



# 7th EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Daily Bulletin



Tromsø  
27th June-11th July

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## LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT

MONDAY,  
JUNE 29 2015



Issue No. 2

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*Great minds meeting*

At the end of the second day of qualification matches in the Mixed Teams Championship sixteen squads could congratulate themselves on having secured a spot in the first of the knockout rounds.

Kudos to team Breno, who dominated the first two days play, losing only one of their ten matches and finishing well clear of the pack.

The real excitement was to see who would avoid the unfortunate experience of missing the cut at the last moment, and as the event drew to a close only decimal points separated the teams in contention. When the music stopped the unlucky squad was team Badger - by a mere 0.01.



### TODAY'S SCHEDULE

#### MIXED TEAMS KO:

10.00 - 12.00: Round of 16  
12.15 - 14.15: Round of 16  
15.30 - 17.30: Quarter Finals  
17.45 - 19.45: Quarter Finals

#### OPEN BAM TEAMS:

10.00 - 11.30: Round 1  
11.45 - 13.15: Round 2  
14.30 - 16.00: Round 3  
16.15 - 17.45: Round 4  
18.00 - 19.30: Round 5



# STABELL VS FUGLESTAD

by Ram Soffer

The most illustrious player in our featured match was undoubtedly Geir Helgemo, currently representing Monaco, who played with his (former) country-mates Aase Langeland, Ann Karin Fuglestad and Geir Brekka. The opposing team was captained by Leif-Erik Stabell, who played for the Norwegian Open team long ago, in the 1980s, together with Tolle Stabell and two female players from Zimbabwe: Gail Cameron and Vanessa Voss. Fuglestad were the obvious favourites, but anything's possible in a short match of 10 boards.

Fuglestad did well in the first board, as both Stabell pairs misdefended.

(East dropping  $\diamond Q$ ) and switched to his singleton club. Voss imagined declarer with a stiff  $\clubsuit 2$  and switched to the  $\diamond 3$  (why not  $\diamond J$ , letting partner decide who wins the trick?). That cost the defense another trick besides the club ruff. Later when a spade was played through West, Stabell had to give up either his  $\spadesuit A$  or his partner's  $\clubsuit A$ . Declarer escaped for -50.

West Brekka	North Stabell	East Fuglestad	South Cameron 3♥
Dble	Pass	5♣	All Pass

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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



West Stabell	North Helgemo	East Voss	South Langeland 4♥
All Pass			

Good choice of opening bid by Langeland. Those who opened  $4♥$  silenced the opposition, while those who chose  $1♥$  allowed E/W to reach their normal contract of  $5♦$  (which happens to make six due to very favourable breaks in the minors).

Looking at the four hands, it is quite obvious that the defenders can take the first six tricks, but at the table it was not that simple.

In the four matches featured on BBO, the optimal defense was found only in one out of five tables in which South played a heart contract. In several tables the defenders took the first five tricks in the minors and then gave away a ruff-and-sluff instead of cashing the  $\spadesuit A$ .

At our table it was even worse: Stabell led  $\diamond A$

Cameron's three-level opening gave the opponents enough rope to hang themselves, which they did. Of course, West's decision to leave his partner in  $5♣$  instead of trying  $5♦$  was debatable, but those are the kind of problems one normally faces over opponents' preempts.

However, due to the favourable trump break, the defenders had to be very alert. Importantly, North didn't raise  $3♥$  to  $4♥$  over the double when he could have done so with three-card support.

Thinking along that line, Gail Cameron hoped that a second high heart was going to cash, and she failed to make the necessary spade switch at trick 2 for down two.



 Geir Helgemo

Fuglestad ruffed the 2nd heart, crossed to dummy in diamonds, finessed the ♣Q successfully, drew trumps in three rounds and claimed. A lucky +400 and 8 IMPs to Fuglestad.

Board 12 was even worse for Stabell. In what should have been a flat 3NT making, Voss mistimed the play and left her ninth trick in dummy without an entry. 18:0 after two boards looked ominous, but then the tide turned.

On board 13, Voss/Stabell modestly stopped in 3♠ with very promising cards, and were rewarded when the 4♠ bid at the other table turned out to be unmakeable against reasonable defence, cutting the lead to 18:6, and there was more to follow:

supporting partner's suit when he doesn't have the Q?) and decided to switch to spades!

The first switch was not critical, but then after two rounds of clubs she led another spade with disastrous consequences. For the second time in the match a 5♣ contract destined to fail was allowed to succeed, and once again we had a tight match – 18:16 to Fuglestad.



Soon Fuglestad/Brekka's ultra-light 1NT opening got them into trouble:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ Q 9 8 5 3 2 ♥ J ♦ A 10 8 6 3 2 ♣ —		
♠ K J 10 4 ♥ Q 7 4 ♦ Q J ♣ 7 5 4 2	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: inline-block;">                     N W E S                 </div>	♠ 7 6 ♥ A K 10 9 6 2 ♦ 7 5 4 ♣ K J	
	♠ A ♥ 8 5 3 ♦ K 9 ♣ A Q 10 9 8 6 3		

West Stabell	North Helgemo	East Voss	South Langeland
Pass	1♠	2♥	1♣
3♥	3♠	All Pass	3♣

A competitive auction led to a normal 3♠ contract by Helgemo, just made as declarer had to give up one heart and three trump tricks.

West Brekka	North Stabell	East Fuglestad	South Cameron
Pass	1♠	2♥	1♣
3♥	3♠	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Here N/S were more optimistic, climbing to 5♣ which could have been defeated straight away by three rounds of hearts. However, after Brekka's ♥4 lead Fuglestad imagined the ♥Q at declarer's hand (Shouldn't West lead top of 3 small after

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ 8 5 ♥ J 10 9 7 ♦ Q 10 4 ♣ A 7 5 3		
♠ Q 10 7 6 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ K 6 2 ♣ 10 8 4	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: inline-block;">                     N W E S                 </div>	♠ K J 9 ♥ Q 6 5 ♦ A 9 8 7 5 ♣ J 9	
	♠ A 4 3 2 ♥ A K 8 ♦ J 3 ♣ K Q 6 2		

West Brekka	North Stabell	East Fuglestad	South Cameron
2♥	Pass	1NT	Dble
	All Pass		

At the other table it was South who opened a normal 1NT and Helgemo scored a quiet +140 in 2♥. Little did he imagine that his teammates were going to play the same contract with the E/W cards!

Brekka knew he was in trouble after his partner's 9-11 NT opening. He decided to transfer to spades, but was passed out in 2♥ either due to a misunderstanding or as a result of a deliberate attempt to escape a penalty double.

West was happy to play undoubled, but the defence was accurate. Stabell led the ♥J. N/S drew trumps, cashed clubs and took care to develop their diamond trick in time.

E/W scored -250 as Stabell took the lead for the first time, and they struck again in the very next board.



Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ A K 5		
	♥ A 10 7 5 4 3 2		
	♦ 4 2		
	♣ 8		
♠ J 10	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             N W S E           </div>	♠ Q 7 2	
♥ Q J		♥ K 8	
♦ K Q 8 7 6 3		♦ J 10 5	
♣ K 10 3		♣ A Q 6 5 4	
	♠ 9 8 6 4 3		
	♥ 9 6		
	♦ A 9		
	♣ J 9 7 2		

West	North	East	South
Stabell	Helgemo	Voss	Langeland
		1♣	Pass
1♦	1♥	Pass	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

It's not compulsory to bid game whenever two 12-point hands face each other. In particular, the ♥QJ were not working cards after North's overcall, so Stabell judged well in the passout seat to bid an invitational 3♦ rather than a game-forcing 2♥. Voss had nothing to add with her minimal opening bid.

Some players would have competed to the three-level with the North cards, but Geir Helgemo, one of the top players in the world, judged a 3♥ bid to be too risky at unfavourable vulnerability.

Moving on to the play, Helgemo was consistent in his assumption that his partner was short in hearts. Instead of arranging a club ruff for himself he unsuccessfully tried to give South a heart ruff. Thus the contract made. +110 was an excellent result for E/W, with several pairs going down a lot in 3NT at other tables.

West	North	East	South
Brekka	Stabell	Fuglestad	Cameron
		1NT	Pass
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Once again the mini-NT failed to produce a good score. Brekka decided to pass the 9-11 1NT opening (perhaps he didn't have a transfer to ♦ available). North had no reason to be shy, as his opponents had announced weakness while a game his way was still possible. His constructive 3♥ bid was passed out, and with trumps breaking evenly he lost just one trick in each suit. +140 and 6 more IMPs to Stabell.

20:25 down with two to go, Fuglestad pulled back 2 IMPs in another partscore deal. This was the final deal:

Board 20. Dealer West, Vul All

	♠ K 4 3 2		
	♥ A J 8		
	♦ J 7		
	♣ K 9 8 5		
♠ 9 8	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             N W S E           </div>	♠ Q J 7 5	
♥ 9 6		♥ Q 10 3	
♦ A Q 10 5 2		♦ 8 6 3	
♣ A J 10 7		♣ Q 3 2	
	♠ A 10 6		
	♥ K 7 5 4 2		
	♦ K 9 4		
	♣ 6 4		

Apparently, the bidding should be quite straightforward. West has a minimal 1♦ opening, and North possesses a minimal takeout double. East does well to pass with his lousy seven points, South has a textbook response of 2♥, and nobody has anything to add. A final contract of 2♥ should be just made with careful play.

Theoretically it should have been a push, but in practice both Easts decided to be active, in different ways, producing a sizeable swing!

West	North	East	South
Brekka	Stabell	Fuglestad	Cameron
1♦	Dble	1♠	3♥
All Pass			

Fuglestad decided that seven points are seven points and showed her 4-card major. Now Cameron had to jump to the three-level to show an invitational hand (A better agreement would have been to use the 2♦ cuebid to show an invitational



Geir Brekka, team Fuglestad

hand with hearts).

Unfortunately, North's hand was minimum and the final contract was too high. North/South -100.

West	North	East	South
Stabell	Helgemo	Voss	Langeland
1♦	Dbl	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	2♠	Dble
3♣	All Pass		

Whenever there is a dilemma between a marginal action and Pass, it is usually much safer to act at the first opportunity, rather than Pass and emerge later.

Having shunned an earlier opportunity to bid 1♠, I can find little justification for a re-opening 2♠ bid at this vulnerability against world-class opponents who would not be tempted so easily to bid 3♥.

N/S could double the opponents at any contract for +500, but eventually they let Stabell play 3♣ undoubled.

Helgemo led a spade to his partner's ace. She continued clubs, ducked to dummy's ♣Q. Stabell should have continued trumps, but he played three rounds of diamonds, allowing Helgemo to discard a heart. Next came ♠K, ♥A, ♥K and a fourth heart with a trump promotion. East/West -300 and 9 IMPs to Fuglestad, winning the match by 29 to 25.

VILLE DE *La Baule* ESCOUBLAC

SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE, PARTENAIRE OFFICIEL DE LA FÉDÉRATION FRANÇAISE DE BRIDGE

65<sup>ème</sup> Festival International de Bridge de

# LA BAULE

DU 15 AU 23 AOÛT 2015

SALLE DES FLORALIES - PLACE DES SALINES

Festival comptant pour le Challenge des festivals 2015 avec Jouer Bridge et la Société Générale



# ZIMMERMANN VS TAKK

by Ron Tacchi

The first of the ten rounds of the Swiss portion of the Mixed Teams brought the teams of Zimmermann and Takk together. The top sixteen teams of the eighty-seven who started will contest a knock-out phase to determine the champion. Of the teams entered nearly half (41) are Norwegian, a third (29) are transnational. The remainder (17) are National teams. I have espied teams from Australia, China, England, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Poland, Russia, Turkey and the USA.

Takk, from Japan, are playing four-handed while team Zimmermann is six handed. with Zimmermann and Zochowska sitting out the first match. Both teams' systems are based on five-card majors with a strong no-trump.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Miyakuni K.	Cronier	Miyakuni A.	Willard
—	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

East led a diamond won by Cronier in hand. A trump to the jack saw West win immediately and switch to a club for the ten and ace. A heart from dummy to the queen highlighted the adverse trump split. Cronier followed up with a spade to the ace and then drew trumps finessing against the ten. The penultimate trump squeezed East who was down to ♠1087 ♥- ♦J8 ♣ KQ. A spade discard would see an extra spade made good,

and a diamond would give declarer three diamond tricks, so East now had no choice but to discard the queen of clubs so declarer had an extra club trick and thus made six.

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
Multon	Furuta	Willard	Nishimura
—	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

At this table Willard found the lead of the king of clubs which was won perforce by the singleton ace in dummy. Declarer tackled trumps by leading the jack from dummy, which Multon ducked. Declarer continued with a small heart to his king and got the bad news about the trump position. Declarer now tried to cash his spades starting with the jack and then playing a small one towards dummy's honours. Multon ruffed this, cashed his ace of trumps and led back a club for Willard to take two tricks and thus defeat the contract. The majority of declarers who received a club lead tackled the trumps by leading a small one off dummy to a high honour in hand and then a small one to the jack, exposing the bad break. Many Wests now took their ace and declarer was in control as a club return would be trumped in dummy. The fall of the ten of clubs meant that declarer would only lose one club trick. The key to the defence was ducking the jack of hearts. It gave declarer the maximum chance of not finding the best line. 11 IMPs to Zimmermann.



Sylvie Willard & Franck Multon

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

	North	East	South
West	Cronier	Miyakuni A.	Willard
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♠	Dble	Pass	2♦
2♥	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

When West opened his six-card spade suit Cronier made an aggressive double. After East passed D'Ovidio replied with 2♦. West then re-entered the fray with 2♥. I assume East's 2NT showed a maximum for her pass. West now showed his sixth spade and East preferred the spade game to the heart game. Cronier led the jack of diamonds, taken in hand by declarer. He continued with the ace of trumps and a small one taken with Cronier's king. He persevered with another diamond won by dummy's king. This was followed by a small club towards the king and taken by Cronier with his ace and he continued the suit. Declarer ran this round to his hand, where he ruffed it and then drew the remaining trump. He played the king of hearts from hand and yet again Cronier won this trick and got off lead with a club, won in dummy. Dummy's last diamond was led and ruffed in hand, followed by a heart towards the jack to establish declarer's ninth trick. One off and -50.


