTEIN	NAVEH		
E	Ventin	ARNIM	GAVIARD	LAMBARDI	PONT	VENTIN	
F	Brunner	BRUNNER	GOLDENFIELD	GOLDENFIELD	HOLLAND		
F	Goldberg SWE	EFRAIMSSON	GOLDBERG	GOLDBERG	SVELLUND		
F	Lavazza	CARCASSONNE	CHEMLA	DUBOIN	ERHART	FERRARO	LAVAZZA
F	McGowan	BAXTER	JOHNSEN	McGOWAN	WALD		
F	Schneider	BUCHLEV	MALCHUS	SCHNEIDER	SMYKALLA		
F	Serf	BEINEIX	DELCOURT	FOUASSIER	RENOUX	SERF	
G	Canesi	CANESI	CEDOLIN	ROSSANO	VIVALDI		
G	Elbaz	DAS	D'OVIDIO	ELBAZ	LAMOUR		
G	Mizel	MALINOWSKI	MIZEL	NATHAN	WEINSTEIN		
G	Team Pasman	BERTENS	NIEMEIJER	PASMAN	SIMONS	VERHEES JR	ZWOL
G	Tokcan	BABAC	DEMIRBAS	TOKCAN	UYSAL		
G	Van Poperinghe	MARILL	PIGEAUD	POPERINGHE	TOFFIER		
H	Erichsen	BROGELAND	BROGELAND	ERICHSEN	ERICHSEN	HELNESS	HELNESS
H	Hammond	HAMMOND	HANNAH	LANE	LEDGER		
H	Passarinho	CORTES ARNAL	NEHMERT	PANADERO	PASSARINHO	PENEV	WLADOW
H	Weber	GOTARD	GOTARD	GROMOELLER	SCHRECKENBERGER		WEBERWEBER
H	Zach	LINDENLAUF	PATUZZI	PATUZZI	ZACH		
I	Bugden	BUGDEN	BUGDEN	LANGSTON	LANGSTON		
I	Dix	DIX	FENWICK	HARRISON	PARNIS-ENGLAND		
I	Glasson	GLASSON	GLASSON	LEWIS	LEWIS		
I	Hetz	HETZ	HETZ	LEVIT-PORAT	SCHNEIDER		
I	Kowalski	KOWALSKI	MISZEWSKA	PANINA	ROSENBLUM	SARNIAK	TUSZYNSKI
I	Penfold	PENFOLD	SENIOR	SENIOR	WOLFARTH		
J	Barel	BAREL	EMODI	YADLIN	ZUR-CAMPANILE		
J	Goldberg USA	ABDOU	FALCO	GOLDBERG	OLIVIERI		
J	Gromova	DUBINIIN	GROMOV	GROMOVA	PONOMAREVA	SZCZEPANSKA	ZMUDZINSKI
J	Hauge	FUGLESTAD	HARDING	HAUGE	SAELENMINDE	SVENDSEN	THORESEN
J	Jensen	JAGGER	JAGGER	JENSEN	JENSEN		
J	Verdurmen	SALONEN	TORRE	TORRE	VERDURMEN		
K	Cersanit Kielce	BANASZKIEWICZ	KOWALSKA	KUCHARSKA	KUCHARSKI	LUTOSTANSKI	MAJCHER
K	Fornaciari	BARONI	BURATTI	FORNACIARI	MARIANI		
K	Jacobs	AUKEN	CUZZI	JACOBS	KATZ	VERSACE	
K	Langeland	LANGELAND	ROREN	SVENDSEN	SVENDSEN	SVENDSEN	
K	O'Rourke	ANDERSSON	EYTHORSDDOTTIR	FREDIN	JACOBUS	MECKSTROTH	O'ROURKE
K	Rossard	AVON	KAPLAN	ROMANOWSKI	ROSSARD		
L	Golebiowski	ARASZKIEWICZ	GOLEBIOWSKI	GRZEJDZIAK	GRZEJDZIAK	PASTERNAK	ZALEWSKA
L	Hirchenaut	COLOMBARO	CUENCA	DANIC	HIRCHENAUT	MEYER	MEYER
L	Kondoch	BOEDDEKER	CAESAR	KONDOCH	ZARKESCH		
L	Nordby	HOMME	HOMME	NORDBY	VIGMOSTAD		
L	Peter Hecht Johansen	BEKKOUCHE	BLAKSET	CILLEBORG	HECHT-JOHANSEN		
L	Popova	ARONOV	GUNEV	POPOVA	ZOBU		

MIXED TEAMS - 1st QUALIFYING

(Final Standings)

GROUP A

1	Priday	96
2	Harazimovicz	80
3	Brigada	78
4	Gitelman	77
5	Hirst	71
6	Magyar	47

GROUP B

1	Praha	97
2	Perry	84
3	Palma	80
4	Armstrong	65
5	Uzumcu	64
6	Salliere	55

GROUP C

1	Welland	103
2	Zimmermann	88
3	Herbst	74
4	Pbw	69
5	Colamartino	60
6	Harper	58

GROUP D

1	Callaghan	101
2	Levy	88
3	Birman	75
4	Kirstan	75
5	Walsh	54
6	Multimaki	48

GROUP E

1	Allegra	95
2	Ventin	79
3	Naveh	77
4	Allix	73
5	De Botton	66

GROUP F

1	Serf	81
2	SerfGoldberg SWE	77
3	Brunner	76
4	Lavazza	75
5	Schneider	70
6	McGowan	68

GROUP G

1	Team Pasman	98
2	Mizel	87
3	Tokcan	72
4	Van Poperinghe	67
5	Canesi	63
6	Elbaz	63

GROUP H

1	Weber	101
2	Passarinho	88
3	Erichsen	86
4	Zach	58
5	Hammond	54
6		

GROUP I

1	Kowalski	94
2	Hetz	85
3	Penfold	75
4	Glasson	73
5	Bugden	64
6	Dix	56

GROUP J

1	Hauge	96
2	Goldberg USA	94
3	Gromova	79
4	Barel	77
5	Jensen	62
6	Verdurmen	39

GROUP K

1	Fornaciari	86
2	Jacobs	85
3	O'Rourke	77
4	Cersanit Kielce	72
5	Rossard	65
6	Langeland	63

GROUP L

1	Popova	96
2	Hirchenaut	80
3	Peter Hecht Johansen	76
4	Golebiowski	73
5	Kondoch	59
6	Nordby	59

A message from AnnaMaria Torlontano EBL Master of Ceremonies

Apologies for the pause during proceedings in yesterday's Opening Ceremony - someone failed to put down on my papers the name of Mr Raimundo Dominguez, Director General De Ordenacion y Promocion Turistica who was to address the audience.

SWAN GAMES

You can follow the Championships at www.swangames.com - and during the pairs events they will provide board by board coverage.

Wealth Warning

A word in your ears - don't make the mistake of taking a mobile phone into the playing area - even if it is switched off. The penalty for being found with one in your possession is the loss of 2VP and a fine of Euro 100.