Closed Room

	North	East	South
West	Furuta	Willard	Nishimura
Multon	—	Pass	Pass
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

With no intervention by North on this table the auction followed a traditional line and West beca-

me declarer in 4♥. Furuta selected the jack of diamonds for his opening lead which Multon won in hand. He followed this with a small diamond towards dummy and inserted the ten and when this lost to the queen any chance of his contract had disappeared. If it had succeeded then he could have discarded his king of clubs and had various chance if he could have managed the trump suit. With the trump suit 4-1 Multon eventually finished three down, and lost three IMPs to Takk.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

	North	East	South
West	Cronier	Miyakuni A.	Willard
Miyakuni K.	—	Pass	Pass
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	6♠	All Pass

When West showed his three-card spade support East was off to the races, and after hearing partner had two keycards bid the spade slam. D'Ovidio unerringly placed the nine of diamonds on the table to ensure the contract's failure. After declarer misguessed the trump position she finished two light, -100.

Closed Room


	North	East	South
West	Furuta	Willard	Nishimura
Multon	—	Pass	Pass
—	—	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT*	Pass	4♠	Pass
6♣	All Pass	5♣*	Pass

By playing in the minor suit the contract was right-sided from the standpoint of the lead. With an unenviable set of possible leads Furuta cho-



se the ten of diamonds. Multon ran this round to his queen and played one back to dummy's ace. The club finesse followed losing to Furuta's king, who tried a heart. Multon rose with the ace and cashed the ten of trumps. He ruffed a heart back to hand and a diamond in dummy. When Nishimura showed out she was now firm favourite to hold the queen of spades and Multon calmly finessed against her to claim the contract and fourteen IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Miyakuni K.	Cronier	Miyakuni A.	Willard
—	—	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

East elected to open her hand with 1♥, West took control and following Hamman's law bid 3NT. Cronier got off to a good start by leading a fourth-best three of diamonds removing declarer's entry to dummy. A successful club finesse followed and declarer then placed the three of hearts on the table.


Cronier played the ten, a card I did not understand. He cannot see the king, queen and two; if partner has all three of them then declarer can never prevail; if she has the deuce and an honour then the defence can never prevail; if she has exactly the king and queen then if Cronier plays low and Willard wins with an honour when declarer next plays a heart he sees the ten from North and now has a choice, in fact with restricted choice he might well finesse against the other heart honour. I can see no upside from playing the ten, unless you believe that declarer might think you made this play from K10x. This declarer did not think that North would make such a play and finished up with two overtricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Multon	Furuta	Willard	Nishimura
—	—	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Multon had no qualms about raising partner's pre-empt to game. In the French system pre-empts are sound, especially in first and second position. The contract did not tax Willard but the upshot was an IMP went to Takk.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

	♠ J 9 8 6 5		
	♥ 9 6 5		
	♦ A 2		
	♣ 8 5 3		
♠ —		♠ A 7 4	
♥ A Q 4		♥ K 8 3	
♦ 9 5		♦ 10 8 7 6 4 3	
♣ AKQ10 9 6 4 2		♣ 7	
	♠ K Q 10 3 2		
	♥ J 10 7 2		
	♦ K Q J		
	♣ J		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Miyakuni K.	Cronier	Miyakuni A.	Willard
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dble	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

A board that caused some huge swings in other matches. At this table after West doubled the opening 1♠ bid Cronier pre-empted to the four-level but West was not going to be shut out and mentioned his eight-card suit. Cronier thought long and hard before passing and this pause was followed by another as East reflected at length, but finally she passed and declarer made his contract with an overtrick when Cronier led a spade.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Multon	Furuta	Willard	Nishimura
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
5♣	All Pass		

Multon did not espouse a double but bid what he thought he could make, and make it he did but lost an overtrick IMP. The match finished with Zimmermann opening his account with a 27-5 victory or 16.18-3.82 VPs.





## A LITTLE VISITED SLAM

by Ana Roth & Fernando Lema



While the Aurora Forecast for Saturday, June 27, 2015 was low, in Tromsø Norway was the Mixed Teams European Championship kick off, with 87 teams in the field.

In the first session of June 20, 2013 in the 2013 European Mixed Team Championships in Ostend, Peter Fredin from Sweden, in one of the boards, after two passes, opened his 3 points hand with 1NT, his opps did not reach a slam and he added 16 IMPs for his team. Accordingly we did not hesitate and went to his BBO table, where board 7 was just beginning:

Board 7: Dealer South, All Vul.

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

West Aronov	North Fredin	East Zobu	South Blaagestad
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	4♦

Blaagestad, Fredin's partner, opened in 1st seat with 1♥, and with no opposition intervention the bidding continued 1♠ by Fredin. South chose to rebid 2♥ and Fredin made a 3♦ forcing bid, showing his second suit, South continued supporting diamonds with 4♦ and Fredin's torture must have begun...with no club stopper he couldn't ask for keycards, but not resigned to just declaring the diamond game, he risked a 4♥ cuebid. His partner didn't understand him, and passed, scoring +420. At the other table they played 5♦, so another push...

What happened with this hand at other tables?. Only 25 of the 87 played the slam, and very few tables reached the Grand Slam. These were the auctions at two of them:

West Zaleski	North Kolesnik	East Olivieri	South Cooper
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♣*
All Pass		Pass	6♦

Kitty Cooper also elected to show her six card suit first, but as soon as she heard that her partner's second suit was diamonds she said 4♣, showing diamond support and club control.

West Stabell	North Hoyland	East Cameron	South Breivik
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♠*	Dble	4NT*
All Pass		Pass	6♦

At this table South chose to rebid diamonds, which led the partnership comfortably to the diamond slam.

No doubt a 2♦ rebid or a 4♣ call instead of 4♦, would have helped Fredin to find what he was looking for.





# JACKPOT

by Micke Melander

Playing bridge means that we constantly have to make decisions. We have to plan and act early to avoid getting into problems later on and we try to find out if there are there any safe routes.

With no-one vulnerable, your right hand opponent passes. What to bid when playing natural methods, and why, with:

♠AK75    ♥A6    ♦Q7    ♣AQ853

Peter Fredin for [www.guts.com](http://www.guts.com) against Sjødal simply opened with a natural Two Notrump to give maximum protection to his tenaces, since he believed that his side very often end up playing in Three Notrump or maybe Four Spades. This way he would protect his queens. That move was a real jackpot when he not only managed to get partner to raise him to Three Notrump but also persuaded East to lead a club...

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

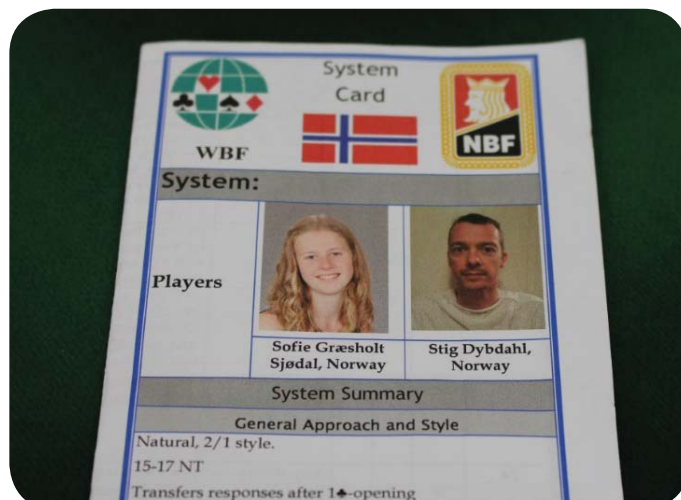
	♠ A K 7 5	
	♥ A 6	
	♦ Q 7	
	♣ A Q 8 5 3	
♠ J 10 2		♠ 6 4 3
♥ 9 7 4 2		♥ K 5 3
♦ K 9 4 3 2		♦ A 10 8
♣ 9		♣ K J 7 6
		♠ Q 9 8
	♥ Q J 10 8	
	♦ J 6 5	
	♣ 10 4 2	

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
S.Sjødal	Fredin	Dybdahl	Blaagestad
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ringseth	R.Sjødal	Lindaas	E.Sjødal
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	



The Convention card of Sjødal - Dybdahl

Dybdahl didn't have an easy opening lead to make in the Open Room. Many would probably have opted to lead a passive spade, which probably in the end would have allowed declarer to come home with his game. Dybdahl had bigger visions, and went on attack with the seven of clubs – longest and strongest!

Fredin won with the queen in hand and played ace of hearts and another heart to dummy's queen, which held. Another heart followed, setting up the jack in dummy, Fredin discarding a club from hand... Declarer now actually had nine tricks and it didn't matter if the defense were about to attack diamonds. When East instead exited with the king of clubs, Fredin won in hand with the ace to return the suit. Dybdahl finally realized what was going on and shifted to a diamond, but when Sjødal allowed declarer to win with the queen he quickly wrapped up the remaining tricks for 460, after the spades split 3-3.

In the Closed Room they got the contract declared by South. Here the longest and strongest was also led, this time the two of diamonds, which went to East's ace. Another round followed, correctly ducked to the queen in dummy. This left communications open for the defense and with the diamonds set up, and everything offside, declarer could do no better than go two down.

11 IMPs was the value of Fredin's Jackpot opening bid.

The bidding goes, One Spade from partner, you rebid One Notrump and partner jumps to Three Spades, showing a nice hand. What to bid, and why, with:

♠Q ♥Q10973 ♦102 ♣AJ643

In a poll it probably would be quite evenly split between the 3NT and the Four Spade camps. So it was in our match too, when Lindaas in the Closed Room bid Four Spades and Dybdahl in the Open Room 3NT.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
S.Sjødal	Fredin	Dybdahl	Blaagestad
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ringseth	R.Sjødal	Lindaas	E.Sjødal
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Blaagestad led the four of diamonds, Fredin smoothly ducked as North when Dybdahl called for the king from dummy. It looks like declarer has three spades, four hearts, the ace of clubs and a diamonds for nine tricks. The question is how to collect them when the communications between the hands are so bad? Dybdahl tried a spade to the queen, and a heart to dummy's ace and tried the ace of spades. When South discarded, he had to change his game plan and called for the jack of hearts, setting up the suit before it was too late. Fredin went up with the king of hearts and returned a club to South's nine, who then exi-

ted with the king of clubs. Three rounds of hearts followed, leaving the following position (declarer needing one trick more):

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

♠ —		♠ —
♥ —		♥ —
♦ J 8		♦ 10
♣ 10		♣ —

Dybdahl didn't work out to throw Fredin in with a club, nor to run the ten of diamonds. When he instead played a diamond to dummy's queen it was good-night, one down.

When spades misbehaved, it was even more unlucky for team Sjødal, since Four Spades in the closed room stood no chance. North led the two of clubs; declarer rose with the ace and took the heart finesse. North won with the king, cashed the ace of hearts and played the queen of clubs. With three tricks in the bag for the defense declarer was helpless against the trump split. However Ringseth stripped North down to only spades and threw him in for one down.

The match ended 17.68-2.32 to [www.guts.com](http://www.guts.com) and the team remained as leaders of the pack.





## THEMES AND VARIATIONS

by Jos Jacobs

**Mixed Teams Swiss Round 4**

With 30 boards already under their belts, some of our mixed teams' players might just begin to feel a little weary. On the opening boards of Saturday's fourth set, they got the chance to relax a bit as there was not very much in it. Not surprisingly, the score in a number of matches stood at something like 0-0 or 1-1 after the first four boards.

Board 5 was more lively, as it offered the NS players every chance to win or lose a bushel of IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

In the Cornell v. Beijing Trinergy match, a New Zealand-China confrontation with some local flavour still in it, GeO Tislevoll reached an ambitious game after a Bergen-style sequence.

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Li	Tislevoll	Wang	Mayer
	1♥	Dble	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Double-dummy, the hand plays itself with the trumps behaving and the diamonds frozen. Some good guesswork and there you are. It's the auction that caused the trouble here, as it suggested a 3-1 trump break.

East led the ♠Q to dummy's king and a low trump went to the queen and ace. East tried a

low club next but declarer called for dummy's king successfully, only to lead another heart to his ten and East's jack...

Declarer still had a chance left and he duly played for it: ♣A ruffed, ♠A and ♠10. When East did not cover, dummy discarded a diamond. After this fine pinning play, declarer could ruff his last spade in dummy and ruff dummy's last club in hand, thus coming down to a four-card finale with one trump and three diamonds in each hand.

As you can see, a low diamond to dummy's eight would have endplayed West now but when declarer continued ♦A and another, all his previous good work turned out to have been in vain. One down, +100 to the Chinese.

At the other table, the Chinese NS were far less aggressive:

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
V Cornell	Donglu	M Cornell	Huang
	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl	3♥
All Pass			

2♦ was Flannery, over which South promptly signed off. When 2♥ came round to East, he graciously offered his opponents one more chance to reach game but South was not interested.

When West led a diamond which declarer ran to her queen, nine tricks were safe enough, even though declarer lost the same two trump tricks as her Open Room counterpart. Another +140 and 6 IMPs to Beijing.

In the Breno v. Many Herrings match, Lanzarotti managed to bid 4♥ and make it too:

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Caprera	Lanzarotti	Brenner	Golin
	1♥	Dble	2NT
3♣	4♥	All Pass	



2NT showed the fit, of course. The ♠J lead was won by dummy's king and a trump went to the king and ace. Anne Brenner then cashed the ♣A and exited with the ♦J, setting up a trick in that suit as well. Now all Lanzarotti had to do, was to take the right view in trumps, which he duly did, probably drawing the right conclusion from East's urge to get some tricks in. Breno +620.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zaleski	Kolesnik	Olivieri	Cooper
	1♥	Dble	3♥

All Pass

At the other table, they all stayed quiet and the Herrings scored +140 to lose 10 IMPs.

In an all-Norwegian match, the auction in the Open Room was quite remarkable (if recorded correctly...)

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
L-E. Stabell	Hoyland	Cameron	Breivik
	1♠	Pass	1NT

All Pass

Just made for +90 to Bergen AK. This might either be quite acceptable or very bad, depending on the fate of the obvious heart game (yes, we are in Norway!) at the other table.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Remmen	Vos	Bakke	T.Stabell
	1♥	Dble	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥

All Pass

Top spade lead by East. Dummy won the king and a heart went to the king and ace. East now simply played ♣A and another, declarer ruffing dummy's jack when West produced the queen. Next came a diamond to dummy's queen and West's king. Remmen returned a spade but Vos took her ace, ruffed a spade and led a heart to the...ten and jack for one down and a surprise, maybe, 5 IMPs to Bergen AK to give them the lead in the match by 5-0.

You have to sympathize a little with Barry Myers, who reached 4♥ after East had made a

take-out double of 1♥. He received a devious low diamond lead to trick one. With no knowledge that he could play hearts for one loser, and with no top spade lead, he made the logical play of the ♦Q from dummy at trick one. Had it held he would have crossed to the ♠A to lead a club up and to try to avoid the diamond loser altogether. When the ♦Q was covered by the king and ace declarer was allowed to play a club to the king. Maybe one doesn't have to sympathize with him too much...

Two boards later, even a grand slam was on but the popular contract was 6♦ which was easily made, even on a club lead, by taking a losing spade finesse and ruffing out the spades in due time.

For the Breno team, Lanzarotti-Golin handed back the IMPs they had won two boards earlier, when their Italian-style 4NT was not enough to solve the actual problem.

## Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Caprera	Lanzarotti	Brenner	Golin
			1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

When North could not show a club control over 4NT, South had a nasty problem as she did not (and could not) know that partner held a very important singleton heart. So the 'scientific' approach failed. Breno +600.

Not that the Closed Room produced an especially sophisticated auction either, but all

is well that ends well:


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zaleski	Kolesnik	Olivieri	Cooper
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♣
All Pass			6♦

With North showing a strong two-suiter, he would certainly be short in either rounded suit. So the jump to slam was as good a shot as any for a well-deserved +1370 and 12 IMPs back.

The penultimate board of the set was a textbook example:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Li	Tislevoll	Wang	Mayer
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

How can you avoid 3NT with a maximum 1♦ negative opposite a Strong Club 16-19 1NT rebid?

Well, 3NT is not completely hopeless but far from a sound contract. Down two, Cornell +200.

In the other room, we saw an auction with considerably less drama in it:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
V Cornell	Donglu	M Cornell	Huang
Pass	Pass	1NT	All Pass

Seven easy tricks, +90 to Cornell who went on to win the match 14-7 or 12.51-7.49 V.P.

Basically the same auctions and swing occurred in one of my other featured matches: the Herrings reaching 3NT by means of their Strong Club and the Italians staying out of it with their 15-17 NT for a 5-IMP gain when 3NT was just one down.

The final result in the match was 28-16 to Bre-no. Their 12-IMP margin converted to exactly 14-6 in V.P.

In our third featured match, the all-Norwegian one, there was more action, in spite of 1NT being chosen by both Easts as their opening bid.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
L-E Stabell	Hoyland	Cameron	Breivik
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
Redbl	All Pass		

Leif-Erik Stabell set off for a minus score when he did not pass partner's 1NT. North made a well-timed double on his good four-card suit and when West redoubled, East did not consider 2NT a safer option. In a sense, she was right as soon as trick one was over. North led a diamond, West called for dummy's jack and South played her ace. Now, the spade loser would go away on a top diamond and with the trumps breaking a friendly enough 4-2, declarer just ran home, losing four trump tricks and the ♦A for a score of +760 to Stabell who went on to win the match 17-5 or 14-6 V.P. (see above).



 Cristina Golin with Simon Fellus




# WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE AND FOUND WANTING

by Barry Rigal

The field did not shine on this deal from the first day. The round four results show that of the 84 tables playing this deal only 12 pairs bid the grand slam – and ten went down in it!

For the record (and a dismal record it makes too) seven pairs went down in game – one in 5♦! That makes the result of the pair who went down in 6♥ look more acceptable. Meanwhile 30 pairs bid to the small slam, the rest contenting themselves with game. I suppose we should be happy no one played partscore...

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

The two tables who played 7♦ by South received a top club lead. They won the ace, led the

♠Q to the ♠A and ruffed a spade, unblocked in hearts and ruffed a spade with the ten, cashed the ♥A to pitch a club, ruffed a club, ruffed out the last spade winner with the ♦A, and drew trump.

This line of play required nothing more than spades 4-3 and diamonds 4-1, and might even have survived finding West with either ♠Kx or any five-card spade suit. Since a trump lead does not impact your ability to play this line, the failure of so many pairs in the grand slam – presumably by playing on hearts, without realizing that this line entails considerably more luck in hearts than the winning line requires in spades – is remarkable. After all: if you won't stop to do the maths in a grand slam when WILL you stop to think?

Since we have criticized the field, we should congratulate Ton Hoeyland (playing with Siv Thoresen) for reaching the grand slam and playing it correctly. They bid 1♥-1♠-2♦-3♣\*-3♥-4♦-4NT\*-5♠\*-5NT\*-7♦. The other pair who racked up 2140 were Maria Dam Mortensen and Kristoffer Hegge. Their sequence – which scores slightly higher for style points in my estimation, was 1♥-1♠-2♦-3♣\*-3♥-4♦-4♥\*-4NT\*-5♣\*-7♦. On a top club lead both Ton and Maria followed the recommended line, and were rewarded, if not with glory, with something at least as important: the editorial thumbs-up!

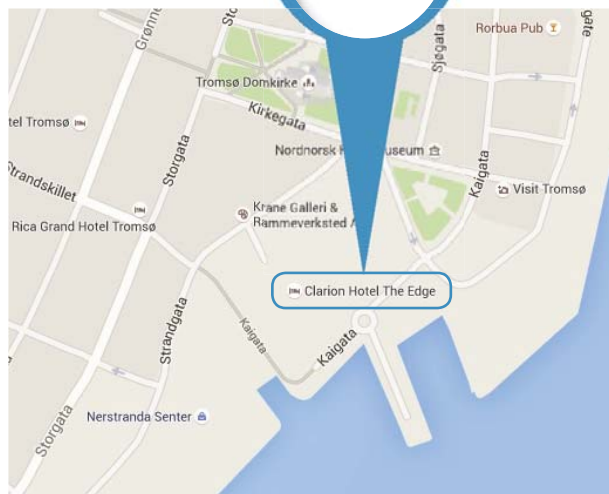
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# BRENO VS WWW.GUTS.COM

by David Bird

When you take your reporter's seat at a 10-board match, where you are expected to find at least three interesting deals, there's a certain amount of trepidation. Will I get blamed if there is a collection of dull part-scores and cold games? Well, it didn't happen yesterday and it didn't happen today. The two leading teams face each other. Curtain up, action!

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

♠ A Q 8 5 4 3		
♥ A 8 5		
♦ Q 10		
♣ Q 10		



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lanzarotti	Fredin	Golin	Blaagesta
		Pass	1♠
Dble	4♠	4NT	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Fredin raised to 4♠ on the hand type described by North American bridge teachers as a Weak Fre-

ak. (How they like their rhymes!) Golin made the accurate bid of 4NT, showing two places to play, and there was no further bidding over West's 5♣. A sacrifice of 5♠ was profitable but it doesn't look right on the South cards and North may well think that he shouldn't bid again after a pre-empt. Twelve tricks were made after a spade lead.

This was the bidding in the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Ringseth	Zaleski	Lindaaf	Olivieri
		Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	4♠	Dble
Pass	Pass	5♣	Pass
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
6♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

A good swing was won when North-South went to 5♠. I don't blame Ringseth for taking the push to 6♣. There was a big potential plus in the action. Olivieri found the critical diamond lead and the slam was one down for 13 IMPs away. It would have been 8 IMPs away anyway, if E-W had defended 5♠.

The next board was a bidding test for East-West:

Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lanzarotti	Fredin	Golin	Blaagesta
			1♦
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		



Jørn A. Ringseth, team www.Guts.com



It was a gentle auction, rolling safely to a halt at the game-level. Golin's 3♠ was forcing and Lanzarotti resisted the temptation to cue-bid 4♣. His minor-suit holdings were gold-plated but his trumps were poor. Ten tricks were made.

Could East-West match this good judgment in the Closed Room?

West Ringseth	North Zaleski	East Lindaaf	South Olivieri
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	All Pass		



Romain Zaleski, team Breno

This was too high and 12 IMPs were lost.

Imagine this is a 'Who Do You Blame?' quiz in Bridge World. How would you share the 100%?

It was very hard for East to find a pass of 4♠. I think West should have rebid 3♣ instead of 4♠. Why not, with all the points in that suit? So, sorry but I am writing a sizeable percentage in the West blame column. To jump to game on a shapely hand, fairly minimum in point-count, may work well when partner has a 10-11 count. It can give partner a headache when she is strong.

A few boards later, I was pleased to witness a third big hand worthy of note. (I had been spared the ultimate indignity of having to write-up a partscore contract.)

What action do you like on the first round with that East hand? Golin's 2♣ seems a great initial move to me. It allowed West to put in a club raise. Over North's 3♥, Golin chose well again with a strength-showing double. Lanzarotti had an easy 3NT bid and Fredin paused to consider the situation in the North seat. He looked down at his unannounced diamond suit. Might this be a nasty surprise for declarer in 3NT? He doubled 3NT and led the ♦K. Golin promptly laid down a nasty surprise of her own: ♦AJ96!

Lanzarotti won with the ♦A and cleared the clubs with ace and another. South's ♥10 switch was covered by the jack and queen and declarer could not be denied a second diamond trick to give him nine tricks and +550. Sadly for North-South, a low heart lead would have given them four hearts and one club for one down.

What do you make of this bidding from the Closed Room:

West Ringseth	North Zaleski	East Lindaaf	South Olivieri
Pass	1♥	Dble	3♥
Pass	Pass	4♣	Pass
Pass	4♥	Dble	All Pass

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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



Closed Room

West Lanzarotti	North Fredin	East Golin	South Blaagesta
Pass	1♥	2♣	2♥
3♣	3♥	Dble	Pass
3NT	Dble	All Pass	

Lindaaf preferred a double to a 2♣ overcall and this left her poorly placed on the next round. She could hardly double again with only two spades and chose to bid 4♣. A big swing seemed likely but North looked favourably at his club singleton and 'came again' with 4♥. This was doubled for 500 and only 2 IMPs changed hands. Breno eventually took the match by 34 IMPs to 14.



# VALIO VS GUNSMOKE

by Jos Jacobs

## Mixed Teams Swiss Round 6

At this stage of a Swiss competition with many participants, one would expect the pairings for each round to still very much follow the “Danish” pattern: 1 v.2, 3 v. 4 etc. So it proved here on Sunday morning, as the overnight leaders would play the runners-up (report elsewhere in this issue) and the no. 3 would play the no. 4. The same Danish principle was even going to apply for tables 5 through 8 as well: the team ranked 5 overnight playing team 6 and no. 7 playing no. 8.

This report is about the match at tables 3 and 4, between the overnight nos. 3 and 4, Valio from Bulgaria (mainly) and a local team with a lot of Helnesses in it, called Gunsmoke – certainly a suitable team name as far as this match is concerned (given Mrs Helness’ first name). Whoever might reasonably have expected a tight match at this stage of the event, would have been proved more and more dramatically wrong as this match consisted of IMPs flowing in just one direction, almost right from the start after a warming-up board 21. This was the second board:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ J 7 6 2			
♥ 6 2			
♦ K J 9 8 7 6			
♣ 7			
♠ K 10 9	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">                 N W S E             </div>	♠ —	
♥ 10 9 3		♥ K Q J 7 4	
♦ A 5 2		♦ 4 3	
♣ A K 6 5		♣ J 9 8 4 3 2	
♠ A Q 8 5 4 3			
♥ A 8 5			
♦ Q 10			
♣ Q 10			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
G Helness	Marquardt	T Helness	Kovachev
		2♥	2♠
2NT	4♠	5♣	All Pass

2♥ showed a two-suiter with hearts and a minor, and 2NT enquired about the minor, suggesting a

fit in both of them. So when it was Tor Helness’ turn to speak again, he had another string to his bow, looking at no less than a six-card minor. Four Spades would have gone just one off but 5♣ proved unbeatable. Declarer cannot lose more than one trick in either red suit, as there is no defensive ruff for the taking. When South led the ♠A, the losing diamond disappeared and declarer had 12 tricks. Gunsmoke +620.

At the other table, the minor suit fit remained undisclosed:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Isporski	F Helness	Nikolova	Hellemann
		2♥	2♠
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

When West just raised to 4♥, there was little East could do over 4♠ so EW had to be content with one down and +100 only, for a loss of 11 IMPs.



Two boards later, we saw the first of a number of partscore swings to the Norwegians:

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K 10 6 4 2			
♥ 10			
♦ A Q J 4 3			
♣ 10 3			
♠ A 9 8 7	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">                 N W S E             </div>	♠ Q J 3	
♥ K J 8 6		♥ A 5 3 2	
♦ 9		♦ 10 8 7 6	
♣ K Q J 6		♣ 7 5	
♠ 5			
♥ Q 9 7 4			
♦ K 5 2			
♣ A 9 8 4 2			

In the Open Room, Gunn Helness showed good judgement, both of her partner’s style (no surprise

after so many years) and of the value of her own hand.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
G Helness	Marquardt	T Helness	Kovachev
1♣	1♠	Dble	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

When North led her trump, Gunn left trumps strictly alone after winning the jack, but led the ♣K instead. South immediately won the ace and, rather than continuing a trump, led a diamond. North won and continued the suit, but declarer could ruff this and play on cross-ruff lines, eventually ending up with an overtrick. Gunsmoke +140.

At the other table, the auction started the same way but West made a more aggressive choice at his second turn:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Isporski	F Helness	Nikolova	Hellemann
1♦	1♠	Dble	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

North led a low spade to dummy's queen and declarer continued ♥A and a trump to his jack, North discarding a diamond. After getting the bad news, declarer turned his attention to clubs but it was already too late. South took her ace and returned the ♥Q. Declarer won the king and played a low spade away from the ace but North hopped up with the king, South discarding the ♦2, and cleverly underled his ♦A, leading the jack instead, which South, after some thought, overtook with

her king to draw the last trump and give partner two more diamond tricks for down two, +100 and 6 more IMPs to Gunsmoke.

Another two boards later, a combination of systemic agreement and good judgement led to another partscore swing to the Norwegians:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
G Helness	Marquardt	T Helness	Kovachev
1NT	All Pass	Pass	Pass

If you don't have the old-fashioned penalty double of 1NT available, the alternative is to reason that the South hand is so weak that, in view of East's pass over 1NT, North is likely to hold a reasonable hand. At matchpoints, balancing with 2♠ seems pretty obvious but at teams this is less clear, since it might just be exchanging -120 for -100 or so.

As it happened, 1NT could not be defeated with the spades playing no part in the defence. Eight tricks, Gunsmoke +120.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Isporski	F Helness	Nikolova	Hellemann
1NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
All Pass		Pass	2♠


At the other table, North had an old-fashioned double available, so reaching 2♠ did not cause NS any trouble at all. Two trumps, a heart and two clubs was all the hand had to offer for the defence. Gunsmoke another +110 and 6 more IMPs.





On the next board, the Norwegians won another 3 IMPs though the Bulgarians could have registered a big swing in their favour:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

<p>♠ 9 6 5 2 ♥ K J 2 ♦ 10 3 ♣ Q J 9 7</p>		<p>♠ A K ♥ 7 ♦ A J 9 6 ♣ A 10 5 4 3 2</p>	<p>♠ 7 4 ♥ A Q 8 5 3 ♦ K Q 8 7 2 ♣ 6</p> <p>♠ Q J 10 8 3 ♥ 10 9 6 4 ♦ 5 4 ♣ K 8</p>
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Open Room

	North	East	South
West	North	East	South
G Helness	Marquardt	T Helness	Kovachev
			Pass
Pass	1♥	2♣	3♣
Dble	3♦	3♥	Dble
3NT	All Pass		

3♣ was invitational or better in hearts but double apparently denied an honour in the suit, as it is difficult to see why North refrained from leading the partnership's main suit but elected to lead a spade. This proved a costly decision as it did indeed not give away a trick in the heart suit, but handed declarer his contract instead. Gunsmoke +400.


Closed Room

	North	East	South
West	North	East	South
Isporski	F Helness	Nikolova	Hellemann
			Pass
Pass	1♥	2♣	2♥
3♣	4♥	Dble	All Pass

As it happened, two down for -300 was a good score for Gunsmoke once 3NT had been let through at the other table...but had the club finesse been right, we would not have reported this board.

The score had gone up to 28-0 when board 29 arrived, yet another example of the difference of the aggression-level between the teams.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

<p>♠ Q J 10 8 7 6 ♥ K 9 ♦ A 6 ♣ 9 5 3</p>		<p>♠ 5 ♥ 10 8 6 2 ♦ K J 10 ♣ K J 8 7 4</p> <p>♠ 3 2 ♥ A J 7 4 3 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ A 10 6</p>	<p>♠ A K 9 4 ♥ Q 5 ♦ Q 9 4 3 2 ♣ Q 2</p>
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Open Room

	North	East	South
West	North	East	South
G Helness	Marquardt	T Helness	Kovachev
	1♦	Pass	1♥
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

Even though the spades are stacked in the North hand, West's 2♠ overcall would have survived relatively unscathed. A club can go on a diamond after a successful finesse, so declarer should lose no more than three trumps, a heart and a club (on a good guess). At the table, 2NT actually went two off, but there would have been no legitimate play anyway for eight tricks. After a club lead, declarer would lose three tricks in each minor suit; so Marquardt correctly went after the hearts, her only chance being to bring home four tricks in that suit. When this line failed, she was two down instead of one. Gunsmoke +200.

Closed Room

	North	East	South
West	North	East	South
Isporski	F Helness	Nikolova	Hellemann
	1♦	Pass	1♥
1♠	1NT	All Pass	

When Isporski just bid 1♠ and sold out to 1NT, Helness had an easy road to seven tricks, since he could win the club lead and play on diamonds, losing the six minor suit tricks mentioned above. Another +90 gave the Norwegians 7 more IMPs and the final score thus became 39-0 or 19.10 - 0.90 V.P.

Gunsmoke had gone up to 2nd place and would have to face leaders Breno next.



## LET'S BE CAREFUL OUT THERE

by Mark Horton

Hill Street Blues is an American serial police drama that was first aired in 1981 and ran for 146 episodes on prime-time television. Chronicling the lives of the staff of a single police station - 'blues' being a slang term for police officers - in an unnamed American city, the show received critical acclaim, and its production innovations influenced many subsequent dramatic series produced in North America. Its debut season was rewarded with eight Emmy Awards, a record surpassed only by The West Wing. Veteran cop Sgt. Phil Esterhaus always ended the introductory roll call to each week's show with the cautionary words 'Let's be careful out there'.



Excellent advice for any bridge player too, don't you agree?

Take a look at this deal from Round 4 from the match between Morawski and Queens & Jacks:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West Brede	North	East Banaszkiewicz	South
1♠	2♥	Dble*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

In the other room West opened 1♠ and North overcalled 2♥. When East doubled West rebid 2♠ and was left to play there, scoring +170.

In the replay, when East made a negative double suggesting values in the minors (and usually some tolerance for spades) West opted for the mildly aggressive rebid that led to the spade game.

North led the three of clubs and South won with the king and returned the two.

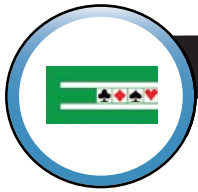
Declarer won with the queen, cashed the top spades, played a diamond to the king and the ace of clubs.

It would not help South to ruff with the seven of spades, declarer would overruff and play a heart, eventually discarding a diamond on a master club, but when South ruffed with the ten of spades declarer simply pitched a diamond and could draw the outstanding trump as soon as he regained the lead.

To defeat 4♠ South must exercise a little care and return a heart at trick two. North can win with the ace and return a heart, neutralising the threat posed by dummy's clubs and ensuring that declarer will lose a trick in each suit.



"The Presidents": Interview with the EBL President Yves Aubry and the NBF President Jostein Sørvoll



## MIXED TEAMS ORIGINAL SEEDING

For application of § 5.2 (v) of the Supplementary Conditions of Contest a seeding of the teams has been made based on a combina-

tion of the WBF and EBL rankings of the top 4 Master Point holders of each team, resulting in the following:

- |                         |                     |                          |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. ZIMMERMANN           | 30. TAKK            | 60. UELAND               |
| 2. VYTAS                | 31. IQ 64           | 61. PANDORA              |
| 3. ROSENTHAL            | 32. CORNELL         | 62. MIKLAGARD            |
| 4. FUGLESTAD            | 33. HUNS AND SAXONS | 63. STABELL              |
| 5. GUNSMOKE             | 34. CAYNE           | 64. SJODAL               |
| 6. DE BOTTON            | 35. PUNCH           | 65. NORGE 4              |
| 7. VIDIGAL              | 36. VALIO           | 66. MOSTINGAN            |
| 8. GEELY AUTO           | 37. MORTENSEN       | 67. MGP                  |
| 9. WARD PLATT           | 38. ROBERTSON       | 68. VI E KLAR            |
| 10. MIXED               | 39. DARLING         | 69. HELMER               |
| 11. SANBORN             | 40. BERGEN AK       | 70. INOVENTIO KOLBOTNMIX |
| 12. PENFOLD             | 41. QUEENS          | 71. THE PATRIOTS         |
| 13. FULL HOUSE          | 42. THORESEN        | 72. OPTIMISTS            |
| 14. MAHAFFEY            | 43. ZEN             | 73. ANDERSEN             |
| 15. WHITE HOUSE         | 44. JUST DO IT      | 74. NONSTOP              |
| 16. PEREZ               | 45. MORAWSKI        | 75. WITO                 |
| 17. HAUGE               | 46. SMYKALLA        | 76. ANITAS DANS          |
| 18. BRENO               | 47. BADGER          | 77. HOUSE OF CARDS       |
| 19. BEIJING TRINERGY    | 48. EGIL HOMME      | 78. LEGEANKA             |
| 20. WWW GUTS COM        | 49. LILLEBALUBA     | 79. TROENDERMIX          |
| 21. A J DIAMONDS        | 50. SLAM            | 80. MUNKHOLMEN           |
| 22. ROSSARD             | 51. GRAIZER         | 81. MALUISH              |
| 23. MINA                | 52. MANY HERRINGS   | 82. TOGRAM               |
| 24. CASINO FLOOR        | 53. TEAM ATLANTIC   | 83. TUPPEN               |
| 25. HANNA               | 54. KIBE            | 84. 9 LIV                |
| 26. GOLD                | 55. SOLHEIM         | 85. PASS O DOUBLE        |
| 27. PANDA INTERNATIONAL | 56. HOFFMAN         | 86. SIDDIS               |
| 28. BRIDGE OF KING F1   | 57. NO STRESS       | 87. GAMMA GRAFISK        |
| 29. HIMANI              | 58. MELBOURNE 1     | 88. I SISTE ELITEN       |
|                         | 59. YABBIES         |                          |



## EBL CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

An application was received by the EBL from a player wishing to play in the EBL Open Championships in Tromsø. In accordance with its procedures the player's registered Federation was asked if the player was in good standing with the Federation. The Federation opposed the application on the basis that the player had been expelled from membership. The Credential Committee properly considered the application and

duly declined it. The player was notified accordingly.

Players are reminded of the necessity to be in good standing with their registered Federation. The EBL's Eligibility Code ensures that all players who change their registered Federation (by legitimate and permitted means) will not be able to play in the subsequent series of the relevant Championship.



## MIXED TEAMS

### RESULTS

1	<b>BRENO</b>	<b>141.95</b>	44	WARD PLATT	100.98
2	<b>FULL HOUSE</b>	<b>130.71</b>	45	MUNKHOLMEN	100.44
3	<b>LILLEBALUBA</b>	<b>130.04</b>	46	TEAM ATLANTIC	99.69
4	<b>CASINO FLOOR</b>	<b>127.58</b>	47	FUGLESTAD	99.06
5	<b>GUNSMOKE</b>	<b>126.57</b>	48	NORGE 4	98.80
6	<b>ZIMMERMANN</b>	<b>126.55</b>	49	MELBOURNE 1	98.72
7	<b>ROBERTSON</b>	<b>125.36</b>	50	PANDA INTERN.	98.40
8	<b>VYTAS</b>	<b>124.29</b>	51	ROSSARD	97.52
9	<b>MORAWSKI</b>	<b>123.73</b>	52	EGIL HOMME	95.75
10	<b>A J DIAMONDS</b>	<b>122.83</b>	53	HOFFMAN	94.99
11	<b>VALIO</b>	<b>120.30</b>	54	SJODAL	94.89
12	<b>MORTENSEN</b>	<b>119.54</b>	55	SMYKALLA	94.88
13	<b>PENFOLD</b>	<b>118.78</b>	56	STABELL	94.48
14	<b>WWW GUTS COM</b>	<b>117.94</b>	57	SLAM	93.95
15	<b>WHITE HOUSE</b>	<b>117.80</b>	58	HUNS AND SAXONS	91.77
16	<b>DE BOTTON</b>	<b>116.01</b>	59	SIDDIS	90.97
17	BADGER	116.00	60	ARCTIC ZOO	90.82
18	BRIDGE OF KING F1	115.26	61	JUST DO IT	90.79
19	MINA	115.22	62	LEGEANKA	90.49
20	GEELY AUTO	114.61	63	WITO	89.09
21	ZEN	113.94	64	PEREZ	89.01
22	BERGEN AK	112.28	65	KIBE	88.43
23	MAHAFFEY	112.05	66	IQ 64	88.18
24	TAKK	111.76	67	TOGRAM	88.05
25	HELMER	110.61	68	ANITAS DANS	87.85
26	SANBORN	110.55	69	YABBIES	87.66
27	ROSENTHAL	110.54	70	TUPPEN	86.93
28	BEIJING TRINERGY	110.28	71	GRAIZER	83.71
29	GOLD	109.89	72	CAYNE	83.12
30	HAUGE	109.46	73	HOUSE OF CARDS	83.07
31	MANY HERRINGS	108.96	74	NO STRESS	82.80
32	PUNCH	108.22	76	OPTIMISTS	80.82
33	SOLHEIM	106.30	77	MALUISH	80.78
34	CORNELL	105.33	78	PANDORA	80.53
35	THORESEN	104.72	79	MOSTINGAN	79.37
36	VIDIGAL	103.29	80	PASS O DOUBLE	71.58
37	QUEENS AND JACKS	103.20	81	TROENDERMIX	70.82
38	MIXED	102.09	82	MGP	70.22
39	MIKLAGARD	102.00	83	9 LIV	69.10
40	UELAND	101.89	84	THE PATRIOTS	67.86
41	I SISTE ELITEN	101.84	85	INOVENTIO KOLB.	67.46
42	DARLING	101.83	86	NONSTOP	61.25
43	GAMMA GRAFISK	101.31	87	VI E KLAR	56.61

*Results are subject to confirmation*

# MIXED TEAMS KNOCKOUT

**BRENO**  
**MORAWSKI**

**WHITE HOUSE**  
**PENFOLD**

**ZIMMERMANN**  
**ROBERTSON**

**VALIO**  
**CASINO FLOOR**

**LILLEBALUBA**  
**DE BOTTON**

**AJ DIAMONDS**  
**VYTAS**

**GUNSMOKE**  
**WWW.GUTS.COM**

**MORTENSEN**  
**FULL HOUSE**

ROUND OF 16

QUARTER FINALS

SEMI FINALS

FINAL